

NSC BRIEFING

11 August 1960

CUBA - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

I. Fidel Castro's 6-7 August tirade against US was most intense to date and 7 August decree confiscating more American properties was regime's most provocative anti-US act.

A. American properties nationalized are worth estimated total \$700,000,000.

1. Mining companies (including Moa Bay, Nicaro), banks, airlines, and smaller companies still in American hands, but establishment of government mineral institute 9 August may presage seizure of mines.

2. Physical seizure of nationalized plants clearly pre-arranged and carried out immediately. Manager of one company found one of his office boys heading militia unit controlling company's offices.

3. Foreign Minister Roa called decree a "Document of economic independence for all Latin America."

4. Former Guatemalan President Arbenz, on speaker's stand when Castro read decree, got up and embraced him.

B. These extreme provocations suggest regime may even be trying to provoke US military intervention in belief it would enhance prospects for Latin American revolution against "US imperialism."

State Department review completed

25X1

Approved For Release 2003/10/01 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001200080022-2

Approved For Release 2003/10/01 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001200080022-2

25X1

- C. Trade relations with Communist China may have begun on sour note.
 - 1. Cuban importers told embassy that samples Chinese rice are very poor quality and government committed to buy large quantity.
 - 2. Importers plan protest on basis consumer resistance but expect no satisfaction.
 - 3. They foresee rice shortage in very near future.

V. Latin American Youth Congress, closed 7 August, to be followed by other Communist and Communist front gatherings.

- A. "Volunteers" from number countries, including most Sino-Soviet bloc countries, remaining to work on "school city."
- B. Cuban Communists' Popular Socialist party inviting foreign delegates for its 8th party congress (last one was in 1952).
Had been scheduled for July, now apparently 16 August.

25X1

- C. Congress of Communist parties of underdeveloped countries reportedly to be held in Cuba later this year.

25X1

[REDACTED]
Approved For Release 2003/10/01 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001200080022-2

VI. In Dominican Republic, Trujillo making effort to give regime "new look" to reduce internal pressures and influence OAS foreign ministers who meet 16 August to consider Venezuelan charges Dominican aggression.

A. But newly installed President Balaguer appears obedient to Trujillo's will.

1. Removal Trujillo relatives from top army posts and cabinet shakeup appear mere windowdressing.

25X1

[REDACTED]

C. Trujillo's fall may be sudden.

1. Many officers heretofore loyal appear to be anticipating fall of regime.
2. Even Trujillo may recognize danger; favorite son "Ramfis" left for Europe 7 August and other family members reported preparing to leave.

D. Press and radio engaged in increasingly bitter anti-US campaign.

Approved For Release 2003/10/01 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001200080022-2

Approved For Release 2003/10/01 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001200080022-2

1. One radio station viciously condemned US espionage activities in Dominican Republic and throughout world and charged US with combatting Castro regime because that government brought about by popular revolution.
2. This line apparently expression Trujillo's own bitterness against US and may be attempt to win support anti-US opinion in Latin America against US "interventionism."
3. Trujillo apparently doing his best to leave a heritage of anti-US feeling if he forced out.

Approved For Release 2003/10/01 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001200080022-2