

# Uruguay Says Arrest Of 62 Has Broken Up New Guerrilla Group

From Herald Wire Services

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay — Uruguayan officials claim to have broken up a new leftist guerrilla group with the arrest of 62 persons.

The government said the group known as "The Party for the Victory of the People" had obtained \$10 million in ransom for Argentine executive Federico Hart.

The report of the kidnaping and ransom of Hart was the first issued by the Uruguayan government.

**THE GROUP** also was reported to be responsible for setting off three bombs in the tourist resort of Punta del Este and starting a forest fire on Jan. 12.

Officials paraded 14 handcuffed persons at a news conference Thursday, claiming they were members of the group.

The news conference was held in a resort home, reported to be a safe house for the guerrilla organization, which officials claimed also had active members in nearby Argentina and some European countries.

The guerrillas had been plotting the assassination of Uruguay's ambassador to Brazil, Carlos Manini Rios, and an unidentified army officer in Uruguay, the security officials said.

The officials said the left-wing group also planned to expand what the Uruguayan military government has claimed is an international propaganda campaign against Uruguay.

"**THIS CAMPAIGN** was to even touch upon the territory of the United States," officials said in a statement distributed to newsmen. "It was intended to use the services of a journalist of The Washington Post who had become very well known because of his reporting on Watergate.

"It should be stated that he wasn't supposed to have the slightest idea of the plan, nor the organization behind it. He was only supposed to write articles based on material sent to him."

The reporter was not identified.

The officials said the new extremist group was linked to the Tupamaros, a left-wing guerrilla group active in Uruguay from 1968-1972. In 1973, during the war against the Tupamaros, military officers quietly assumed power in Uruguay.