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CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY REVIEW

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CASTRO EXCESSES ALIENATING OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES

Brazilian Ambassador Cunha in Havana fears proposed Brazilian efforts to discuss with Fidel Castro a Cuban-US rapprochement would be inopportune and he thinks it is the deliberate policy of the Cuban Government to maintain relations with the United States in a state of agitation. Cunha recently advised Foreign Minister Lafer to refuse Cuban Foreign Minister Roa's invitation to come to Havana unless the visit would clearly be useful. The ambassador felt it would be used instead to indicate Brazilian sympathy and to give prestige to the Cuban Government's "irresponsible anti-US tendency."

Lafer's apparent decision not to go to Cuba at this time seems indicative of a growing disapproval of Castro's excessive methods, an attitude which is becoming apparent in other Latin American countries.

In early November, President Betancourt of Venezuela, one of Latin America's most respected democratic leaders, criticized signs of Castro's "authoritarian rule." He told the Cuban Government that a proposed visit to Venezuela of

Raul Castro and "Che" Guevara would be "inconvenient," and personally demanded the recall of the Cuban ambassador in Caracas for indiscreet and irresponsible behavior. The Colombian ambassador recently advised the Cuban Foreign Ministry that Castro's tolerance of the activities of Colombian political exiles could disturb good relations between the two countries. To his government, he characterized Castro's accusations against the United States as ill-advised and false.

Chile's irritation over the unexpected arrival of armed Cubans with no documentation during the August meeting of the American foreign ministers in Santiago was heightened by the extradiplomatic propaganda activities of the Cuban ambassador.

Guatemalan President Ydigoras is disturbed by the visit to Cuba of ex-President Arevalo at Raul Castro's invitation and by the financial and other encouragement he believes the Castro regime has given Ydigoras' political opponents.

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