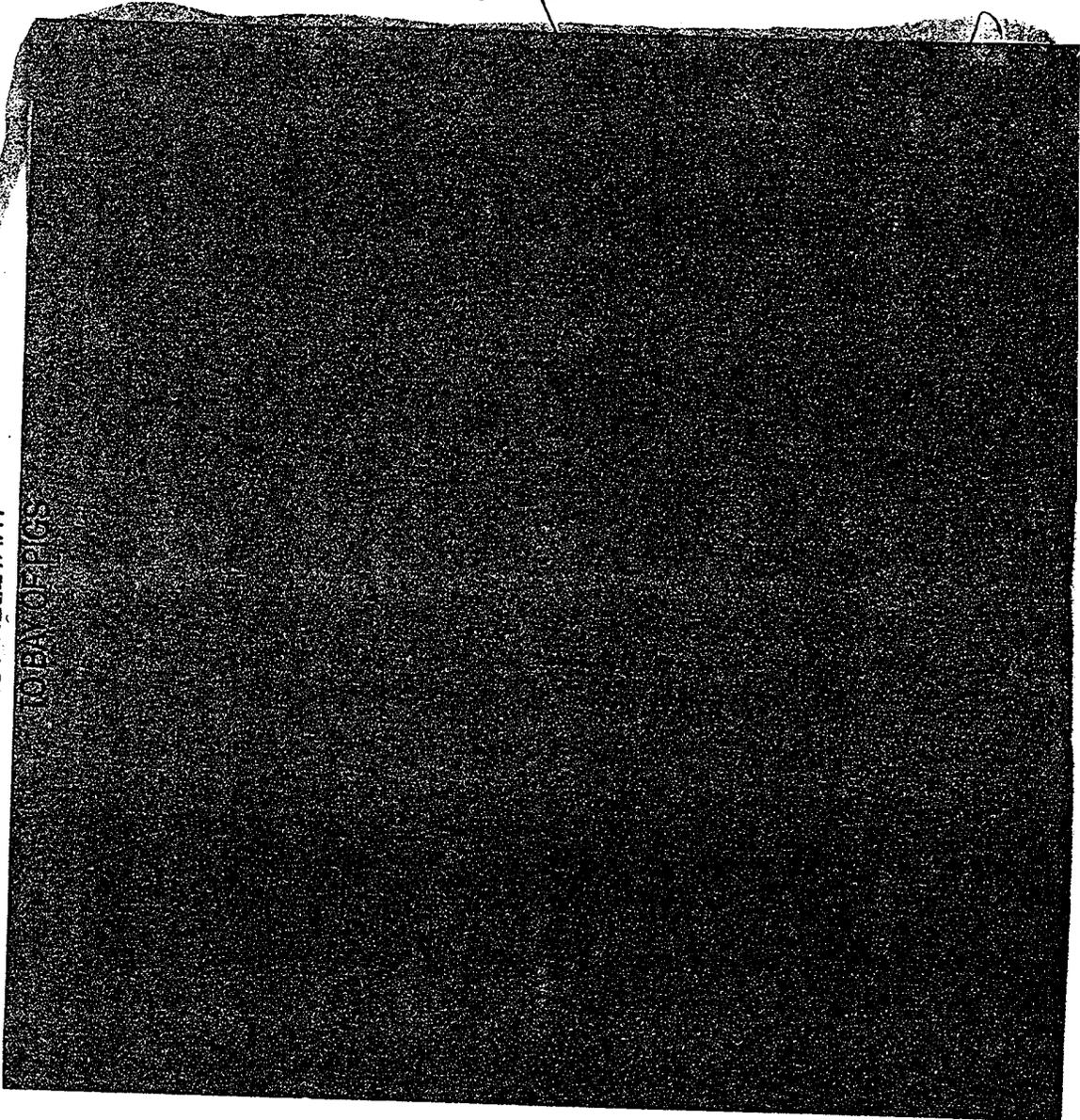


9 June 1960

DELETED TEXT
NOT RELEVANT



CUBA

Khrushchev's acceptance of an invitation to visit Cuba is the latest evidence of Soviet intentions to exploit fully Castro's open hostility to the United States and evident desire for closer relations with the bloc. Khrushchev would use any visit as a forum to speak

to the peoples of all the Latin American nations in an attempt to remove their fears of establishing closer ties with the USSR and to convince them that such ties would be to their benefit. Moscow will probably seek invitations from other Latin American nations in order



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to make the greatest possible propaganda impact.

A large number of articles on Cuba have appeared in the Soviet press, all praising the revolution and denouncing alleged American "imperialist" efforts to topple Castro and destroy the revolution. Khrushchev himself on several occasions recently has praised Castro personally, and indicated clearly that the USSR hopes to encourage similar nationalist movements throughout Latin America.

At his 18 May press conference in Paris, the Soviet premier welcomed the events in Cuba and stated, "I am convinced the other Latin American countries will also rise up in the struggle for their independence." On 28 May, Khrushchev, called Castro a "fiery patriot...who carries out a policy that meets the needs of the Cuban people."

Reports that Chinese Communist Premier Chou En-lai has also accepted an invitation to visit Cuba persist in Havana, where the Peiping Opera Company continues to be feted by Castro officials. The troupe is the guest of the Castro government for its month-long tour. Chou may have been invited by Armed Forces Inspector General Galvez, who received red-carpet treatment during two recent visits to Communist China. Galvez now is ending a global good-will tour to the USSR, North Vietnam, and other bloc and neutral countries.

The Czech foreign commerce minister arrived in Havana on 6 June with an official delegation to conclude commercial, payment, technical, and credit agreements negotiated between the Cuban and Czech governments over the past few weeks.

The one British and two US oil companies in Cuba, which advised the Cuban Government on 6 June of their refusal to refine Soviet crude oil, expect that their refineries will soon be taken over. However, as of 9 June, Castro officials did not appear ready to press the issue. The American Embassy believes the publicity attendant on the refusal will spark another anti-US propaganda blast by Castro-controlled media.

[REDACTED]

Roberto Arias, the perennial Panamanian plotter, is in contact with the Castro regime and possibly now is in Havana. Roberto Arias is a business associate of shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis, owner of a fleet of very large tankers which could be used to increase deliveries of Soviet crude. Thus far deliveries of this oil have been small in relation to Cuban needs. Arias might also try to use his family's considerable influence with newly elected Panamanian President Chiari to encourage a friendly official Panamanian attitude toward the Castro government. Castro officials are already working to exploit anti-US sentiment in Panama.

Cuban President Dorticos arrived in Caracas on 6 June, despite Venezuelan President Betancourt's efforts to cancel the visit. The Cubans were accorded a minimum of official attention and stayed only 36 hours instead of the originally scheduled four days before leaving for Mexico, last stop on Dorticos' Latin American trip. The Nicaraguan Government on 1 June demanded the recall of the Cuban ambassador and his entire staff for having repeatedly engaged in subversive activities. Nicaragua says it has "suspended" relations with Cuba.