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STAFF NOTE

March 8, 1976

Tito-Castro Meeting: A Guarded Rapprochement

The communique summarizing Fidel Castro's three day visit with Tito suggests that the two leaders decided to set aside some old grudges hindering normal state and party relations, but without altering a longer list of differences.

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The communique stressed mutual desires for improved bilateral relations in all fields and said the talks took place in "an atmosphere of friendship, cordiality, mutual respect and understanding." Nevertheless references to discussions of international affairs and socialist development in each country merely mentioned "exchanges of information," a euphemism suggesting continuing differences.

The communique did not mention Angola, and only the general goals of the nonaligned movement at this year's summit in Sri Lanka were cited. Tactics for the summit--if they were discussed at all--were almost certainly a divisive issue, because Belgrade opposes the radical stands the Cubans take in nonaligned councils.

Throughout the visit, Yugoslav authorities in public and private seemed especially uncomfortable because of the deep Cuban entanglement with Soviet strategems in Angola. In Tito's toast for Castro, for example, there was only a brief nod to Havana's "rich contribution" in Angola. The rest of the toast, in both its specific references to Angola and its overall thrust, drove home Belgrade's desire that Angola become nonaligned and independent. In addition, several Yugoslav "backgrounders" for the foreign press mentioned the potential negative impact on nonaligned unity of Cuban military intervention in Africa.

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NEWS ANALYSIS SERVICE

Date. 8 Mar
Item No. 10
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DISTRIBUTION I

Attached is a Cuba/Yugoslav communique issued on the occasion of a Castro visitation. Predictable effort to stress the positive with no mention of the strains between the two countries, among which is Cuban involvement in Angola.

FBI 59

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JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON CASTRO VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA

LD081316 BELGRADE TANJUG DOMESTIC SERVICE IN SERBO-CROATIAN 1226 GMT 8 MAR 76 LD

(EMBARGOED UNTIL 1700 GMT 8 MARCH)

(TEXT) BRIONI--A JOINT YUGOSLAV-CUBAN COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED IN BRIONI TODAY FOLLOWING THE VISIT BY FIDEL CASTRO, FIRST SECRETARY OF THE CUBAN COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND PRIME MINISTER OF THE CUBAN REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT, AND HIS TALKS WITH JOSIP BROZ TITO, PRESIDENT OF THE SFRY.

AT THE INVITATION OF JOSIP BROZ TITO, PRESIDENT OF THE SFRY AND THE LCY, FIDEL CASTRO RUZ, FIRST SECRETARY OF THE CUBAN COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND PRIME MINISTER OF THE REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT, PAID A WORKING AND FRIENDLY VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA FROM 6 TO 8 MARCH, 1976.

COMRADES TITO AND FIDEL CASTRO AND THEIR ASSOCIATES HELD TALKS IN BRIONI AT WHICH THEY EXCHANGED VIEWS ON THE FURTHER PROMOTION OF FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE SFRY AND THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA AND BETWEEN THE LCY AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CUBA. THEY EXCHANGED INFORMATION ON THE TWO COUNTRIES' SOCIALIST DEVELOPMENT AND THEIR ACTIVITIES ON THE INTERNATIONAL PLANE. ON THIS OCCASION, THEY EXAMINED TOPICAL ISSUES OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND THE INTERNATIONAL WORKERS MOVEMENT. THE TALKS WERE HELD IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF FRIENDSHIP AND CORDIALITY, MUTUAL RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING.

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COMRADES TOTO AND FIDEL CASTRO POINTED OUT WITH SATISFACTION THAT THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES AND COUNTRIES WERE DEVELOPING SUCCESSFULLY ON THE BASIS OF THE PRINCIPLES OF MUTUAL RESPECT, FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION AND WITH MUTUAL RESPECT FOR SPECIFIC WAYS OF BUILDING SOCIALISM AND FOR THE TWO COUNTRIES' INTERNATIONAL POSITION.

THEY LAID PARTICULAR STRESS ON THE FACT THAT THERE WERE SIGNIFICANT POSSIBILITIES AND A MUTUAL DESIRE FOR FURTHER EXPANSION AND ENRICHMENT OF YUGOSLAV-CUBAN COOPERATION IN ALL FIELDS. IN KEEPING WITH THIS, THEY STRESSED THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE LCY AND THE CUBAN COMMUNIST PARTY FOR OVERALL DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

IN THE TALKS, THE CONVICTION WAS EXPRESSED THAT THE FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE OF THE HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT OF THE NONALIGNED COUNTRIES IN COLOMBO WOULD REPRESENT A NEW AND GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO THE STRENGTHENING OF PEACE IN THE WORLD AND EQUAL SECURITY FOR ALL, TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF EQUAL INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW ECONOMIC RELATIONS ON THE BASIS OF EQUALITY AND RESPECT FOR THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF ALL COUNTRIES, A SPEEDIER SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PARTICULARLY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF EQUAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS AMONG PEOPLES AND COUNTRIES, AND TO FURTHER STRENGTHENING OF SOLIDARITY AND UNITY OF THE NONALIGNED COUNTRIES.

