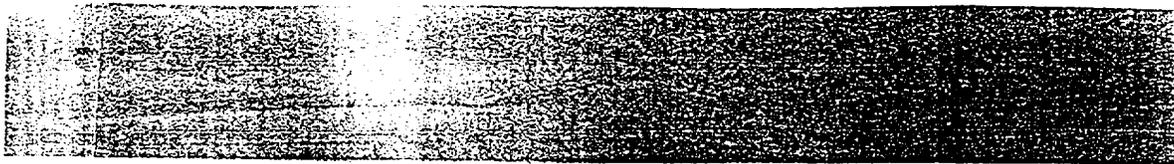


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NOT RELEVANT  
TO BAY OF PIGS



LATIN AMERICA

13. Cuban Communist Party Congress to Be Attended by Strong Delegations From Abroad: The eighth national congress of the Popular Socialist (Communist) party of Cuba opens on 16 August. The congress, the first since 1952, had been set for last month and was rescheduled only recently, suggesting that it was timed to coincide with the OAS foreign ministers' meetings in Costa Rica this week. The congress is likely to be used as a demonstration of international Communist solidarity with the Castro regime in its "struggle against American imperialism." Attendance of Communists from the Sino-Soviet bloc at the Cuban Communist meeting is likely to encourage the apparent willingness of most American governments to condemn "extracontinental intervention" in the affairs of the western hemisphere.

Most of the Sino-Soviet bloc countries will be represented by relatively high-level delegations. The USSR, Communist China, Poland, East Germany, Bulgaria, Hungary, and North Korea are sending central committee members, journalists, and persons skilled in agitation and propaganda techniques. Rumors that the bloc delegations would include top party officials have not been borne out as yet. Paul Verner, candidate member of the East German politburo, is the highest ranking bloc party official known to have arrived for the meeting. Mikhail Suslov, secretary of the Soviet party central committee, reportedly was to attend, but the Cubans have been advised that it will be inconvenient for him to do so. Jacques Duclos, second-ranking official of the French party, and Velio Spano, a member of the Italian Communist party central committee, arrived in Havana on 13 August.

The foreign Communist delegations undoubtedly will use this opportunity to strengthen the Communist position in Cuba with the aim of using that country as a base for further penetration in Latin America.



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