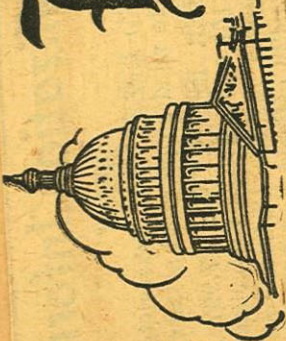


Herald

Times

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1950



(Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.)

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Fliers, Infantry Batter Rebels In Puerto Rico

Two Towns Held By Nationalist Units

SAN JUAN, P. R., Oct. 31 (AP). National guard planes and infantry launched a combined strafing and ground attack today on two towns held by United States-hating Nationalists who yesterday launched a revolt in 10 Puerto Rican centers.

Late reports raised the toll of the rebellion—worst in the island's history—to 28 dead and 22 wounded.

Government forces opened fire from the skies and land on Jayuya, 50 miles southwest of San Juan, and Utuado, six miles northwest of Jayuya. Officers estimated 600 Nationalists were holding the two points.

8 Planes Strafe Towns

Eight fighter planes strafed the two towns before the ground attack. The land forces were armed with machine guns, bazookas and tanks.

Officials said communications had been broken with both towns but a last radio message received from Utuado said a guard and police detachment was besieged in the police station there.

The rebel forces in Jayuya reportedly were led by Juan Antonio Corretjer, principal aide of Harvard-educated Pedro Albizu Campos, the Nationalist party chief.

The rebels felled trees across highways leading into Jayuya and awaited the assault by troops which was expected at dawn. Jayuya was reported virtually destroyed by fire.

Communications Cut

The situation at Utuado, a town of 6,000 six miles northwest of Jayuya, also was confused. The government had no communications with the town and did not know what was happening there.

The area around Albizu Campos' home in San Juan resembled an armed camp. Police and guardsmen surrounded the house and were waiting for a warrant before going in to drag out the 63-year-old Nationalist leader. He advocates complete independence from the United States.

He once served six years in the penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga., for insurrection.

Shots fired from the windows of his home had kept police at bay so far.

San Juan Patrolled

Police and guardsmen patrolled San Juan and kept strong guards at all bridges and public buildings.

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The latest violence exploded at Mayaguez, on the west coast, yesterday. Three persons were wounded, one critically.

The revolt, which apparently had been planned for the eve of the Nov. 4 registration for a vote on the island's new constitution, broke out prematurely yesterday at Ponce on the south coast.