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Highlighted changes between 2025/104-10302-10019.pdf and 2022/docid-32401327.pdf

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3			
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APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION	
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1a

TOP SECRET  
(Security Classification)

[REDACTED] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

~~TOP SECRET PINAR~~~~NOFORN  
DAILY SUMMARY~~*H An fm 2 M*  
~~COPY NO. 162~~~~SC NO. 10055043~~~~9 December 1963~~**DAILY**

This summary of significant information has not been coordinated outside the Office of Current Intelligence. It does not represent a complete coverage of all current reports received, nor does time permit the complete evaluation of all reports which are included.

**SUMMARY**~~CONTENTS~~MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS:

Three independent clandestine sources have reported on the unloading of military equipment from the Soviet vessel METALLURG BAIKOV in Havana harbor on 19 or 20 November. (Page 1)

Soviet "coastal defense rockets" now belong to Cuban Army artillery forces, according to a recent speech by Raul Castro; however, Soviets still appear to be involved in the communications net which serves the cruise missile system. (Page 1)

FIDEL CASTRO'S SPEECH:

In a 6-7 December speech devoted mainly to education, Castro digressed to discuss the situation resulting from Venezuela's charge that the arms cache discovered on a Venezuelan beach last month had come from Cuba. Castro implied that the arms had been planted by CIA and are being used as a pretext for new action by the "imperialists and their lackeys" against Cuba. He expressed confidence that whatever the result, the Cuban revolution will not be defeated. (Page 2)

CUBAN INTERNAL SITUATION:

Faure Chomon Mediavilla is replacing Omar Fernandez as transportation minister; Major Jesus Montane Oropesa will be new communications minister. (Page 3)

**THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS CODE WORD MATERIAL**  
Heavy rainfall has apparently caused damages to military facilities in Pinar del Rio Province and hampered travel in Oriente Province. (Page 4)

~~NOFORN~~~~TOP SECRET PINAR~~

~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~DAILY SUMMARY

9 December 1963

THE PRESIDENT'S ASSASSINATION:

~~This summary of significant information has not been coordinated outside the Office of Current Intelligence. It does not represent a complete picture.~~  
 A Spanish-language daily in New York claims Madrid police are holding a self-confessed plotter against the late President. (Page 6) of all current reports received, nor does time permit the complete evaluation of all reports which are included.

INSURGENCY AND CIVIL UNREST:

A fire on a farm near Cardenas, Matanzas Province, has destroyed one acre of henequen. (Page 4)

CONTENTS

An attempt has been made to shoot the chief of the PURS in Velasco, Camaguey Province. (Page 5)

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS:

A militiaman arrested in Guantanamo on 3 December for suspected counterrevolutionary activities has been freed on (Page 10) trading of military equipment from the Soviet vessel METALLURG BAIKOV in Havana harbor on 19 or 20 November.

The QDR unit at Ciego de Avila has captured one insurgent and reports the surrender of another; a resident of Jucaro has been arrested for cashing "out-of-circulation" 50 Army dollar bills. (Page 5) According to a recent speech by Raul Castro; however, Soviets still appear to be involved in (Page 10) twenty-two people attempting to flee Cuba were captured by Cuban security forces on 8 December; this may be related to an earlier report which stated that an undetermined number of residents of Las Villas Province fled the country from an unknown point of embarkation. (Page 6)

FIDEL CASTRO'S SPEECH

In a 6-7 December speech devoted mainly to education, Castro discussed in detail the situation resulting from (Page 10) several other incidents of sabotage have been discovered - on CUBANA aircraft (Page 6) cache discovered on a Venezuelan beach last month had come from Cuba. Castro implied that the arms had been supplied by CIA and were being used in a protest of revolution by the "monarchists and their supporters" against Cuba. He expressed confidence that whatever the result, the Cuban revolution will not be defeated. (Page 5)

CUBAN AIR FLIGHT CONNECTIONS:

CUBAN INTERNAL SITUATION Spain has approved regularly scheduled Havana-Madrid flights by CUBANA airlines. (Page 7) Mon Mediavilla is replacing Omar Fernandez as transportation minister; Major Jesus Montane Oropesa will (Page 10) shipping support for CURA minister. (Page 3)

~~(OO MM)~~  
 The Argentine Government and the owners of the SS ANAMAR are determined that it will recapture a cargo of Soviet-purchased coffeeante Cuba. (Page 7)

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## ~~THE DEVELOPMENTS ASSASSINATION~~

The Spanish-language daily in New York claims that police are heading to Cuba to search against the Cuban President. (Page 1) Delegates have been impressed by the Cuban claim that the weapons found in Venezuela last month had actually been planted there by the US. Apparently unaware that elaborate efforts had been made to erase all indications of the Cuban origin of the weapons, they wonder why Cuba would permit evidence of its involvement in sending arms to Latin American guerrillas to be traceable to Cuba. (Page 7) A fire on a ship near Venezuela, destroying 700000 lbs of dynamite, has destroyed one act of terrorism. (Page 4) 29

An attempt has been made to shoot the chief of the (PURS) in  
Vinales, Camaguey Province. (Page 9) dispatched an urgent message  
to him [redacted] on 8 December expressing misgivings  
as to the attitudes of members of the special [redacted] committee  
appointed to investigate Venezuela's charges against the  
Castro regime. (Page 8)  
~~A militiaman arrested in Guantanamo on 3 December for sus-  
pected counterrevolutionary activities was freed.~~

