



GOOD NEWS — Ralph Nickolette, left, instructor at East Junior High School, and Jose Puig discuss the news of Jose's family's arrival in Miami via airlift from Cuba. Jose, 14, plans to talk with his parents by telephone Friday evening. Nickolette was especially interested in the news of the Puig's flight as two other Cuban youths have been living with his family. They came to Superior with a group of young people, including Jose, from Cuba three and a half years ago. (Evening Telegram Photo).

Cuban Boy's Family Eyes Superior Visit

By SHARON STAUFFER

A Cuban youth who has made his home in Superior for the past three and a half years is eagerly awaiting a reunion with his family who arrived in Miami, Fla., Thursday on the second airlift of refugees from Cuba.

Jose Puig, 14, a student at East Junior High School, has not talked with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ramon Puig a sister, Ana Terese, 5, since their arrival in Miami and does not yet know when they will come to Superior.

He expects to contact them Friday evening at their hotel in Miami. Jose learned of their flight to the United States after the Cuban Refugee Committee in Miami called Bob Swanson, director of St. Joseph's Children's Home where Jose is staying.

Jose came to the United States with a group of children and teen-agers when he was eleven years old.

In an Associated Press interview, Mr. and Mrs. Puig in Miami, said they could hardly wait to get to Superior.

"We will see our son there for the first time in three and a half

years," said Mrs. Puig. "I hope we still recognize him. We sent him out of Cuba so he would not become a Communist." His small sister said she hardly remembered her brother.

Mr. Puig, a carpenter, said he hoped to continue his career in Wisconsin. "At least I couldn't do any worse. There was no wood available in Cuba for me to work with," he commented.

In talking about his family Friday morning, Jose said his father was ordered by the Cuban government to become a guard and refused. He later refused another job of truck-loading and was then unable to find work. He had previously been employed as a carpenter and eventually resorted to non-government carpenter work again when such work was available.

Two other Cuban youths of Superior were interested in the news about the Puigs' flight. Carlos Pacheco and Alberto Garcia who have made their home with Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Nickolette, 1608 N. 36th St. have with the help of other relatives, arranged for their parents to leave Cuba. The parents are expected in Miami sometime this winter.

Puig Family Has a Home, Employment

The Ramon Puigs, Cuban refugees who arrived in Superior Sunday for a reunion with their son, Jose, have a home and a job, the Catholic Charities Bureau reported Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Puig and daughter, Ana Terese, will move into an upper duplex apartment at 1708 Susquehanna Ave. Tuesday. The apartment is unfurnished except for a refrigerator and stove.

The Charities Bureau, which has assumed responsibility for the Puigs, has made an appeal for donations of furniture to help furnish the apartment. Miss Gerrine O'Mears, of the Bureau, said the Puigs were able to bring only a box and duffel bag of belongings with them and would have to get all home furnishings here.

Mr. Puig began work this week with a local building firm as a carpenter.

Though the Puigs do not speak English, Mr. Puig and Ana have already picked up common phrases of the language. Miss O'Mears said the family has expressed their gratefulness and appreciation for what Superiors have done for them.

Jose, who has been in the United States for the past three years, spent Monday with his parents, but returned to classes at East Junior High Tuesday. He will continue staying at St. Joseph's Children's Home until the family is completely settled here.

12-4-61 Telegram

Cuban Family Reunion Set Tomorrow

A 14-year-old Cuban boy and his family will be reunited after three and a half years, Sunday at the Duluth International Airport.

Jose Puig, whose parents sent him to the United States so he would escape the Communist influence in Cuba, will greet his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ramon Puig, and his five-year-old sister, Ana Terese, as they arrive at 4:18 p.m. on a flight from Miami.

The family was part of the second refugee airlift from Cuba which landed in Miami Thursday. Jose has been living in Superior, with some time spent in Marquette, Mich., since he was evacuated with a group of young people from Cuba when he was 11 years old.

The Puigs will be guests of the Pablo Mila family, 1718 Iowa Ave., for a few days following their arrival in Superior. The Milas fled Cuba about two years ago.

Permanent living quarters, possibly a furnished apartment, are being sought for the family by the Catholic Charities Bureau. The Rev. Fr. Philip Heslin, director, said that the bureau has assumed responsibility for the family. The bureau is also investigating job possibilities in the Upstate area for Mr. Puig who is a skilled carpenter.

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the youth's eyes as the door of the airliner was opened and his five-year-old sister descended the stairway, clutching a pink doll bedded in her arms. His parents followed her.

Jose glanced behind himself at Fr. Heslin as though to ask permission to leave. Fr. Heslin nodded and Jose rushed to the plane to embrace his tearful parents.

As the family clutched to one another, many other Cubans rushed to the Puigs to express their greetings to the newcomers. The area near the plane was suddenly filled with a rash of Spanish words. Happiness erupted through out the crowd as some of the spectators wept along with the family.

Making their way into the terminal, Mrs. Puig wiped tears from her eyes and Mr. Puig was sober with thoughts of his family. They paused momentarily to greet new friends, then left immediately for the Pablos Mila home, 1718 Iowa Ave., where they will spend the next few days.

The Puigs had apparently been warned of the cold weather here as they wore winter coats, a contrast to the summer clothing they had worn in Miami.

The happy reunion climaxed a three-day wait by Jose since he received news that his parents and sister were part of the second airlift of Cuban refugees arriving in Miami, Thursday. Officials at St. Joseph's Children's Home where Jose has been staying, were contacted by the Cuban Refugee Committee of Miami and the Puigs made plans to fly to Superior.

Their family together again, the future of the Puigs remains uncertain. Mr. Puig, a skilled carpenter, is seeking work in the Superior area but if none is available, he may have to leave for another part of the state or country.

The Catholic Charities Bureau has taken responsibility for the family while they are in Superior, seeking a place for them to live and work for Mr. Puig.