

~~SECRET~~

NSC BRIEFING

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE IN FULL 1997

6 September 1960

CUBA

- I. Results of Eighth National Congress of Cuban Communists' Popular Socialist party (16 to 22 August) already becoming apparent.
 - A. "Unity" theme emphasized at congress called for "fusion" all revolutionary forces into single movement under leadership Fidel Castro.
 1. Already Communists have only operating party and have dominant role in other groups, such as Cuban Workers' Confederation and front groups which would participate in a "national democratic front."
 2. Organized labor took leading role in organizing "mass rally" of 2 September in which Castro^{gave} the answer of "the Cuban people" to the OAS.
 3. The women's organization which emerged from 24 August conference is a fusion of several groups and is Communist dominated. It is headed by wives of Raul Castro, Che Guevara, and Nunez Jimenez.
- II. Castro in effect withdrew his country from inter-American system and from Western alliance in his 2 September speech in which he announced intention establish relations with Communist China.
 - A. A major diplomatic breakthrough for Communist China, which has been devoting considerable propaganda effort to LA.
 1. Cuba, the first LA country to recognize Red China, will be valuable base for spread of Chinese Communist influence.
 2. Cuba's Chinese community, about 30,000, is largest in Latin America.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

- B. Castro got "approval" of some 300,000 present at rally for Cuba's accepting Chinese Communist, as well as Soviet, military aid "if we are attacked."
 - D. Still no explanation of absence CPSU delegate to Cuban Communists' congress.
 - 1. Relatively high party delegates came from all other bloc countries except Albanian and Chinese delegate, Central Committee member General Wu Siu-chuan, gave important address.
 - 2. Cuban party reported by usually reliable source to have invited Suslov, but CPSU said his attendance "inconvenient." Cubans urged reconsideration, but to no avail.
- III. Embassy source who contacted guerrillas in central Cuban mountains reported 30 August he found 400-500 of them divided into several groups.
- A. He said they all poorly armed and low on ammunition and food, but new recruits beginning to trickle in.
- IV. Castro regime continues efforts to export Cuban revolution to other LA countries.
- A. Cuban officials aiding leftist Venezuelan leader Ojeda in plotting coup against Betancourt, according to a source within Cuban govt.
 - 1. Coup may be timed to exploit current pro-Castro agitation in Venezuela following OAS meeting.
 - 2. Venezuela, which has greatest private US investment of any LA country, would be logical target for Castro's expansionist program.
 - B. While Cuban leaders deny they exporting revolution, they defiantly call Cuba the vanguard of the "anti-imperialist revolution" that will eventually sweep the continent.

~~SECRET~~