

# Castro Gains Cited as Reason for Invasion Try

## Ex-Intelligence Chief Dulles Declares Events Dictated Move Short of Intervention

WASHINGTON (AP)—The nation's former intelligence chief indicated Sunday that Premier Castro's growing military strength set the timetable for last spring's abortive effort to overthrow the Cuban dictator.

Allen W. Dulles, who retired a few weeks ago as director of the Central Intelligence Agency, said any move against Communist Castro, short of full-scale U.S. military intervention, had to be made between November, 1960, and April, 1961.

### Historical View

Appearing on a recorded radio and TV program (NBC—Meet the Press), Dulles said:

"... I think the historians of the future will probably say that if any move was to be made to get rid of communism in Cuba, short of actual military intervention with all the power of the United States, that effort

would probably have to have been made sometime between, say, November and April."

Asked whether the April invasion was the last chance to overthrow Castro without direct U.S. intervention, Dulles replied:

"Well, I wouldn't go quite that far, but I would go well along the line. We knew ... that the Cuban pilots were being trained in Czechoslovakia. We knew they were going to have very shortly available under Cuban direction MIGs in considerable numbers and I am inclined to think, as I said before, that if a move was to be made short of intervention, probably this was the area of time when it had to be made. About November to April."

Dulles denied that the failure of the invasion was an intelligence failure.

"There was no military

hardware that appeared that was a surprise to us," he said but he conceded that "some of the material was a little better handled than we expected."

"There is quite a popular misapprehension," Dulles continued, "that it was felt there would be a spontaneous uprising. We have never contemplated that. In the days of the war I worked a great deal with the French underground. The last thing we wanted was spontaneous uprisings, to be slaughtered by the Nazi troops. In the same way we were not looking for a spontaneous uprising, but for other developments."

He did not elaborate on what these other developments might have been.

### 'Latins Alerted'

In reply to a question on whether he believed Castro's influence in Latin America was declining, Dulles declared:

"I think that Latin America is far more alerted to the danger of Castroism and communism as a danger to their systems than they were, let's say, a year ago, or last April.

"Many countries in Latin

America have now broken diplomatic relations with Cuba and I think therefore the impact of Castroism has decreased in many Latin American countries over the last six months because of their understanding of what has taken place in Cuba and their apprehension of what might take place in their own countries."