In relation to the investigation of the Venezuelan arms cache, the [ ] has been instructed not to show "sympathy or excessive understanding in relation to Cuba." (Page 5)

SOVIET-CUBAN RELATIONS

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED~~ attempting to flee Cuba were captured by Cuban security forces on 8 December; this may be related to an earlier report which stated that an undetermined number of residents of Las Villas province fled the country from an unknown point of embarkation. (Page 6) (Page 9)

**BLOC ECONOMIC RELATIONS:** (Page 6)

A DRE reader in Mexico City announced that 126 Cuban civilians were killed in a clash with guerrillas near Sancti Spiritus, Las Villas Province. (Page 6) The Soviet-made AN-12 transport has landed in Cuba. (Page 10)

#### **CUBAN AIR FLIGHT CONNECTIONS:**

#### ~~NON-BLOC RELATIONSHIP~~

~~(Spain) has approved regularly scheduled Havana-Madrid flights~~  
~~The Moroccan foreign minister has received a Cuban "good-will"~~  
~~mission for the second time; local expectation is~~  
~~that formal relations will be re-established shortly.~~

## **SHIFTING SUPPORT FOR CUBA: (Page 11)**

~~The Argentine Government and the owners of the 15 million  
are determined that it will not take a cargo of beet-  
purchased coffee to Cuba. (Page 7)~~

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~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~  
~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~(OAS) DEVELOPMENTS:CUBAN SUPPORT OF EXTERNAL SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES:

The Brazilian OAS delegate informed his government on 5 December that ambassador [ ] has been impressed by the accuracy of Venezuelan charges of Cuban subversion, last [ ] (Page 12) actually been planted there by the US. Apparently unaware that elaborate efforts had been made to erase all other information additional report on the use of Cuban transports to supply pre-Castro groups in Venezuela with weapons to (Page 12) Peruvian guerrillas to be traceable to Cuba. (Page 7)

Cuban Charge Lasalle in Bolivia is reportedly supplying weapons to the leftist section of the governing party. The (Page 12) dispatched an urgent message to the foreign minister of Chile concerning living expenses of members of the special (OAS) committee appointed to investigate Venezuela's charges against the Cuban and Argentine sources has reported that two Cubans are with a group of Peruvian leftists currently hiding in Bolivia and that Castro has agreed to provide money and guerrilla training for a rival group. (Page 12) has been instructed not to show "sympathy or excessive understanding in relation to Cuba." (Page 9)

SOVIET-CUBAN RELATIONS:

A clandestine source has reported, possibly as a current rumor, that Fidel Castro visited Moscow around 15 November; there is no current evidence that he made any public appearances in Cuba around that date. (Page 9)

BLOC ECONOMIC RELATIONS:

Five Polish merchantmen have been assigned to Cuban run. (Page 10)

The Soviet-made AN-12 transport has landed in Cuba. (Page 10)

NON-BLOC RELATIONS:

The Moroccan foreign minister has received a Cuban "good-will" mission for the second time; local expectation is that formal relations will be re-established shortly. (Page 11)

The President of Dahomey <sup>10</sup> declined an invitation to attend the 1 January anniversary celebration in Cuba. (Page 11)

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~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

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~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

## MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS.

~~CUBAN SUPPORT OF INTERNAL SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES:~~

Three independent clandestine sources have reported the unloading of military equipment from a Soviet cargo vessel, probably the METALLURG BAIKOV, on 19 or 20 November. This vessel was suspected of carrying a military cargo long before its arrival in Cuba. (See Daily Summary of 12 November.) It carried what was probably the eighth full military cargo to arrive in Cuba since the 1962 missile crisis. One source, a retired civil engineer whose reporting has been factual and in most instances based on personal observation, reported that the METALLURG BAIKOV unloaded "large quantities of arms and military equipment" in Havana on 20 November and left the next day. Another source reported that Havana longshoremen had stated that a Soviet ship, which they did not identify, had unloaded arms at Regla Wharf, Havana, on 20 November. A third source, an educated Cuban of Western European extraction who is a resident of Havana, reported that tanks were among the equipment unloaded from a Soviet vessel that arrived in Havana on 19 November. The three sources are probably referring to the same shipment. If the report on the delivery of tanks is true, this would be the second consecutive reported shipment of armored vehicles to Cuba. The ORENBURG reportedly delivered some 45 tanks on 23 or 24 October. (See Daily Summaries of 28 and 29 October.) It has previously been reported that another probable military shipment, the ninth, is now en route aboard the SLUTSK. (See Daily Summary of 3 December.) (CIA TDCS-DE-3/658,289, 6 December, ~~SECRET NO FOREIGN DISSEM/CONTROLLED DISSEM~~)

The Soviet "coastal defense rockets" now belong to the Cuban Army artillery forces, according to a recent speech by Raul Castro. Cubans probably have been training in cruise missile operations since last spring, and the rotation and withdrawal of some Soviet naval personnel in September suggested that the cruise missile system was turned over to the Cubans at that time. A Soviet communications net which probably serves the cruise missile system remains active, however, indicating that some degree of Soviet involvement continues. (CIA FBIS, 14 November, UNCLASSIFIED and NSA 2/- [redacted] 216-63, 28 August, 1963, ~~SECRET NMDO~~)

