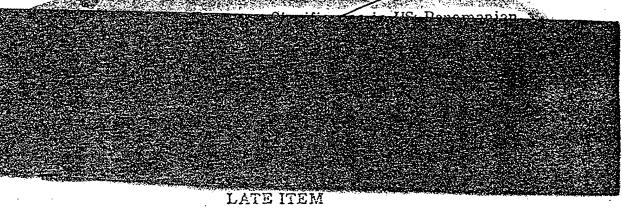
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

1997

III. SIGNIFICANT INTELLIGENCE REPORTS AND ESTIMATES

(Available during the preceding week)



*USSR-CUBA: A Soviet merchant ship, the Ilya Mechnikov, arrived in Cuba on 8 September with Moscow's first major arms delivery to the Castro regime. The ship loaded more than 4,000 tons of "varied" cargo at Nikolaev, the Soviet Black Sea arms export port, and is now unloading in East Havana under strict security precautions. Trucks lined up at Cabana Fortress are to remove the cargo to Las Villas province in central Cuba.

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DAILY BRIEF

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