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DIRECTORATE OF
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Intelligence Memorandum

Shipping to Cuba in the Fourth Quarter of 1968

~~Secret~~

ER IM 69-37
March 1969

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Foreword

This is one of a series of reports published since 1962 which are designed to analyze the number and flags of merchant ships arriving in Cuban ports and the level and composition of imports and exports. The statistics are obtained by aggregating data on individual voyages.

All ship tonnages reported are expressed as gross register tons (GRT), which is a measure of the cubic space of a ship expressed in tons at the rate of one GRT per 100 cubic feet. The GRT figures assigned to the shipping discussed are taken from *Lloyd's Register of Shipping*. The volume of cargo is expressed in metric tons, and dry cargo data include that carried on passenger ships as well as on dry cargo ships. Yugoslav shipping is included in Free World shipping. Data for 1968 are preliminary. Because of rounding, components may not add to the totals shown in the tables.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Directorate of Intelligence
March 1969

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Shipping to Cuba
in the Fourth Quarter of 1968

1. The volume of Cuban seaborne trade in the fourth quarter of 1968 was down 9 percent from the level of the same period in 1967. Imports of most commodities registered a drop, and exports were off because of a lower volume of sugar shipments. No military deliveries were made in the fourth quarter; the last delivery in mid-February 1968 marked the end of a 17-month cycle of military deliveries. A new cycle of military deliveries may begin in 1969 following the visit of a Cuban military delegation to Moscow in November 1968.

2. Ship arrivals also declined in the fourth quarter, dropping 7 percent below the level of the fourth quarter of 1967. Cypriot and British flag ships accounted for 37 of the 60 Free World arrivals. Cypriot arrivals showed the largest increase of any flag (from 12 to 20). Changes in ship arrivals are shown in the following tabulation:

Note: This memorandum was produced by CIA. It was prepared by the Office of Economic Research and was coordinated with the Office of Strategic Research. Aside from the coordination of numbers of ship arrivals with

this memorandum has not been coordinated outside of CIA.

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	October-December				
	1967		1968		
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Per- centage Change</u>
<i>Ship arrivals</i>	257	100	239	100	-7
Communist	<u>163</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>147</u>	<u>62</u>	-10
Soviet	140	54	133	56	-5
Eastern European	23	9	14	6	-39
Cuban	<u>39</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>13</u>	-18
Free World	<u>55</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>25</u>	+9

3. Crude oil and petroleum products together represented 50 percent of the total volume of imports in the fourth quarter. Imports of crude oil rose slightly, whereas imports of petroleum products declined by one-third, probably because of variations in scheduling. This decline, along with a 15-percent drop in imports of foodstuffs, accounted for the largest share of the decrease in imports.

4. A 20-percent drop in sugar exports was chiefly responsible for the decline in exports during the fourth quarter. Exports of sugar to Communist countries were only half their volume of a year ago, whereas sugar exports to Free World countries were up 28 percent. Moreover, exports of molasses to the Free World were up from 49,000 tons to 146,000 tons, and none was shipped to Communist countries. The volume of Cuban seaborne trade is shown in the following tabulation:

	October-December				Per- centage Change
	1967		1968		
	Thousand Tons	Percent	Thousand Tons	Percent	
<i>Total seaborne trade</i>	<u>3,541</u>		<u>3,221</u>		-9
Imports	<u>2,430</u>	100	<u>2,276</u>	<u>100</u>	-6
From Communist countries	<u>2,079</u>	86	<u>1,798</u>	<u>79</u>	-14
From Free World countries	<u>351</u>	14	<u>478</u>	<u>21</u>	+36
Exports	<u>1,111</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>945</u>	<u>100</u>	-15
To Communist countries	<u>684</u>	62	<u>328</u>	<u>35</u>	-52
To Free World countries	<u>427</u>	38	<u>618</u>	<u>65</u>	+45

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5. The trends observed in shipping to Cuba in the fourth quarter of 1968 generally prevailed, although in somewhat less pronounced form, for the entire year of 1968. Both the number of ship arrivals and the volume of seaborne trade in 1968 were down 4 percent from the level of 1967. For an analysis of shipping to Cuba in 1968 and trends since 1962, see CIA/ER IM 69-35, *Shipping to Cuba in 1968 and Trends Since the Missile Crisis*, March 1969, SECRET

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Table 1

a. Excluding Cubs.

Table 2

Cuban Imports

Flag of Carrier	Thousand Metric Tons									
	1967					1968				
	Oct-Dec	Oct	Nov	Dec	Oct-Dec	1967	1968	Annual Total	1967	1968
Total passenger	0.3	--	0.1	1.6	1.8	11.3	8.5			
Soviet Eastern European	0.3	--	0.1	0.3	0.4	2.2	1.4			
	--	--	--	1.4	1.4	9.1	7.1			
Total dry cargo	1,176.2	419.7	308.2	400.1	1,128.1	4,745.9	4,733.5			
Communist a/	754.3	230.3	163.1	242.9	636.2	3,277.0	2,944.0			
Soviet Eastern European	704.3	226.2	150.9	227.8	604.9	3,075.6	2,762.6			
	50.0	4.1	12.2	15.1	31.4	201.5	181.5			
Cuban Free World	151.5	50.8	47.7	18.0	116.5	533.5	547.4			
	271.1	138.6	97.5	139.3	375.3	935.4	1,242.1			
Total tanker	1,253.2	470.9	320.8	354.7	1,146.3	5,227.5	5,360.1			
Soviet Eastern European	1,222.2	454.9	320.8	354.7	1,130.3	5,049.8	5,300.6			
Free World	--	--	--	--	--	31.2	--			
	31.0	16.0	--	--	16.0	146.4	59.5			
Total all types	2,430.4	890.6	629.1	756.4	2,276.1	9,984.8	10,102.1			
Total Communist a/	1,976.8	685.2	484.0	599.2	1,768.3	8,369.4	8,253.1			
Soviet Eastern European	1,926.8	681.1	471.8	582.7	1,735.6	8,127.6	8,064.6			
	50.0	4.1	12.2	16.4	32.8	241.8	188.6			
Total Cuban	151.5	50.8	47.7	18.0	116.5	533.5	547.4			
Total Free World	302.1	154.6	97.5	139.3	391.3	1,081.8	1,301.6			

a. Excluding Cuba.