JFK Act 5 (NMDO)

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~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~~~MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS:~~  
~~FIDEL CASTRO'S SPEECH:~~

Three independent clandestine sources have reported the unloading of military equipment from a Soviet cargo vessel, probably the METALLURG BAIKOV, on 19 or 20 November. This vessel was suspected of carrying a military cargo long before its arrival in Cuba. (See Daily Summary of 12 November.) It carried what was probably the eighth military cargo to arrive in Cuba since the 1962 missile crisis. One source, a retired civil engineer whose reporting has been factual and in most instances based on personal observation, reported that Castro stated that, while the imperialists and their lackeys charge that Cuba is promoting subversion in Venezuela, rebellion and subversion cannot be promoted from without. The Venezuelan revolution, he maintained, stems from the Venezuelan people's own dispute with their government and with its permitting the "imperialists" to plunder Venezuela's wealth and resources. If subversion could, in fact, be promoted from the outside, why he asked, have all the resources of imperialism failed to subvert the Cuban Government? Betancourt, "that miserable lackey," is trying to incite the United States to take military action against Cuba, Castro charged. As a pretext the Venezuelans say they have discovered arms from Cuba on the Venezuelan coast, Castro stated. "Some 45 tanks on 23 or 24 October. (See Daily Summaries of 28 and 29 October.) It has previously been reported that another probable military shipment, the NIKHIN, is now en route aboard the SULTAN. (See Daily Summary of 5 December.) (CIA ID#S-DB-37558 284 5 December, SECRET NO FOREIGN DISSEM/CONTROLLED DISSEM.)

The Soviet coastal defense rockets now belong to the Cuban Army artillery forces, according to a recent speech by Paul Castro. Cubans probably have been training in Cuban missile operations since last spring and the rotation and interchange of some Soviet naval personnel in September suggested that the cruise missile system was turned over to the Cubans at that time. A Soviet communications net which previously served the cruise missile system remains active, however, indicating that some degree of Soviet involvement continues. (CIA FBIS, 14 November UNCLASSIFIED AND NSA 2-A/UNAVWIG-63, 28 August, 1963, SECRET KIMMIE)

Castro then attempted to show the "brazenness" and inconsistency of those who would use the Venezuelan arms cache as a pretext to invade or to blockade Cuba when for more than four years the very same kind of subversive activity as is now being charged to Cuba has been perpetrated against Cuba--without any hemispheric attempt to punish the aggressors.

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~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

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~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~FIDEL CASTRO'S SPEECH  
FIDEL CASTRO'S SPEECH - cont'd

"Things have changed quite a bit," Castro declared, "to attack or to blockade Cuba now would not be easy; we can defend ourselves; we are calm; we know what we have to defend ourselves with." Then, in an implied reference to the Soviet equipment of strategic missiles to Cuba last year, Castro declared: "Then we hear some of these lackeys of imperialism talking so calmly about invading Cuba, when it has been only one year since the October crisis, they are once more proving us right and are once more justifying Cuba's taking defensive measures; this talk led to the October crisis." Castro then declared that "these men are so deceived by their own propaganda that...they cannot conceive of what any invader would meet here." A war against Cuba, he said, "would not end while there was a single mercenary soldier treading on our soil."

Castro then returned briefly to his views as to how peace can be assured in the Caribbean. "Whatever they want to discuss with Cuba," he said, "let them come and discuss honestly with Cuba, because we have stated the indispensable prerequisites for a peaceful atmosphere...in the Caribbean." Thus far, however, they have answered with aggressions on top of aggressions. "This course," he said, "is doomed to failure." (CIA PNS Havana, 5 December, OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

CUBAN INTERNAL SITUATION.

Yankee bazookas! Yankee recoilless cannon! Arms which we did not manufacture; arms which we did not buy!" Castro then went

A shake-up in the Cuban cabinet has moved Faure Chomón Mediville to the post of transportation minister; he succeeds Capt. Omar Fernández, whose ministry was recently under attack by Castro for alleged inefficiencies and "vices." Major Jesus Montanez Oropeza is replacing Chomón as communications minister. Chomón, who served as Castro's first ambassador to the Soviet Union, took over as communications minister in March 1962. He is currently a member of the National Directorate of PNR. Fernández, his predecessor, is reportedly moving to an unspecified position in the Ministry of Industries under Che Guevara.

Montanez took part in the attack on the Moncada Barracks in 1953 and followed Castro to exile in Mexico. He took part in the GRANMA expedition of 1956 when he was captured and imprienced. After the revolution, he reportedly received only a minor post in the government because he had talked too much in prison. His most recent post, dating from at least August 1962, has been as number two man in the Tourism Institute (INT). He is said to be an ardent Marxist-Leninist, who preaches it at every opportunity. (UPI 63, 6 December, UNCLASSIFIED; background information: ~~SECRET~~)

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~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~~~CUBAN INTERNAL SITUATION~~ cont'd

