

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Cuba
SUBJECT Weekly Meeting of the PSP National Executive Board

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1. During its weekly meeting of 8 - 14 March 1953 the National Executive Board of the Partido Socialista Popular (PSP, Cuban Communist Party) decided that the Party must take advantage of the suspension of radio programs and the assault on the editorial offices of the magazine Ultima Hora, showing these actions by the government to be examples of a general attack against all of the opposition, and especially against the pioneers in the opposition, the Communists. A propaganda program against the proposed law against Communism will be launched to show the public and the other opposition political leaders that, in reality, this law is a general repressive measure against any and all BATISTA opposition under the pretext of anti-Communism. The plea will be restated for the immediate organization of a potent united front in which all opposition parties and groups will be equally represented. It was stated that the Cuban Government is studying and will adopt a large part of a similar law promulgated in Chile by GONZALEZ Videla, former president of Chile. Blas ROCA stated that modifications will be made where appropriate to local conditions, and the result which the Cuban Government hopes to achieve will be a law whose intent is to annihilate the PSP completely. He stated that the results must actually be the same as were achieved in Chile by the Communists of that country, where today the Communist Party is stronger than ever, as was demonstrated by the recent elections. He added that in Cuba the same thing will happen: "the more they attack us, the more arguments they will give us to be used by our propaganda machinery; the more reason we will have to fight tenaciously against the dictatorship, and tomorrow, when the dictator falls, the Party must emerge stronger and with a mandate from the people to lead them on the highest level of political life in Cuba."

2. As a matter of Communist general policy, it was recommended to the Juventud Socialista (JS, Cuban Communist Youth) that the example of the committee of Pinar del Rio Province be followed universally. The National Executive Board commended this provincial committee for its show of initiative in the recent meetings between the JS and the youth section of the Partido del Pueblo Cubano (PPC, Ortodoxo) in Pinar del Rio. All other provincial and municipal committees

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of the JS were ordered to organize meetings on any suitable pretext, preferably condemnation of some governmental action against youth groups or activities, and to invite the leaders of the other youth movements to join in a discussion of the problems of most importance to Cuban youth. At such meetings, the JS will turn the discussion at every opportunity toward the favorite points of discussion of the Communists: international peace, labor unity, and opposition to BATISTA.

3. The Party must initiate a new plan of agitation in the tobacco sector, using as a point of argument the proposal to introduce machinery into the industry. A series of conferences on local, provincial, and, ultimately, national levels will be held, commencing with a provincial conference in Oriente. The Cigar Makers' Union of Bayamo will hold the first conference, and, capitalizing on the newly-acquired strength in Las Villas Province, the second such conference will be held there. On 22 March there will be a national assembly of tobacco unions to decide the broad outline of the fight to be waged against the mechanization of the industry.
4. The Party will call for the national co-ordination of a program of agitation by all the public school teachers, to be directed by the respective Socialist committees of teachers, against the intention of the government to lower the salaries of teachers, while at the same time raising the salaries of the police and soldiers. Salvador GARCIA Agüero, the national head of all these committees, has sent out a leaflet in which he has enunciated the Party line, and the program and action to be taken, to insure that the greatest benefit will result from this agitation program.
5. The PSP was agreeably surprised by the great work being done among the smaller planters by Eleuterio DEL PINO, a Communist of the Espana central in Matanzas. He has engaged in a fight against the maltreatment of the small planters and has incurred considerable sympathy among that group. Romerico CORDERO, leader of the Communist Asociacion Campesina de Cuba will through his organization direct a similar program on a national scope.
6. The National Executive Board will organize a plan of Emulacion Nacional Socialista among all the provincial, municipal, and district committees of the PSP, by which they hope to realize a reinforcement of their ranks, and an improvement of their economic situation. The key note of this program will be in the form of an act of homage to Stalin, and will encompass the following points: obtain new affiliates for the Party; promote recently acquired affiliates to the status of active members; liquidate outstanding debts owed to the Party; make voluntary contributions to the Treasury of the Party; and intensify individual study and reading by PSP members. This plan has already been put into practice by the provincial committee of Oriente, which proposed its national adoption to the Executive Board.
7. A communication was read to the Executive Board from the Communist Party of Colombia, concerning the detention of Gilberto VIEIRA, secretary general of the Colombian Communist Party. The Executive Board agreed to place in its weekly circular to all Party committees a call for a national mobilization of protest and solidarity with VIEIRA, and further to send to the Colombian Embassy in Habana a series of letters and telegrams of protest against this detention, requesting his immediate release.² The protest was also to be made public through all of the Party's press organs.

25X1A 1. Comment: It is believed that the true name of Eleuterio DEL PINO is GILBERTO, as reported in Hoy, the Communist daily newspaper.

25X1A 2. Comment: VIEIRA was recently released by the Colombian authorities.

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