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Latin America Report

(FOUO 4/82)



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LATIN AMERICA REPORT

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COUNTRY SECTION

BOLIVIA

FOREIGN MINISTER ON DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH PRC

OW251453 Tokyo MAINICHI SHIMBUN in Japanese 23 Feb 82 morning edition p 9

[Article by correspondent Ogiso]

[Text] La Paz, 21 Feb--Bolivian Foreign Minister Gonzalo Alvarez recently granted an interview to this reporter (correspondent Ogiso) at the foreign minister's office in La Paz. The foreign minister said that despite the fact Bolivia maintains diplomatic relations with Taiwan and has no state relations with China, "we attach importance to future prospects on the Chinese continent from an economic viewpoint, and we want to promote trade with China through the cooperation of Japanese general trading companies." In reply to this reporter's question, he said: "At present we are studying, as a basic national question, whether or not to switch our diplomatic relations from Taiwan to China."

Bolivia is now under a military rule headed by Army Lt Gen Gelso Torrelio, the president. In its international payments in 1980, Bolivia sustained deficits of as much as \$4 billion due to a fall in the price of copper and other items. The country's economy is in a bad situation with 70 percent of its export earnings going toward the repayment of foreign debts. Despite these economic difficulties, the United States and the European nations have suspended economic and technical assistance since 1976 on the grounds that the Bolivian Government is repressing the human rights of the Catholic clergy. For this reason the South American country devalued its currency early this month by an enormous 76 percent, and the rightist military regime is now trying to close in on China with its eyes open to its future prospects.

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COUNTRY SECTION

BRAZIL

OPPOSITION LEADER BRIZOLA COMMENTS ON U.S. THREATS

PA252300 Havana PRELA in English 2220 GMT 24 Feb 82

[Article by Jorge Timossi, special correspondent]

[Text] Managua, 25 Feb (PL)--Brazilian Labour Party leader Leonel Brizola said that when governments like the United States make threats of intervention "the Latin Americans have to take those threats as given facts."

The leader of the Democratic Labour Party of Brazil analyzed for PRENSA LATINA some aspects of the meeting of the Permanent Commission of Political Parties of Latin America (COPPPAL), recently closed in this capital, and the present political situation in the continent.

Brizola, one of the COPPPAL's six vice presidents, proposed in the deliberations that the U.S. threats against the peoples of Central America and the Caribbean should be underlined in particular.

"This is the most burning and overruling problem at present in Latin America," he commented, and what is important is that organizations like COPPPAL take steps not solely to denounce the problem.

The Brazilian opposition leader said that it is mainly a question of popularizing "our warnings of the dangers of U.S. intervention. Because in the main we must count on our peoples to stop that aggression."

He indicated that in Brazil the popular sectors are carrying out intensive activities to publicize and explain the present situation in the Central American and Caribbean region.

"We are going through historic times when we cannot allow--he underlined--the U.S. Government and the ruling oligarchic class in Latin America to isolate Nicaragua as it has tried to do with Cuba."

Brizola underlined in particular the positive role of Mexico in this period and the importance of the visit paid to Nicaragua by the Mexican president, Jose Lopez Portillo.

Moreover, he pointed out that the fact that the meeting of the COPPPAL was held in Nicaragua "means the reaffirmation of solidarity with the Nicaraguan people and their Sandinist revolution."

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COUNTRY SECTION

CUBA

RESULTS OF FIRST SOVIET-CUBAN LONG TERM ACCORD NOTED

Moscow FOREIGN TRADE in English No 1, Jan 82 pp 7-11

[Article by Vladimir Burmistrov]

[Text]

Diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Cuba, broken off in 1952, were resumed on May 8, 1960. Trade and economic relations were re-established almost immediately. The new social and economic conditions, emerging in the young republic, demanded a radical change in the principles applied to the foreign trade policy, one of which was all-round expansion of trade and economic links with the socialist community nations, the USSR in particular.

Soviet-Cuban trade relations as they developed gave rise to broadening economic, scientific and technological cooperation that embraced all the key branches of Cuba's national economy—sugar, nickel, agricultural, electric power, building and transport industries.

