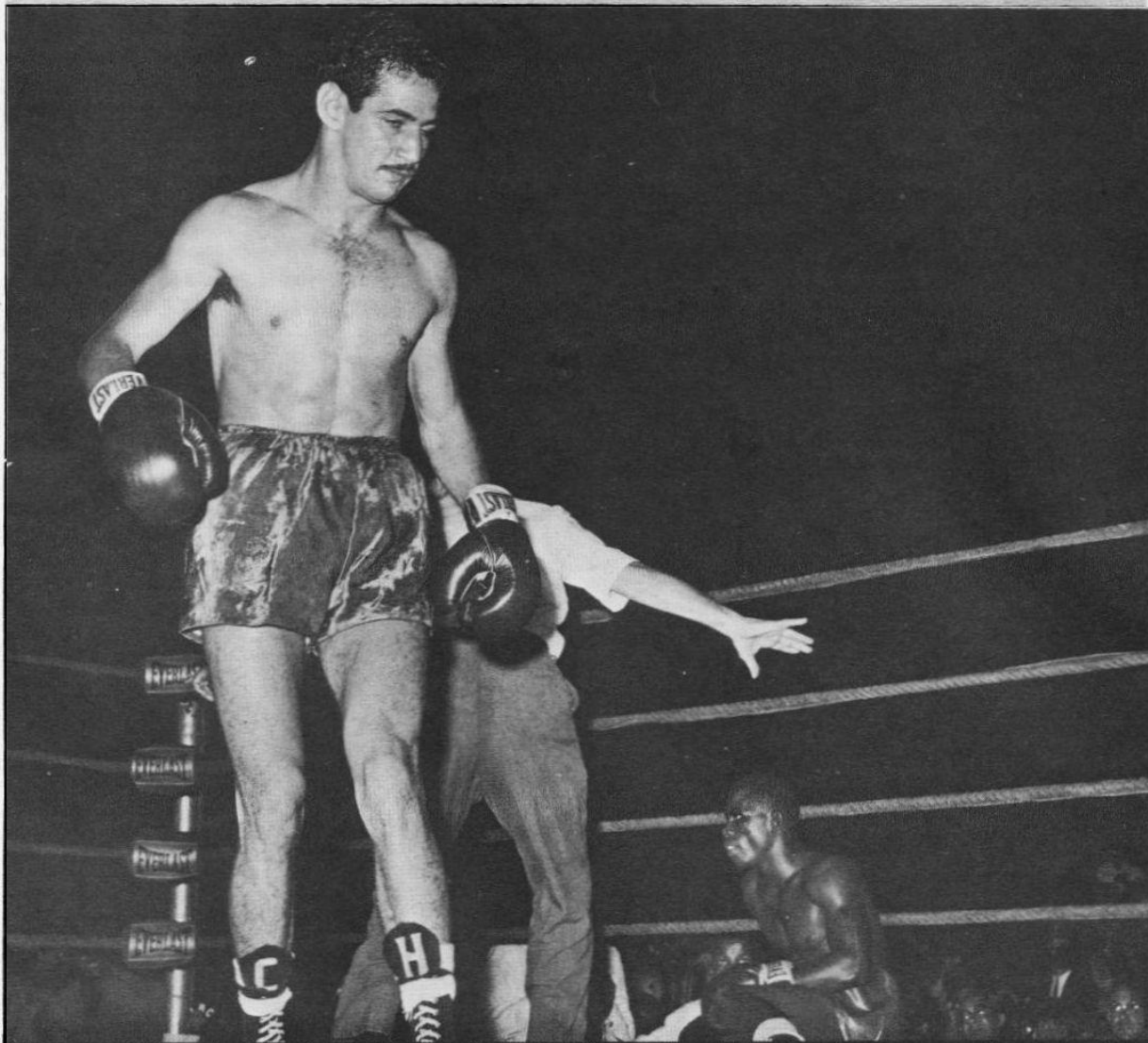


# HERNANDEZ'S SECOND TITLE DEFENSE

★ **THREE-ROUND KNOCKOUT OF PERCY HAYLES**  
**STAMPS VENEZUELAN AS TOP RATE PUNCHER** ★

By BEN GREENE

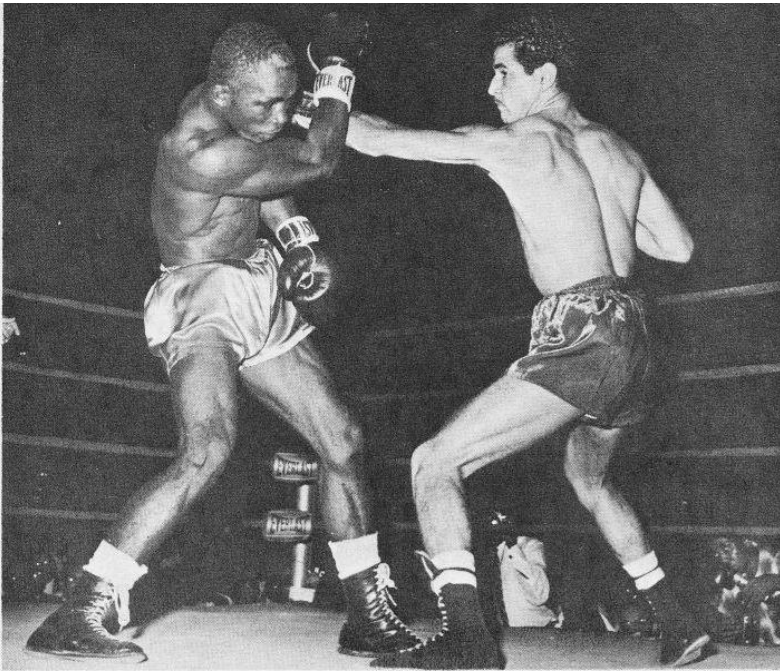


The power of Hernandez's punches is etched on the face of Hayles as he sits dazed against the ropes while referee Willie Pep counts him out. Carlos is noted as a deadly right-hand puncher, but it was a power-laden left hook that sent his challenger into dreamland in the closing seconds of the third round.