"Intercepted Cuban military messages of 7 December indicate that serious radio damage has occurred near both Pinar del Rio and Oriente provinces. Cuban military units in Pinar del Rio reported the extent of damage to their radio installations and facilities in messages to the operations officer, apparently at fourth army headquarters in Pinar del Rio. More than half their transmitters had been destroyed, the only shelters and command posts closest to the units reporting having suffered serious damage, and divisional headquarters reported that while its facilities were still in good condition, the roads leading to it will have to be repaired. Meanwhile, in Oriente Province, intercepts indicate that torrential rainfall had caused the rivers to flood, making travel difficult and had forced the closing of the Baracoa Airport." (PR148-83, 8 December, ~~SECRET~~)

~~2/SL Casar then returned briefly to his views as to how peace can be assured in the Caribbean. "Whatever they want to discuss PRESIDENT'S ASSASSINATION; them come and discuss honestly with Cuba; because we have stated the indispensable prerequisites for a peaceful atmosphere in the Caribbean.~~

~~The Reuters correspondent in Madrid has advised the US Embassy that he has been queried by a New York client about over they have answered with aggressus top aggressus.~~

~~This occurs. Ed Kean returns to Madrid. (CIA 33)~~

~~December OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

~~CUBAN INTERNAL SITUATION~~

~~A shake-up in the Cuban cabinet has moved from Madrid to the post of transportation minister. It succeeds Lopez, Omar Fernandez, who recently was received by Castro for alleged inefficiencies and abuses. Lopez, Jesus Montanez Oropesa is replacing Lopez as communications minister. Arrangements are being made for Lopez to travel to Cuba. CAS is pursuing the matter in Madrid. (Am Emb Madrid, 1155, 7 December, ~~SECRET~~)~~

~~Soviet Union took over as communications minister in March 1962. He is currently a member of the National Directorate~~

~~ISSURGENCY AND CIVIL UNREST. His predecessor, is reportedly moving to~~

~~an unspecified position in the Ministry of Industries under Che Guevara.~~

~~In 1953 and Idrisio Castro to exile in Mexico. He (participated in the 1953 coup) part of the Mossadegh's forces. The chief of the Matanzas Bureau of Public Order (BOP) informed Havana in an 8 December intercepted message that the fire, "supposed to be sabotage," was put out by the Cardenas fire department. After the revolution, he reportedly became minister post in the government because he had talked too much (SECRET).~~

~~In prison. His most recent post, dating from at least August 1962, has been as number two man in the Tourism Institute (INIT). He is said to be an ardent Marxist-Leninist, who preaches it at every opportunity. (UPI 63, 6 December, UNCLASSIFIED; background information: SECRET)~~

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~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

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~~TOP SECRET DNA~~

## ~~INSTIGATING AND CIVIL UNREST~~ cont'd

Page 5 (a) (2) (B)

~~THE PHS DSE UNIT SETS SIGHT ON AVILA~~: Avila has captured one insurgent and reports the surrender of another. On 6 December the DSE provincial headquarters in Camaguey was informed that the insurgent General Armas Rodriguez was captured near about Jatibonicó. The message stated that Armas Fidalgo reportedly active in the Havana, Matanzas, and Santiago de Cuba areas, had recently in Camaguey area. He belongs to an insurgent band led by one Carlos "23". The other message reported the surrender of Edmundo Almeida (see Daily Summary, 5 December), previously associated with the bands of Juan Alberto, to the DSE unit Spain at Jatibonicó and to the best of their knowledge has absolutely. In addition, on 7 December a message to Avila reported the arrest of Jesus Marquez, a 39-year-old resident of Jocaro. Marquez is said to have taken a one "bullet because the 30-dollar bill which he received from the US on 4 December 1963." in Madrid 2/10 fm E/R 1984634, 01 Dec 63, Decane 2/10 CONFIDENTIAL, 7 December, SECRET XIMBO

## ~~INSURGENCY AND CIVIL UNREST:~~

An undetermined number of residents of Vegas de Palmas, San Antoniso den las Verdades and Agua de los Viles Province, recently fled the country from an unknown point of embarkation to the Central Army headquarters in Nuevo Leon and formed Naguan that continues spread Vegas de Palmas had been identified as: Belisario Menchaca, Rodolfo de Montalvo, and Moises Meza Garib (600 ex-private in the Revolutionary Armed Forces). Also mentioned as escapees were Feliz Perez, Inocenio Lima. [redacted] 2/SL R301-63, 8 December. (SECRET KIMBER)

~~TOP SECRET//DIA~~

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~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~~~INSURGENCY AND CIVIL UNREST - omitted~~