A qualitatively new stage in economic cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Cuba began with the signing in February 1976 of the first long-term trade agreement between the two countries for a five-year period. The friendly nations have progressed to long-term planning of their economic relations and closer coordination of their national economic development plans. More, the 1976-1980 trade agreement, a major component of the large trade and economic cooperation programme, was of crucial significance for Cuba to fulfil its five-year social and economic development plan.

It is quite in keeping to dwell on the role foreign trade plays in the national economic pattern of Cuba since it has always been a leading economic

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sector due to the country's history and climate. Underdeveloped industries prevalent in the pre-revolutionary Cuba, one-crop system in agriculture and practically complete lack of fuel-power resources predetermined the notable dependence of Cuba's economy on foreign markets. Any developing industry depends on import of machines, equipment, industrial raw materials, energy carriers, etc. Exports are no less important since Cuba ships overseas more than 90 per cent of its sugar and practically all output of its mining industry and many types of agricultural products. All in all about 30 per cent of its GNP is being sold on external markets.

The Soviet-Cuban Long-Term Trade Agreement turned out to be a component part of Cuba's five-year plan of social and economic development for 1976-1980. Soviet machines and equipment, industrial raw material, building materials, energy carriers and many other commodities supplied under this agreement to a large extent determined the growth rates and the very directions of development taken by many branches of Cuba's national economy.

Soviet Export in Cuba's Total Imports

	(per cent)
Oil and oil products	10
Wheat and flour	94
Fertilizers	91
Ferrous metals (rolled stock, pig iron, scrap)	69
Cars	82
Trucks	70
Buses	37
Bus chassis	78
Metal-cutting lathes	27

This Table points to the great importance of Soviet products for Cuba. It was particularly so for the 1976-1980 period when the Soviet Union was the single or in some cases the main source meeting the needs of Cuba's developing economy for the majority of such vitally important goods as oil and oil products, fertilizers, pig iron, rolled ferrous metals, cotton, grain, transport facilities, aircraft included, tractors, agricultural and road-building machinery, besides a number of other industrial goods and foodstuffs.

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The Long-Term Trade Agreement for 1976-1980 was the firm legal base on which the goods exchange between the two nations substantially grew.

Trade Turnover Between the USSR and Cuba for the 1976-1980 Period						
(mln rubles)						
	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Turnover	2,589	2,872	3,452	4,169	4,249	4,266
Soviet export	1,141	1,351	1,635	1,947	2,113	2,288
Soviet import	1,448	1,521	1,817	2,222	2,136	1,978

Considering the five-year period as a whole the goods exchange amounted to a considerable sum—nearly 19,000 million rubles, a nearly 2.7-fold increase as compared with the previous 1971-1975 period. The total goods exchange growth between the USSR and Cuba for 1976-1980 reached almost 65 per cent. In 1980 the Soviet Union's export to Cuba amounted to 2,288 million rubles, a twofold increase as compared with 1975 although its import from Cuba grew somewhat slower; in 1980 it rose by some 37 per cent and was worth 1,978 million rubles.

The Soviet Union's proportion in Cuba's foreign trade successively increased during the five-year period due to the Cuban foreign trade policy aimed at curtailing to the maximum imports paid for in convertible currency and at promoting shipments from the socialist community countries, the Soviet Union in particular. In 1975 the USSR accounted for about 48 per cent of Cuba's total trade, in 1979—68.8 per cent.

A reduction of the Soviet share in Cuba's foreign trade to under 60 per cent in 1980 was brought about by a number of natural calamities befalling the republic that year, particularly sugar-cane and tobacco-plant diseases which caused a notable decline in shipments of sugar and other goods to the Soviet Union.

In its turn the Republic of Cuba accounted for 5.6 per cent of Soviet foreign trade in the 1976-1979 period and for a little less in 1980 owing to a notable decline in Cuba's exports of certain goods (mainly sugar).

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Soviet export structure in 1976-1980 remained rather stable, undergoing no radical changes. Proportions of individual goods, including machines, equipment and energy carriers, were raised somewhat. As for the majority of goods their proportions in the total volume of deliveries were relatively stable despite absolute and at times very considerable increases of their volumes.

