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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE IN FULL 1997

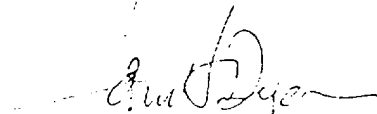
20 July 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Barnes

SUBJECT : Briefing Material

1. Attached are copies of recent NSC briefings on Cuba, ~~and the Dominican Republic.~~

2. These are forwarded to you at Mr. Amory's request for your reference in preparing the briefing on Cuba for the Director's use on Saturday 23 July.



JOHN H. DYER

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Handwritten notes:
11-11-71
JH
201

~~SECRET~~
CUBA

- I. Castro regime and Communists continue to tighten grip on Cuba.
 - A. Communist-dominated Latin American Youth Congress to open 26 July in Cuba.
 - 1. Delegations en route from most Sino-Soviet bloc countries, even North Vietnam, and from Afro-Asian countries, including FLN.
 - 2. But Peruvian APRA youth group and other anti-Communists plan boycott.
 - B. Havana University now wholly a creature of regime after militant pro-Castro minority seized control and ousted "counterrevolutionary" professors 15 July.
 - 1. Student federation now to recruit professors from other Latin American countries, virtually assuring a pro-Communist faculty.
 - C. In what press called a "simple but emotional" ceremony on 14 July, Communist daily Hoy was given printing plant vacated by Revolucion, Castro's official newspaper, which has moved to larger quarters.
- II. Regime's links with Communists have aroused protests.
 - A. Church leaders now moving away from earlier vacillation on Castro.
 - 1. Castro got up from sickbed 18 July to denounce "falangists" among priests who he charged were aiding counterrevolution.
 - 2. This was his reaction to spontaneous anti-Communist demonstrations by churchgoers on 17 and 18 July.

~~SECRET~~

3. Government says 18 "counterrevolutionaries" arrested after Sunday's demonstrators set up chant "Cuba si, Russia no" (a contrast to Castro's slogan "Cuba si, Yankees no").
 4. Police used gunfire in breaking up second demonstration.
 5. Government's reported denial of foreign exchange to two high churchmen who wish to visit Europe may harden their anti-Castro stand.
- B. Director of very popular weekly magazine Bohemia, with wide circulation other Latin American countries, defected 18 July saying he was not permitted to publish anti-Communist article and denouncing Castro for making Cuba a Soviet satellite.
- C. The American ambassador in Havana believes that Khrushchev's declarations of support have been a serious blow to the Castro regime by removing any doubts as to its Communist orientation.

III. Sino-Soviet bloc continues support.

- A. 14-man Chinese Communist mission, headed by deputy minister foreign commerce, arrived Havana 15 July.
1. New Chinese sugar purchase, reportedly as high as 500,000 tons is likely. China has already bought 130,000 tons this year.
 2. Havana-Peiping diplomatic relations probably being discussed and may be announced 26 July.
 3. Chinese community in Cuba--about 30,000--is largest in Latin America.
- B. Armed forces chief Raul Castro arrived Moscow from Prague 17 July.
1. May be concluding arms deal probably discussed in detail in Prague.
 2. He is due in Cairo 22 July.

20 July 1960

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with Castro leadership

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- [REDACTED]
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- QUEVEDO
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C. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

IV. Pro-Castro Venezuelan Foreign Minister Arcaya making effort to must support of Latin American and neutral nations for Cuban regime.

A. [REDACTED] Arcaya recommended to UAR and Bolivian ambassadors that parliaments of neutral nations be approached for public support of Castro--similar to stand taken recently by prominent Mexican congressmen.

B. Arcaya and his leftist party closely tied to Castro regime and be advising it informally of US efforts to win Venezuelan support in the controversy with Cuba.

1. He advised Bolivian and UAR ambassadors of his 12 July conversation with Ambassador Sparks on Cuba and stated Venezuela would "not hesitate" to back Cuba against the US in the OAS or UN General Assembly.

C. Betancourt differs with Arcaya on relations with Castro and has recognized that Castro is a serious problem in hemisphere.

- 1. [REDACTED] Betancourt sent personal envoy to Cuba in early July who obtained full Cuban support for Venezuela's charges of aggression against Dominican Republic in OAS.
- 2. In return, this envoy may have made some concessions to Cuba on its dispute with the US.