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- 10 In possible connection with the preceding, (S2 E) unit people attempting to flee Cuba were captured by Cuban security forces on 8 December. Fifth Army Headquarters (IN) in Camaguey informed Havana that a maritime patrol boat sent by coastal vigilance observers post captured no boat they were trying to board. 32 individuals in the area of Cayo Mariquita, ~~SECRET PINO~~ of La Bahia de Punta Alagre. On the boat, which had left Caibarien three days earlier, government agents found Cuban commandos as well as personal belongings (USM 86-12486s (see 24 R303-63, 9 December, ~~SECRET PINO~~), freed. (Sector E headquarters)
- In (Mayari Arriba) informed (First Army headquarters) in Santiago of a recent ~~intelligence report~~ from a source who was a member of the Cuban Ministry of Transportation who reported that several minor incidents of sabotage have been discovered to given. CUBANA aircraft. On 15 November Dac SHBAN 11214 made a round trip flight from Rancho Boyeros Airport to Nueva Gerona without a storage battery. The source comments that serious trouble would have resulted if one engineer had stopped because he had been feathered while undergoing. This incident was believed to be associated with various acts of subtle sabotage against CUBANA aircraft, such as stuffing exhaust tubes with ragomes obstructing air-buretor intakes active in the Havana, Matanzas, and Santa Clara areas, and most In addition, the source reports that a CUBANA Reggiani aircraft was sabotaged by Algerian personnel during a transatlantic flight to Algiers. The hydraulic line was fractured, forcing the crew to use manual controls to lower the landing gear for a stop in Madrid. (CIA IR 75941, 8 December, ~~SECRET NO FORXION~~ DISSEM COMINT DDCM) December (Ciego de Avila) reported the arrest of Jesus Marquez, a 39-year-old resident of Jucaro.
- Press dispatches from Mexico City report that a leader of the Revolutionary Students Directorate (DRS) announced that 120 Cuban militiamen had been killed in a clash with guerrillas 12 miles south of Sancti Spiritus, Las Villas Province. Angel Gonzales said that "belated underground reports just received" indicated that the clash took place in mid-September when a guerrilla force ambushed a militia unit and killed all militiamen. The guerrilla force lost 18 members including Negro guerrilla leader Andre Starabull and three captains identified as Carlos Roem, Julio Garcia, and Sergio Perez. The Castro regime then sent 5,000 men supported by tanks, mortars, and helicopters to destroy their armed guerrillas. After two weeks of fighting, the entire guerrilla unit was destroyed but not until 6-318 other militiamen had been killed. There is no confirmation from COMINT or other sources of any action of the magnitude reported by the DRS. (AP-131, Mexico City, 7 December, UNCLASSIFIED)

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~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

24/PV

~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~CUBAN AIR FLIGHT CONNECTIONS: - cont'd

~~Spain has approved regularly scheduled Havana-Madrid flights by CUBANA airlines, according to an intercepted message of 7 December. It was previously reported that the Spanish Government was unwilling to reduce these flights because it believes the connections are vital to Spain; however, the Foreign Ministry said individual flights to Cuba were captured by Cuban Air Force. (See Daily Summary of 18 November.) It has also been reported that CUBANA is assured of capacity passenger load for the Havana-Madrid service and plans to pool air freight from all of Western Europe for delivery to Havana via Madrid. (See also ~~Summary of 18 November~~ 2/21 CTHU-19.) It has also been reported that CUBANA is assured of capacity passenger load for the Havana-Madrid service and plans to pool air freight from all of Western Europe for delivery to Havana via Madrid. (See also ~~Summary of 18 November~~ 2/21 CTHU-19.)~~

~~Argentineshipping support for CUBA Rancho Boyeros Airport to Nueva Gerona without a storage battery. The source comments that serious trouble is reportedly attempting to stop one of its ships--the SS ANAMAR--from delivering a cargo of coffee to Cuba, despite the fact that there are currently no legal restrictions against Argentineshipping anywhere in the world. The ANAMAR left Brazil on 1 November with a cargo of Brazilian coffee, purchased by the USSR and destined for Cuban ports. (See Daily Summary of 8 November.) The Argentine Foreign Ministry informed US Embassy officials that it was determined to prevent the ANAMAR from going to Cuba because of potential unfavorable press reaction. Argentina wants Madrid to stop the ship and is reportedly even considering some type of provocation which would force the ship to port in Puerto Rico. Mexico, the owners of the ANAMAR, are equally adamant that the ship will not go to Cuba. They reportedly had agreed to ship coffee from Brazil to some Central American country to pay some back bills, and were only informed later that the ship went to Cuba. According to the owners, the ship is now lying off the coast of Brazil, awaiting resolution of the problem. The owner reportedly stated they will sink the ship rather than go to Cuba. (See Buenos Aires 1017, 9 December, CONFIDENTIAL)~~

~~DEVELOPMENTS: The Castro regime then sent 3,000 men supported by tanks, mortars, and helicopters to destroy the guerrillas. After two weeks of fighting, repeated shelling by guerrillas from Washington on 5 December 5 that several Cuban delegations have been impressed by the Cuban claim that weapons found Venezuela last month had actually been planted there by the 131, United States. 7 December, UNCLASSIFIED)~~

~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

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~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

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~~CUBAN DEVELOPMENTS CONVENTIONS:~~