Soviet export structure meets rather fully nearly all needs of the Cuban national economy and population for industrial and transport equipment, raw and building materials, chemicals, foodstuffs, household goods and recreational facilities. Major Soviet export items are petroleum and petroleum products as well as machines, equipment and transport facilities. These two groups accounted in individual years for 50-60 per cent of all Soviet exports to Cuba. Export of Soviet machines and equip-

Structure of Soviet Exports to the Republic of Cuba

Family groups of goods	1975		1976		1977		1978		1979		1980	
	mln. rubl.	rel. share %	mln. rubl.	rel. share %	mln. rubl.	rel. share %	mln. rubl.	rel. share %	mln. rubl.	rel. share %	mln. rubl.	rel. share %
Total, including:	1,141.3		1,351		1,635		1,947		2,113		2,288	
Machines and equipment	278	24.4	367	27.2	447	27.3	560	28.8	636	30.1	741	32.4
Oil and oil products	248	21.7	288	21.3	375	22.9	490	25.2	578	27.4	612	26.7
Ferrous metals including												
rolled stock	61	5.3	82	6.1	93.9	5.7	101.3	5.2	106.1	5.0	106	4.7
Chemicals	17	1.5	12	0.9	12.2	0.7	12.8	0.7	17.9	0.8	21.4	0.9
Fertilizers	22.5	2.0	36.3	2.7	48.4	3.0	55.0	2.8	47.4	2.2	47.9	2.1
Timber, including sleepers	30.1	2.6	26.8	2.0	32.3	2.0	42.5	2.2	34.3	1.6	41.4	1.8
Raw cotton	18.7	1.6	23.7	1.8	24.0	1.5	28.9	1.5	26.6	1.3	31.7	1.4
Grain	62.7	5.5	62.8	4.6	91.9	5.6	64.4	3.3	82.5	3.9	94.1	4.1
Flour	62.7	5.5	67.2	5.0	67.3	4.1	39.5	2.0	56.7	2.7	57.7	2.5
Other foodstuffs	91.2	8.0	89.6	6.6	107.2	6.6	111.3	5.7	127.8	6.0	108.0	4.7
Household goods and recreational facilities	37.3	3.3	46.4	3.4	58.6	3.6	62	3.2	54.7	2.6	72.3	3.1

ment grew at a good pace during the five-year period and amounted to 612 million rubles in 1980, a nearly 2.5-fold increase as compared with the previous five-year period.

On the whole the planned deliveries for the past five-year period were fulfilled and many shipments of trucks, cars, buses, tractors, sugar-cane harvesters with components, passenger planes, cargo

vessels and many other types of machines and equipment were made over and above the planned objectives.

Petroleum and petroleum products in 1980 accounted for more than 32 per cent of all Soviet export to Cuba. The growth rates of this family of goods were the highest: oil deliveries trebled in 1980 as compared with 1975. Their significance is hard to overestimate since practically all the functionality of Cuba's national economy is based on energy carriers imported from the Soviet Union.

Soviet foreign trade associations supply the Republic of Cuba with fertilizers, timber, rolled stock of ferrous and non-ferrous metals in addition to many other goods. Many foodstuffs and consumer goods are also supplied by the Soviet Union. In 1980 the deliveries of grain, flour, tinned meat and other foodstuffs approximated to 327 million rubles, a 1.5-fold increase for the five-year period. Among the household goods and recreational facilities are mainly electrical appliances, radios and their equipment. Over 800 thousand radios, about 570 thousand TV sets, 250 thousand refrigerators, nearly half a million of washing machines were shipped to Cuba during the five-year period.