THE TWO SIDES STATED THAT THEY HAD IDENTICAL OR CLOSE VIEWS ON THE MOST IMPORTANT ECONOMIC ISSUES WHICH WERE DISCUSSED. THEY EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE POSITIVE RESULTS OF THIS MEETING AND THEIR CONVICTION THAT IT WOULD REPRESENT A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE FURTHER STRENGTHENING OF FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND COMPREHENSIVE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE SFRY AND THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA AND BETWEEN THE LCY AND THE CUBAN COMMUNIST PARTY IN THE INTEREST OF THE PEOPLES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES, PEACE, PROGRESS AND SOCIALISM.

8 MAR 1435Z DBT/KK

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THIRD NIGHTLEAD CASTRO

BY ALBERT CLACK

BELGRADE, MARCH 6; REUTER - PRESIDENT TITO OF YUGOSLAVIA TONIGHT PRAISED HAVANA'S "RICH CONTRIBUTION" TO ANGOLA AT A DINNER FOR VISITING CUBAN PRIME MINISTER FIDEL CASTRO.

THE 83-YEAR-OLD YUGOSLAV LEADER GAVE THE DINNER ON THE NORTHERN ADRIATIC ISLAND OF BRIONI WHERE HE AND DR. CASTRO BEGAN TWO DAYS OF TALKS EARLIER TODAY AFTER THE CUBAN LEADER'S ARRIVAL FROM MOSCOW.

PRESIDENT TITO DECLARED: "WE ARE HAPPY WITH THE VICTORY OF THE ARMY AND PEOPLE OF ANGOLA OVER THE IMPERIALIST AND RACIST FORCES WHICH HAD TRIED TO ENDANGER THE FREEDOM, INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF PROGRESSIVE AND NON-ALIGNED ANGOLA.

"WE THINK IT THE DUTY OF ALL PROGRESSIVE FORCES TO HELP THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA -- TO WHICH CUBA HAS GIVEN A RICH CONTRIBUTION -- TO GAIN THE LEGITIMATE ASPIRATIONS OF ITS PEOPLE FOR AN INDEPENDENT ROAD OF INTERNAL DEVELOPMENT, AND AN INDEPENDENT AND NON-ALIGNED FOREIGN POLICY."

MORE 1923

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THIRD NIGHTLEAD CASTRO 2 BELGRADE

PRESIDENT TITO DID NOT MENTION THE PRESENCE OF CUBAN TROOPS IN ANGOLA. BUT A SENIOR YUGOSLAV FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN SAID THE SOUTH AFRICAN INVASION OF ANGOLA WAS THE CAUSE OF CUBAN INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA.

WITHOUT THE INVASION, ANGOLAN PRESIDENT AGOSTINHO NETO WOULD HAVE HAD NO NEED TO ASK FOR CUBAN HELP, THE OFFICIAL SAID.

DR. NETO WAS AN INDEPENDENT-MINDED MAN WHO WOULD WANT THE CUBANS TO LEAVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, HE ADDED.

THE OFFICIAL SAID YUGOSLAVIA FELT IT WAS THE RIGHT OF ANY LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT, IF IN DANGER, TO INVITE FRIENDS TO HELP IT.

PRESIDENT TITO AND PREMIER CASTRO HELD WIDE-RANGING TALKS EARLIER TODAY IN THE YUGOSLAV LEADER'S BRIGHT VILLA.

MORE 1925

Mr. S. r. Lumumba U.

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THIRD NIGHTLEAD CASTRO 3 BELGRADE

PRESIDENT TITO, IN HIS TOAST, ALSO COMPLAINED THAT LITTLE HAD BEEN DONE FOR DETENTE SINCE LAST JULY'S EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE IN HELSINKI.

THE YUGOSLAV LEADER SAID: "IF WE TAKE, FOR EXAMPLE, DETENTE, WE SHALL SEE THAT AFTER HELSINKI NOT MUCH HAS BEEN DONE.

"ALL KINDS OF PRESSURES ON NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES CONTINUE.

"EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO BREAK THEIR UNITY, THROUGH MANY KINDS OF INTERVENTIONS AND INTERIOR SUBVERSIONS, AND INTERNAL AND FOREIGN FORCES OF REACTION STILL DO NOT HESITATE TO MAKE USE OF THE MOST HORRIBLE TERRORISM AND FORCE, FROM WHICH LATIN AMERICA IS NOT SPARED."

RELATIONS BETWEEN . . . PICKING UP AS BEFORE 3RD GRAF R-825
REUTER 1926

Franklin D.