(S) These delegates regularly scheduled, were wondering whether the Cuban Government would be so stupid as to send to Venezuela arms with the description "Cuba Army" and the insignia of Cuba engraved on them as indicated by the Venezuelan photographs shown earlier. However, these delegates did it would want or that if Cuba had actually sent the arms to Venezuela, it would first have removed any indication of Cuban origin. This account indicates that (See Daily Mail, London, 18 November.) It has and the others of whom he speaks are apparently unaware that considerable efforts had, in fact, been made to erase all evidence of the Cuban origin of these arms. The 31 Submachine guns found in the cache had their serial numbers and other identifying marks recently ground off. Venezuelan technicians, using a highly technical process, were able to raise the serial numbers and the Cuban shield on some of the weapons. In independent ~~SECRET US~~ technicians were able to raise the numbers and shields on three of these weapons. The numbers correspond to those of weapons known to have been delivered to Cuba from Belgium ANAMAR 1959 and 1960. Similarly, in the case of the, despite the fact that certificates of Belgian manufacture found in the cache, all identifying marks had been obliterated. In this case, one-fourth inch of molten brass alloy had been machined to cover the places where the numbers had been ground off and it was not possible to restore the numbers. However, Venezuelan military authorities maintained that these weapons are unique to those manufactured expressly for the Cuban Government by Belgian's Fabrique Nationale in 1959, when Cuba ordered 22,600 such weapons. (NSA C/Grimm 22041-63, 6 December, top secret) Penna Marinho, backgrounder data, (top secret) reportedly even considered to hyperventilate over this discovery and force the ship to port into Puerto Rico. The owners of the ANAMAR are equally adamant that the ship will not touch Cuban ports, urgent, and confidential message received from Brazil to some on 6 December expressing certain misgivings as to the attitudes of members of the special joint war-giving committee with respect to the Venezuelan charges against the Castro regime which the committee was named to investigate. The ambassador reported that he had just received "strictly confidential information" that the preexisting opinion within the committee is that it must investigate the entire subject of Cuban subversive activities in Venezuela, not limiting itself to the evidence on the Cuban origin of the arms cache found in Venezuela last month.

(S) Brazilian OAS delegate Penna Marinho reported to his government from (Washington) on 5 December that several OAS delegates have been impressed by the Cuban claim that the weapons found in Venezuela last month had actually been planted there by the United States.

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## (DAS) DEVELOPMENTS - cont'd

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24, 60

The committee members, the ambassador stated, insisted that it is essential for the Venezuelan Government to "present proof of the general Cuban conspiracy" against the Venezuelan Government if the case against Cuba is to be proven. The [redacted] ambassador added that "one of the most important members of the committee" had stated that the Venezuelan evidence on the Cuban origin of the arms cache is not airtight and that the arms could actually have been resold by Cuba to someone else some years ago or stolen from Cuban arms apparently gate) and the others of whom he speaks are apparently unaware that considerable effort had in fact been made to erase all evidence of a "very important US magazine" had asked him in all seriousness on 6 December whether the arms could not have been planted in Venezuela by the CIA as Castro has charged. The editor identifying marks recently found on Venezuelan technicians, using a highly technical process, were able to identify [redacted] and the Cuban shielded date of the weapons. In independent tests of techniques were able to raise the suspicion and shielding on three of these weapons. The numbers correspond to those of weapons known to have been delivered to Cuba from Belgium in 1959 and 1960. Similarly, in the case of the US light automatic rifles of British manufacture found in the cache, all identifying marks had been obliterated. In this case one round inch of British brazing wire had been used to cover the place where the numbers had been ground off. If it was not possible to restore the numbers, however, Venezuelan military authorities have noted that these weapons are unique to those manufactured expressly for the Cuban Government by Belgium's fabrique Nationale in 1959, when Cuba ordered 22,500 such weapons. (NSA 3/0 BLD) 12041-63, 6 December, TOP SECRET DINAR; background data, NSCOKR IS SOVIET RUSSIAN ASSISTANT TO THE CHIEF OF STAFF, 12041-63, 6 December, TOP SECRET DINAR.

The Foreign Minister informed him that he was to "avoid any attitude which might seem to leave Brazil isolated in a position expressing certain misgivings as to the attitude of the Soviet Union towards the Cuban revolution." On the other hand he was instructed not to "openly state the opinion that the matter falls exclusively under the competence of the Venezuelan security authorities." The delegate was advised to delay his departure "until the situation is clarified." (NSA 3/0 T206-63, 6 December, ~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~)

~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

The entire subject of Cuban subversive activities in Venezuela, not limiting itself to the evidence on the Cuban origin of the arms cache found in Venezuela last month.

Fidel Castro may have been in Moscow about 15 November for talks with Premier Khrushchev, according to a civil aviation expert who is apparently passing on a rumor he heard in Cuba. The source reported as background that Castro has not appeared on Cuban TV and did not meet people he apparently would have met if he had been in Cuba.

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~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

(IP)

~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

(29) ECONOMIC RELATIONS cont'd

There have been no reported Castro appearances around 15 November. It is essential for the Venezuelan Government to "prove" Castro's presence in Cuba or his absence against Cuba is to be proven. (See also note 29). The Venezuelan Ambassador stated that "one of the most important pieces of evidence that he appeared on Cuban radio or TV, and to carry no reports of his personal appearance in Cuba or in Venezuela. This does not, however, rule out the possibility that he was indeed in Cuba in mid-November." (CIA IN 73948, December, UNCLASSIFIED), or stolen from Cuban arsenals.