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Table 3
Free World Arrivals and Cuban Imports Carried by Free World Ships

Flag	Imports in Thousand Metric Tons									
	Oct-Dec 1967				October-December 1968				Annual Total	
	Arrivals	Imports	Dry Cargo		Arrivals	Imports	Tanker		1967	1968
			Arrivals	Imports	Arrivals	Imports	Arrivals	Imports	Arrivals	Imports
Cyprus	12	71.9	18	173.7	2	--	20	173.7	43	162.2
Finland	2	9.6	2	18.9	--	--	2	18.9	13	116.9
France	4	6.9	1	1.0	--	--	1	1.0	10	18.7
Greece	4	37.1	3	33.5	--	--	3	33.5	28	200.8
Italy	2	31.0	3	2.8	1	16.0	4	18.8	11	130.0
Japan	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Lebanon	2	21.0	4	38.3	--	--	4	38.3	16	92.6
Malta	--	--	1	9.7	--	--	1	9.7	4	9.3
Monaco	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Somali Republic	1	--	5	44.0	--	--	5	44.0	--	--
United Kingdom	23	92.8	10	31.6	7	--	17	31.6	78	263.7
Yugoslavia	5	31.7	3	21.8	--	--	3	21.8	15	81.8
Total Free World	55	302.1	50	375.3	10	16.0	60	391.3	220	1,081.8
									210	1,301.6

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Table 4
Cuban Imports, by Commodity

Commodity	October-December 1968					Total	Oct-Dec 1967	Percentage Change Oct-Dec 1968 over Oct-Dec 1967
	Flag							
	Soviet	Eastern European	Cuban	Free World				
Crude oil	912.3	--	--	--	912.3	892.8	+2.2	
Petroleum products	217.0	0.1	--	16.0	233.1	338.7	-31.2	
Cereals and foodstuffs	246.5 a/	4.2	52.3	52.1	355.1	419.3 b/	-15.3	
Metal products	24.1	0.9	12.5	4.8	42.3	44.7	-5.4	
Fertilizer	60.5	6.5	12.8	239.9	319.7	335.8	-4.8	
Wood products	94.5	--	0.3	8.4	103.3	62.9	+64.2	
Jute bags	3.3	--	--	--	3.3	11.6	-71.6	
Chemicals	11.6	0.7	4.0	23.3	39.6	61.0	-35.1	
Ammonia	1.6	--	--	--	1.6	3.6	-55.6	
Cement	4.0	--	--	21.6	25.6	--	--	
Military equipment c/								
General cargo (including vehicles, industrial machinery, and uniden- tified cargo)	160.0	20.4	34.6	25.1	240.2	199.0	+20.7	
Total	1,735.6	32.8	116.5	391.3	2,276.1	2,430.4	-6.3	

a. Excluding 3,576 tons of foodstuffs carried by Soviet ships attached to the fishing fleet.
b. Including 18,562 tons carried by tanker and excluding 6,672 tons of foodstuffs carried by Soviet ships attached to the fishing fleet.

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Table 5
Cuban Imports
1968

Country of Origin	Thousand Metric Tons				Percent Oct-Dec	Annual Total	
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Oct-Dec		Thousand Metric Tons	Percent
Communist	690.6	517.1	590.6	1,798.3	79.0	8,314.9	82.3
USSR	648.2	471.7	545.4	1,665.3	73.2	7,794.9	77.2
Eastern Europe	15.0	13.8	33.6	62.3	2.7	219.5	2.2
Communist China	21.0	31.6	11.8	64.5	2.8	239.7	2.4
North Korea	6.4	--	--	6.4	0.3	59.9	0.6
North Vietnam	--	--	--	--	--	0.9	Negl.
Free World	200.0	112.0	165.8	477.8	21.0	1,787.2	17.7
Total	890.6	629.1	756.4	2,276.1	100.0	10,102.1	100.0

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Table 6
Cuban Exports

Destination	Thousand Metric Tons									
	October-December									
	Sugar		Molasses		Ors		General Cargo ^{a/}		Total	Annual Total
	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968
Communist countries	565	282	21	--	83	36	2	2	684	328
USSR	306	132	--	--	10	16	2	2	318	149
Eastern Europe	73	39	27	--	73	18	7	7	180	65
Albania	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4	--
Communist China	139	100	--	--	--	2	--	--	139	102
North Korea	31	--	--	--	--	--	Negl.	--	32	--
North Vietnam	11	12	--	--	--	--	--	--	11	12
Free World	353	452	49	146	4	2	21	11	427	618
Total	918	734	76	146	87	42	30	20	1,111	943
									1,172	2,188

a. Including foodstuffs (meat, honey, fruits, and vegetables), tobacco and cigarettes, rum, alcohol, and unidentified cargo.

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