Structure of Soviet Imports from the Republic of Cuba

	1975		1976		1977		1978		1979		1980	
	mln. rubl.	rel. share %	mln. rubl.	rel. share %	mln. rubl.	rel. share %	mln. rubl.	rel. share %	mln. rubl.	rel. share %	mln. rubl.	rel. share %
Total	1,448		1,521		1,817		2,222		2,136		1,978	
Nickel concentrate	74	5.1	94	6.1	117	6.4	76.8	3.5	63.8	3	81.9	4.1
Raw sugar	1,344	92.8	1,398	91.9	1,675	92.2	2,117	95.3	2,038	95.4	1,858	93.9
Citrus fruit	3	0.2	4	0.3	5.2	0.3	9.2	0.4	10.1	0.5	13.9	0.5
Rum and liqueurs	11.4	0.8	13.5	0.9	9.8	0.5	9.8	0.4	11.1	0.5	16.1	0.8
Other goods	15.6	1.1	11.5	0.8	10	0.6	9.2	0.4	13	0.6	7.8	0.4

The above data indicate that sugar is the main item in Cuban exports to the USSR and it is quite natural that the volume of its supply and its price level substantially determine trade balance between the two nations. Sugar exports to the USSR grew successively and reached 3,707,000 tons in 1979. In 1980 they were drastically reduced (2,647,000 tons) resulting from a sharp drop in its production owing to a sugar-cane disease.

Citrus fruit imports from Cuba are continuously increasing. While in 1975 they totalled only 16,500 tons, in 1980 the Soviet Union imported already over 70,000 tons, a more than 4-fold increase over the five years.

The 1976-1980 long-term trade agreement was a success due to the intensive work done by Soviet and Cuban enterprises, suppliers of export goods, and foreign trade and transport organizations in both countries.

The high growth rates of trade between the two nations were due in no small measure to favourable trade-policy conditions created at the beginning of the period under review and were aimed at promoting comprehensive Soviet-Cuban trade and economic relations.

The Soviet Union, guided by a basic principle of political and economic cooperation among the socialist community countries—the gradual drawing together and equalizing of their economic levels, employs in its trade and economic relations with Cuba such advantages of cooperation as giving credits on easy terms, deferring payments and setting preferential prices on major goods.

A new Long-Term Trade Agreement for 1981-1985 between the USSR and Cuba was signed in Moscow on June 26, 1981, by Nikolai Patolichev, Minister of Foreign Trade of the USSR, and R. Cabrisas Ruiz, Minister of Foreign Trade of Cuba. The Agreement provides for a further increase (over 42 per cent as compared with the previous five-year period) in goods exchange between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Cuba. Their trade is to reach 27,000 million rubles in the current five-year period.

The range of goods to be supplied will be substantially enlarged. The Soviet Union will export to Cuba various power-engineering and lifting equipment, trucks and cars, road-building machinery, aircraft, vessels and marine equipment, metalcutting lathes, oil and oil products, rolled stock of ferrous and non-ferrous metals, timber, and fertilizers, consumer goods, food and many other products.

The Republic of Cuba will ship raw sugar, nickel-containing products, citrus fruit, tobacco goods, electronic products and a number of other commodities to the Soviet Union.

In the current five-year period the favourable trade-policy will make the new Long-Term Trade Agreement as successful as the previous one. Preferential prices of raw sugar and nickel-containing products, shipped to the USSR, will remain the same during the current five-year period. Moreover, on the latter a higher price has been fixed as compared to the previous five-year period. Favourable conditions have expanded as preferential prices have been set on all kinds of citrus fruits. This step has been taken within the CMEA framework, the Soviet Union was participating with the other CMEA nations in a Long-Term Specific Programme of Cooperation in developing the citrus fruit industry in the Republic of Cuba. This programme provides for assistance to be rendered for substantially increasing the production of citrus fruit and its export to the Soviet Union and other European socialist nations participants.

All these arrangements provide favourable legal and financial foundations for carrying out the various obligations. Yet to accomplish the objectives of developing mutual trade as stipulated in the Long-Term Agreement of June 26, 1981 means that considerable difficulties must be overcome. The large growth of Soviet-Cuban trade needs the undertaking of several organizational and technical measures to further improve the mutual deliveries system and solve transportation problems in the first place.

Practically all foreign trade cargoes between the USSR and Cuba are shipped by the Soviet merchant marine. Export and import shipments in 1980 alone exceeded 18.1 million tons of which 10.4 million tons were petroleum and petroleum products. Any further increase in mutual trade volume depends directly on the capacities of the merchant fleet and the port facilities of the Soviet Union and Cuba. At the present time any growth of trade hits difficulty to a certain extent through the low capacity of Cuba's ports, inland road and railway transport, its lack of storage facilities (oil storage, elevators and refrigerated warehouses in particular) and insufficient mechanization and automation of handling operations. Under these conditions importance should be attached to the greater use of specialized vessels and the use of container and palletized cargoes.

