



CUBAN REFUGEES — Five young Cuban refugees, ranging in age from 10 - 16, arrived in Superior Thursday evening and five more are expected this evening. The boys will reside in St. Joseph's Children's Home until foster homes can be found for the lads. This program is sponsored by President Kennedy's plan for unaccompanied Cuban children. Left to right are, front row, Antonio and Fr. Elias Poblete. Back row, left to right, Fr. Philip J. Heslin, director of the Catholic Welfare Agency in Superior, Aurelio, Osmil, Sergio, Fr. Peter Makk, supervisor of St. Joseph's Children's Home and Alberto. Fr. Poblete will be the boys' English teacher. Alberto and Sergio are brothers. These Cuban boys are not little children to be cuddled. They

are young human beings who have scarcely had time to know the love of their own parents in a country of their own. They have felt the ugly touch of communism and have known suffering through no fault of their own. They have seen many of their companions shipped off to Russia by the thousands for communistic indoctrination and naturally, they were given first class treatment for propaganda reasons. The Cuban children we have are more fortunate. They have escaped communism. Now they await our tender loving care in our homes. We don't expect to be out-done by the communists," said Fr. Heslin. (Evening Telegram Photo by Clarence Grimsrud)



Five young Cuban refugees inspect the St. Joseph's Children's Home grounds from a balcony with Rev. Peter Makk, superintendent. From left are Tony, Pete, Sarge, Smiley and Al.

—(Staff photo.)

Second Group of 5 Arrives

Young Cubans Reunited

Gestures were more prominent than words at Duluth Municipal Airport Friday until 10 young Cuban refugees who had parted a day earlier in Miami, Fla., were reunited.

Five of the Cuban boys had arrived Thursday. The other five came in on Flight 571 Friday to join their companions as temporary residents of St. Joseph's Children's Home, Superior.

The five who came to the Twin Ports Thursday awaited arrival of Friday's flight in the airport's lobby. They tested members of the Catholic clergy on their Spanish and the clergymen, in turn, asked the boys to respond in English.

The language conflicts brought

out gestures rivaling a baseball coach's signals. But there was no lack of communication once the airplane landed and the boys greeted their acquaintances.

Rev. Philip J. Heslin, director of the Catholic Welfare Agency in Superior, said the youths will be placed in foster homes either in Superior or elsewhere in Northwestern Wisconsin.

Inquiries about backgrounds of the boys were forbidden as a safeguard against reprisals on family members still in Cuba.

One of the first things to be done here was assignment of nicknames. Two of the 10 are known as Charles or Charlie; others are Smiley, Sarge, Al, Pete, Tony, Sil, Rudolph and Marty.

They nodded when asked if the weather was about what they expected, and laughed when told it usually is colder this time of the year.

Pete, the largest of the group at 15—although there are several 16-year-olds—appeared pleased when reporters indicated he might be a good high school football prospect. He has played tackle and is a lad of 5 feet, 10 inches, and 185 pounds. He admits a preference for baseball and a first baseman's assignment.

Sarge, 10, and Smiley, 16, are brothers. They have been in this country for more than seven months. Others arrived in the

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United States from 3 to 14 months ago.

All are here on student visas. They were sent to this country by their parents to escape communism in their homeland.

Like American boys, most have hobbies. Several left coin and stamp collections at home when they left Cuba. Smiley, however, wouldn't part with his collection of popular music recordings.

English lessons and tests to determine grade levels are important steps for the group before they become fully settled in the community.

Their respect for the clergy was evident. Relaxing during a brief interview, they rose in unison when Fr. Haslin and Rev. Edward Theiler entered the room at the home. Father Theiler is Superior diocesan superintendent of schools,

A group of young Cuban refugees are learning the American way of life through activities in Superior . . . All but three of the group brought to Superior are now in private homes.

Two of the boys, Carlos, 15, and Mario, 16, are being cared for by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Nickolette, 1609 N. 56th St.

Last week a group of the young fellows were treated to some bowling instructions at the 3-Star Lanes . . . In the picture above, Pat Harris, left, gives Carlos some pointers on the sport . . . Harris said some of the boys were quick to catch on for not having bowled before . . . a few have some experience.

