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\$187 Million

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U.S. expenditures in the strife-racked Dominican Republic will come to around \$187 million by the end of the current fiscal year.

Of this huge amount \$137 million was spent in the nine-month period from April 24, 1965, when President Johnson rushed troops to the Caribbean country to prevent a Communist take-over, to February 1 of this year.

Another \$50 million is in two little-known provisions of the \$115 million emergency budget the President is seeking for economic aid to Viet Nam.

The House Appropriations Committee, which is considering this giant "supplementary" request, has found a \$25 million item for the Dominican Republic in Section III, titled "Additional Fiscal 1966 Supporting Assistance Requirements," and another \$25 million as part of a proposed \$100 million increase in "fiscal year 1966 contingency foreign aid funds."

In support of the additional \$50 million for the turbulent Dominican intervention for the remaining 4½ months of the current fiscal year, the State Department is circularizing congressional leaders with a backstage memorandum.

It contends the funds are essential to maintain the provisional government of President Garcia-Godoy so an election can be held in June. Highlights are as follows:

"As a result of severe economic and political instability following the April 1965 revolution, additional supporting assistance for the Dominican government is necessary to: (1) Help the provisional government of President Garcia-Godoy create and maintain a stable environment conducive to the election of a democratic government in June.

"(2) Help the provisional government meet its current obligation so the new government is not faced with an immediate financial crisis which would threaten its existence. The additional \$50 million is needed to cover the gap between essential operating and capital budget costs and reduced tax revenue, which fell off because of political unrest."

From three sources, the House Foreign Affairs Committee has compiled a detailed breakdown of the \$137 million cost of the Dominican intervention as of February 1.

Department, Defense Department and Intelligence authorities. This significant compilation is as follows:

\$86 million—for all types of economic aid to support the provisional government and activities of the Organization of American States.

\$39 million—military outlays for U.S. and Latin American contingents of the OAS peace-keeping force.

\$19 million—expenditures by the U.S. Information Service, covert operations of U.S. intelligence agencies, and activities of various other U.S. agencies.

At present, the U.S. is footing the entire bill of President Garcia-Godoy's provisional government.

In addition, the sagging Dominican economy is getting large infusions of U.S. funds, and the U.S. is providing the logistic support for the OAS peace-keeping force as well as the 7,000 U.S. troops still on the island.

The House Foreign Aid Appropriations Subcommittee, which is closely examining the mounting Dominican expenditures, is looking into the recent appointment of Alexander Firber to head the foreign aid staff there.

He replaces Carter Ide, who was shifted to India.

The committee has information that while Firber was in charge of U.S. aid in Bolivia it was divided among three rival factions, one of them leftist.

Also under scrutiny by the committee is the little-noticed dispatch to the Dominican Republic of John Crimmins, former head of the Cuban refugee program. Nominally he is to be an assistant to Ambassador W. T. Bennett.

But the inside word is that Crimmins' real function is to ensure that an election takes place in June.

Intelligence authorities have told the Foreign Affairs Committee that Major Manuel Pihelro Losada, member of a recently established Cuban Foreign Relations Committee, is now directing subversion in the Dominican Republic. Red agents, provided with false passports and visas, reportedly are arriving there almost daily.

At the recent Tricontinental Conference in Havana last month, intelligence authorities say the Communists determined on a campaign of rioting and violence in the Dominican Republic to prevent the June elec-