Expanded export of citrus fruit demands a substantial increase of Cuba's fleet of refrigerator ships.

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This problem can be eased through the wider use of Ro-Ro type vessels and other modern dry-cargo ships with stronger ventilation. Experimental shipments of citrus fruit in 1979 and 1980 made by the Ro-Ro type vessels showed that they could ship an additional 40,000 tons of citrus fruit in the November-March period each year, provided that the vessels be properly and fully used.

The deliveries of citrus fruit can be greatly expanded if the merchant marine's turnover is increased through better cargo handling in and out at the Cuban and Soviet ports.

More radical measures should be taken to ship to Cuba the planned amount of crude petroleum and basic petroleum products. In connection with the supposed coming into effect of an International Agreement on Environmental Protection the shipping of petroleum and petroleum products can be only made by large tonnage oil tankers and that necessitates reconstruction of Cuban ports and their oil-distribution systems.

The new Long-Term Trade Agreement will contribute a great deal to perfecting the trade and economic relations between the Soviet Union and Cuba, and to intensifying their trade and economic cooperation; it will help carry out the decisions of the 26th Congress of the CPSU and the Second Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba.

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COUNTRY SECTION

CUBA

NEW 'PANA' AGENCY HAILED

PA232140 Havana PRELA in English 1840 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Havana, Feb 23 (PL)--The importance of the Pan-African News Agency (PANA) in the spreading of a correct and truly image of the peoples of Africa was highlighted here.

A commentary carried by the daily GRANMA stated that the recent meeting of the international program for the development of communications held last month in Acapulco, Mexico, supported the carrying out of this project.

The PANA News Agency with headquarters in Dakar constitutes a kind of pool of national agencies of nearly 50 countries of the African continent with five regional centers of reception and distribution in Tripoli, Lagos, Kinshasa, Khartoum and Lusaka.

The article states that the PANA News Agency requested \$1.5 million which were granted mostly by the states of the Persian Gulf.

The U.S. representatives to the Acapulco meeting stated their reserves on the PANA News Agency because its constitutional principles claim that this news agency will contribute to the liberation of the African people and will keep a policy contrary to racism, apartheid, Zionism and all the forms of exploitation and oppression.

To counteract this action the United States defends the private initiatives and the transnationals of information and stated the purpose to carry out parallel programs to those of the PIDC linked, with the agency for international development aid and the private sector.

With this attitude the U.S. is seeking to place the Third World in front of the dilemma of choosing between autonomous development or continuing relying on the U.S. model, the article added.

However, Third World nations are seeking to develop their own communications and for this they need assistance, though they reject any assistance which may become a link of dependency, it ended.

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COUNTRY SECTION

CUBA

SOVIET ASSISTANCE IN CITRUS DEVELOPMENT NOTED

Moscow FOREIGN TRADE in English No 1, Jan 82 pp 12-14

[Article by Yuri Zhizhin, Alla Fyodorova]

[Text] By joining the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance in 1972 the Republic of Cuba obtained new favourable prospects for mutually advantageous cooperation with the socialist countries multilaterally and bilaterally.

Its trade and economic relations as they develop with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries contribute to progressive changes in the structure of the country's economy.

Agriculture continues to be one of the major branches of the Cuban economy since the Republic of Cuba is an agrarian-industrial country.

Citrus growing is a branch of agriculture which is making particularly dynamic progress. Favourable soil and climatic conditions, the high economic efficiency inherent in this branch of agriculture, and the rising demand on the world market for citrus and processed citrus products have been principal factors behind the rapid development of citrus production in Cuba. Furthermore, the increasing citrus production raises the per capita consumption of both fresh and processed citrus fruit in Cuba as well as in the CMEA

member-countries. These factors proved instrumental for the elaboration of a Long-Term Specific Programme of Cooperation (LSPC) to expand the production and export of citrus and the products of their processing.