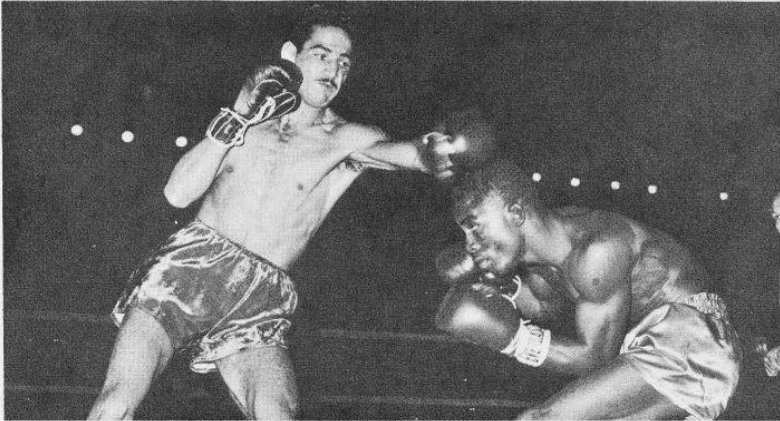
**C**OURAGEOUS Jamaican Percy Hayles gambled and lost! All his stirring hopes and dreams, stored up over a 7-year span in the prize ring were completely shattered, when the

tall, slim, mustachioed champion, senior Carlos Hernandez, exploded a smashing left hook to Percy's kisser at the 2:53 mark of the third chukker of their titanic see-saw brawl.

Former champ Willie Pep, the ring arbiter, finally counted Hayles out—reposing, stunned and expressionless, in a sitting position against the ropes. Furious fighting Hayles answered



Hernandez surprised with the effective use of his left hand, scoring well with jabs as well as hooks against his rugged opponent who forced the issue during the first two rounds.



Bobbing and weaving and coming in under the punches of the champion, gave Percy an advantage early in the contest, but once he stood up and elected to trade with Carlos he was in trouble.

the opening gong like a man in a big hurry to get the job done quickly—and with dispatch. He commenced firing a blazing barrage of leather, while the huge tumultuous crowd rose up—teeming with excitement. They hadn't counted on their pride-and-joy trading blows recklessly with one of the prize ring's hardest-hitting champions.

Hayles' fiery mode of brawling seemed to ignite the champion. He, too, came on winging in furious fashion, which sparked nearly nine minutes of savage, nerve-tingling leather-pushing excitement, at Kingston's huge National Stadium, where 18,000 red-hot fight buffs attended promoter Lucien Chen's spectacular championship match.

Hayles stormed out swiftly and slammed home a series of left hooks, followed by a whistling left-right combination to the chin.

The cool and calculating champ rocked 'neath the blows, then retaliated with a blasting salvo of leather. He then commenced jabbing, then drove a wicked right to the chin which brought the challenger to a split-second halt.

Percy bounced back with another sizzling assault that had Carlos in deep trouble and a mite worried at the bell.

Round one had been a mighty big one for Hayles. But the tremendous pace and savage punching exchanges augured a soon-to-be swift ending.

Then the bell—and round two.

The 60-second interval seemed much too long for the keyed-up, emotional Jamaican. He had the champ on the run—and seemed quite determined to maintain his marked advantage. He stormed out like a guy shot out of a cannon—jabbing and hooking, then crashed a couple of wicked right-handers to Hernandez' midsection. However, the South American "Mor-ocho," a mighty cool customer under fire, didn't bat an eyelash.

He moved in stalking his foe, then unleashed a couple of haymakers. But Hayles managed to slip inside—and countered with a pair of blockbusters.

Now the Junior Welterweight champion seemed hurt—and nettled no little, as Hayles continued to dish out leather.

But time was running out with the round nearing an end. Hayles continued to fight aggressively, trying desperately to land "the big one." But—just before the bell, Carlos nailed his man with a power-laden left hook that had the Jamaican in serious straits.

Hayles came out slowly in the third—a wee bit subdued as he circled his man. He had given his "all" in the first two chukkers; had nailed Hernandez with every bit of fistic arsenal at his command, yet the champion was still very much in the fight—and coming stronger.

Hernandez was now in command. He opened up determinedly and aggressively—driving his man back with a wing-ding barrage of leather. Hayles retreated cautiously, trying to remain upright by bobbing and weaving. But the champ straightened him up with a jarring right uppercut, followed by a booming left hook . . . and it was all over for Percy Hayles!

Promoter Lucien Chen and Ivan Levy, president of Jamaica's Boxing Board of Control, rate a bevy of encomiums for bringing the second successful championship extravaganza to Kingston, Jamaica's ultra-modern National Stadium, where an 18,000 turnout shelled out a gross gate of \$51,000.

Slim-trim Carlos Hernandez—who is, perhaps, the only world's boxing champion who isn't a full-time gladiator—is employed as an accountant for an American advertising agency in Venezuela. He reported back to his office on Monday, following his championship tilt with Percy Hayles—with his wallet bulging with dinero. His paycheck amounted to 20,000 American dollars. ●