The Venezuelan OAS ambassador then stated that the editor of the ECONOMIC RELATIONS magazine had asked him in all seriousness on 6 December whether the arms could not have been planted in Venezuela and then shipped to Cuba. The editor, 44,000 tons to the Cuban-Central American trade, according to an announcement by Havana television. The ships, one of which is refrigerated, will be operated by CUBALCO—the Rostock-headquartered joint company chartered by Poland, the GDR, Czechoslovakia and Cuba to carry goods between Cuba and the northern satellites. In the words of Havana television, "the enterprise will be responsible for guaranteeing supplies to the first socialist country of America, thereby contributing to the defeat of the US economic blockade against Cuba." (CIA/PERS 7 December, UNCLASSIFIED) In Government, the ambassador warned, if its sticks to its demand that the investigation be limited to the Soviet air defense and Cuban civil air voice communications on 7 December reflected the arrival in Cuba of a Soviet-made AN-12. (See Daily Summary, 6 December). The following day, Pressa Latina announced that the Cuban air force had acquired a four-engine, turboprop craft with a 14,000-ton freight capacity, according to a service between Moscow and Havana. Pressa Latina said that the plane would be used to "carry freight between the two capitals and three or four stops at cities not yet announced by the Cuban consolidated aviation enterprises standing in relation to Cuba." On the other hand,

he who informed the AN-12 being acquired by the Cuban Air Force, followed by statements attributed to CUBANA officials regarding its future "employment," raise confusion as to whether it is to be based primarily for military or civil air purposes. (See previously, 6A) However (see Daily Summary of 3 December), the AN-12 can be used interchangeably in both types of service. Its employment in bringing military cargoes to Cuba from the Soviet Union would be hampered, however, by range factors which would require it to refuel at two or more intermediate points between Cuba and the USSR. At these airports the aircraft would be subject to cargo inspections. (See USA 42, SC/DO, report RA 850-63, 9 December, UNCLASSIFIED) He apparently would have met if he had been in Cuba.

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~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

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~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

~~NON-BLOC RELATIONS:~~  
~~SOVIET-BLOC RELATIONS - cont'd~~

The Moroccan foreign minister has received a three-man Cuban "good-will" mission for the second time and the Istidal's ~~University~~ claims that a resumption of formal diplomatic relations is imminent according to the US Embassy in Rabat (see Daily Summary for 29 November and 6 December). According to a semi-official account of the meeting, which took place on 4 December, the Cubans reasserted their desire to normalize relations and professed a lack of hostile intentions against the Moroccan Government, which severed formal relations after Cuban "technicians" arrived in Algeria on 22 October. "Informed sources" in Rabat claim that the government is considering the Cuban ~~demarche~~ with "attention." The Nation explains that the Cubans now recognize that Morocco has not been the aggressor in the Algerian conflict and that they are "repentant" over their precipitous action in aiding Ben Bella. (Am Emb Rabat, R86, 8 December, ~~LIMITED OFFICIAL USE~~)

~~Warsaw was assigned five merchantmen with a capacity of 44,000 tons to the Cuban-Central American trade according to an announcement by Havana television. The ships, one of which is refrigerated, will be operated by CUBALCO--the Rostock-headquartered joint company chartered by Poland, the GDR, Czechoslovakia and Cuba to carry cargo between Cuba and the northern satellites.~~ In the words of Havana television, "the enterprise will be responsible for guaranteeing supplies to the first Cuban counterpart; thereby contributing to the defeat of the US economic blockade against Cuba." (CIA/FBIS, 1 December, UNCLASSIFIED)

~~The President of the [redacted] declined an invitation to attend the 1 January anniversary celebration in Cuba. [redacted] satellites. In the words of Havana television, "the enterprise will be responsible for guaranteeing supplies to the first Cuban counterpart; thereby contributing to the defeat of the US economic blockade against Cuba." (CIA/FBIS, 1 December, UNCLASSIFIED) [redacted] will designate an official representative to the celebration. [redacted] 3/12/1963, 6 December, ~~SECRET~~ ~~CABIN~~~~

~~Soviet air defense and Cuban civil air voice communications on 7 December reflected the arrival in Cuba of a Soviet~~

~~AN-12 (see Daily Summary, 6 December). The following day, Prensa Latina announced that the Cuban air force had acquired a four-engine turboprop craft with a 14,000-ton payload [redacted] for use in a route between Moscow and Havana. The ambassador in [redacted] informed his government, in an intercepted 2 December message, that he is convinced of the accuracy of the Venezuelan Government's charges of Cuban subversion in Venezuela. He pointed out that the heavy voting in Venezuela's 1 December national election demonstrates that the legal opposition in Venezuela is not implicated in the violence and terrorism. He also stated that the Castro regime is so thoroughly repudiated by Venezuelan public opinion that the Venezuelan Government has no need to use anti-social means to stimulate anti-Castro feeling there. The ambassador pointed out that many Venezuelan Communists are in Cuba and from there "they permanently incite rebellion" in Venezuela and Cuban propaganda supports their efforts. (NSA 3/6/2 cargo T104-83, 7 December, ~~TOP SECRET DINAR NO FORGERY DISSEM~~, by range factors which would require it to refuel at two or more nonbloc airports between Cuba and the USSR. At these airports the aircraft could be subject to cargo inspections. (USA-71, 2/DG(CURUA)R-853-63, 7 December, SECRET KIMBO; CIA/FBIS, Havana, 8 December, UNCLASSIFIED)~~

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~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

3/17

~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~~~NON-BLOC RELATIONS:~~~~CUBAN SUPPORT OF EXTERNAL SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY - cont'd~~

