Bodies of Batista victims justify executions

By CLIFF MACKAY

HAVANA, Cuba—Supporting Rev. Fidel Castro's contention that atrocities committed by Batista's men led the Castro executions in the shade was the announcement Saturday that 187 bodies of victims had been dug up from five graves.

This announcement came from Major Raul Castro, brother of the July 26 Revolutionary leader, Fidel Castro.

Maj. Castro is the military commander of Oriente Province, the area in which the bodies were found.

Eighty of the Batista victims were found in the yard of the military post at El Uvero, Fidel Castro's military camp, 20 at a nearby sugar plantation, and 13 along the Manzanillo Highway. Most, then, a score of bodies are believed to be buried in well, near the Belgian rifle range.

THE RED CROSS has been asked to supervise the excavations.

If all persons guilty of atrocities were to be executed, 3,000 would face firing squads, Fidel Castro said Saturday.

The statement, the news of the discovery of the bodies, indicates that the Revolutionists have become sensitive over the criticism coming from the U.S. Congress.

Castro headquarters on the 23rd floor of the Havana Hilton Hotel scheduled "an important conference" Saturday. Whether the question of executions was to be discussed was not announced.

REVOLUTIONARY COURTS have still convened in Havana for the first time this week. All trials and executions have been held in the Sierra Maestra at the opposite end of the island.

About 40 Batista followers are known to be in jails here awaiting trial. Presumably some of these will receive executions.

Camilo Cienfuegos, the rebel commander who disappeared October 28 during a flight from Havana to Camaguey, was welcomed home Saturday by a Cuban cavalry escort in the Havana suburb of Cotorro.

Cienfuegos, who was last seen over Camaguey, was reported missing after his plane was found in the area of a rebel stronghold.

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