The Moroccan foreign minister has received a three-man Cuban "good-will mission" for the second time and the Istiqlal's aircraft allegedly to supply Venezuelan guerrillas with weapons through British Guiana. A clandestine source who is a civil aviation expert and affiliated with the Cuban Ministry of Transportation reports hearing rumors to the effect that the recently refurbished CUBANA DC-4 with CUBANA registry number CUT-785 has been issued a "Guiana license," presumably a license for operation in British Guiana, and has been operated by military personnel. He adds that "it is said that clandestine flights have been made to Venezuela." The same source had previously reported the refurbishing of this plane and some others and indicated that extra fuel tanks had been installed on them. (CIA DD/P IN 75942, 8 December, ~~SECRET/CONFIDENTIAL DUE TO NO FOREIGN WORDS~~)

~~Algerian conflict and that they are repentant over their precipitous action in aiding Ben Bella.~~ (Am Emb Rabat, 866, 6 December, ~~LIMITED OFFICIAL USE~~)

The Cubans are reportedly involved in the serious political crisis now under way in Bolivia, where a split between President Paz' section of the governing party and the leftist sector led by Vice President Lechín threatens serious civil disorder. Cuban Charge Lasalle has given two boxes of arms to leaders of the left section of the party for use in the Catavi-Siglo mining area, according to information received by a clandestine source. The source, a medium level member of the left section of the governing party who has excellent contact with national leaders of that section and who is apparently trusted by Lasalle, was given this information by a Bolivian labor leader who added that he had personally received the arms from Lasalle. The source reports that the arms are of German origin and had been stored in Lasalle's house in La Paz. (CIA DD/P La Paz, IN 76093, 8 December, ~~SECRET~~)

~~CUBAN SUPPORT OF EXTERNAL SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY:~~ (NSA 3/0/76/P/1/1965, 8 December, ~~SECRET~~)

The Chilean ambassador in Venezuela informed his government in an intercepted 2 December message, that he is convinced of the accuracy of the Venezuelan Government's charges of Cuban subversion in Venezuela. He pointed out that the heavy fighting in Venezuela's 1 December national election demonstrates that the legal opposition in Venezuela is not implicated in the violence and terrorism. He also stated that the Castro regime is so thoroughly repudiated by Venezuelan public opinion that the Venezuelan Government has no need to use artificial means to stimulate anti-Castro feeling there. The his group will help them return to Peru by providing them with the necessary documentation. In return, the weapons owned by the ELN--automatic weapons and "San Cristobal" carbines--will be turned over to the MIR, reportedly in accordance with an order from Fidel Castro. Once the ELN youths are back in Peru, the MIR will look after them and try to convert them to the cause. The object is to eliminate the ELN as a rival force.

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~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~~~CUBAN SUPPORT OF EXTERNAL SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY - cont'd  
CUBAN SUPPORT OF EXTERNAL SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY - cont'd~~

Possibly related to this reported plan to upgrade the MIR is a report from the same source that Fernandez said on 6 December that Castro recently sent money to the MIR leaders and offered through British Guiana. A clandestine source who is a civil aviation expert and affiliated with the Cuban Ministry of Transportation reports hearing rumors to the effect that the recently refurbished CUBANA DC-4 with CUBANA registry number 107-765 has been issued a "Guiana license," presumably a license for operation in British Guiana, and has been operated by military personnel. He adds that "it is said that clandestine flights have been made to Venezuela." The same source had previously reported the refurbishing of this plane and some others and indicated that extra fuel tanks had been installed on them. (CIA DD/P IN 75942, 8 December, SECRET/CONTROLLED DISSEM/NO FOREIGN DISSEM)

The Cubans are reportedly involved in the serious political crisis now under way in Bolivia, where a split between President Paz' section of the governing party and the leftist sector led by Vice President Lechin threatens serious civil disorder. Cuban Chargé Lasalle has given two boxes of arms to leaders of the left section of the party for use in the Catavi-Siglo mining area, according to information received by a clandestine source. The source, a medium-level member of the left section of the governing party who has excellent contact with national leaders of that section and who is apparently trusted by Lasalle, was given this information by a Bolivian labor leader who added that he had personally received the arms from Lasalle. The source reports that the arms are of German origin and had been stored in Lasalle's house in La Paz. (CIA DD/P La Paz, IN 76093, 8 December, SECRET)

Two unnamed Cubans are reportedly with a group of 18 members of the Peruvian Army of National Liberation (ELN) who are currently hiding in Bolivia, according to a usually reliable medium-level member of the Peruvian Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) who is in regular contact with MIR leaders. The members of the ELN may have been returning from training in Cuba, since several such groups from that movement have gone there in the past. According to Gonzalo Fernandez Gasco, leader of the MIR, his group will help them return to Peru by providing them with the necessary documentation. In return, the weapons owned by the ELN--automatic weapons and "San Cristobal" carbines--will be turned over to the MIR, reportedly in accordance with an order from Fidel Castro. Once the ELN youths are back in Peru, the MIR will look after them and try to convert them to the cause. The object is to eliminate the ELN as a rival force.

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~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

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CUBAN SUPPORT OF EXTERNAL SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY - cont'd

Possibly related to this reported plan to upgrade the MIR is a report from the same source that Fernandez said on 6 December that Castro recently sent money to the MIR leaders and offered to train more of its members in Cuba. Fernandez said that in the future, groups of MIR members will go alternatively to North Korea and to Cuba for guerrilla warfare training. (CIA Lima TDCS-3/566, 662, 6 December, and TDCS-3/566,947, 8 December, SECRET NO FOREIGN DISSEM)

TOP SECRET DINAR