In compliance with the development programme of citrus growing in Cuba, adopted in the mid-1960s, citrus production is being carried out in several zones. Specialized citrus-growing farming complexes have been set up in western and central parts of Cuba.

Among the largest ones is the farming complex *Victoria de Giron* in the Matanzas province where the soil and climatic conditions are very favourable for the growing of citrus. Here substantial reserves of subterranean waters are available and being used for irrigation. The farms of citrus plantation occupy an area of about 30 thousand hectares. By the end of 1990 the citrus-growing area is expected to be increased up to 80 thousand hectares. From 1976 to 1979 the citrus harvest in this region rose from 32.4 thousand tons to 58.4 thousand tons.

Another large citrus farming complex is *Camilo Cienfuegos* on

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Youth Island. The area occupied by citrus crops here amounted to 34 thousand hectares in 1979. The soil and climatic conditions are particularly favourable for grapefruit. Plans are already in hand for increasing the citrus-growing area up to 45 thousand hectares by 1990.

Guane Mantua is the name of a citrus farm in the Pinar del Rio province. Its citrus-growing area amounts to about 14 thousand hectares. In the near future it is to be significantly expanded with new plantations and by 1990 citrus crops will be grown here on about 65 thousand hectares.

The setting up of specialized citrus-growing farms is helping material and labour resources to be utilized rationally and bring about the centralized processing and packaging of citrus fruit. Development of these regions is a complex process: roads are being built, citrus processing plants are being set up, refrigerator facilities erected, and ports and new mechanized sea terminals constructed.

The total acreage of citrus plantations in the Republic of Cuba amounted to 117.8 thousand hectares in 1980, including 60.9 thousand hectares occupied by young, yet non-bearing plantations. Most of the new plantations were sown in the first half of the 1970s.

About 60 per cent of the total is occupied by orange trees, 25 per cent by grapefruit, 10 per cent by lemon and lime,¹ five per cent by mandarin orange.

¹ Lime — citrus varieties with small fruit, limes, used to make concentrated juices, citric acid and ethereal oil.

Citrus output increased significantly when the new large citrus-growing plantations entered the fruit-bearing stage. In 1980, compared to 1971-1975, citrus production rose 60 per cent to a total of 440 thousand tons. Between 1976 and 1980 citrus output on average rose 10 per cent annually. Effective measures are now in hand to increase the yield of citrus crops, which today amounts to six-eight tons per hectare. Cuba's specialists are planning to raise the yield up to 10-14 tons per hectare by 1985 by introducing advanced agrotechnical methods.

Cuba's soils and climatic conditions are particularly favourable for growing grapefruit. Cuban brands of grapefruit as to quality, are rated second to none in the world. The pink-pulp variety successfully competes with Ruby Red, the best US brand.

Plans envisage the area occupied by citrus crops to be increased up to 160.8 thousand hectares by the end of 1985, with all the trees reaching the fruit-bearing stage by 1990. As much as 90 per cent of citrus fruit in 1985 will be harvested at the citrus plantations which are parts of the large specialized farm complexes existing today.

Development of the citrus-processing industry in Cuba has just started. In 1979 as much as 32 thousand tons of juices were produced in the country. The Cuban grapefruit juice, the Zun-Zun brand, was awarded the Gold Medal at exhibitions in Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria. Juice production is being carried out principally at three processing enterprises, one of them being the Libertad plant in the Matanzas province. Oranges and mandarin oranges are processed at a rate of 10 tons of juice per hour. The

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Jesus Menéndez plant in the Oriente province turns out three tons of juice per hour. In 1979 an agro-industrial complex for processing citrus on Youth Island was completed. This is the first complex and a prototype of other citrus-processing establishments now being built in Cuba. The complex's storage facilities border a deep-water canal where small vessels can be loaded. The industrial complex, its structures, shops, working zones occupy an area of about 100 thousand sq.m. The complex consists of the fresh fruit packaging facility (20 tons per hour), a metal cans producing plant (250 cans a minute) and juice-making production lines (12 tons per hour).

Production wastes—skin and pulp—are processed at the fodder-making plant equipped with a grinding device made in Bulgaria. The area occupied by the industrial complex and its potential capacity permit further expansion of production. In 1980 the complex processed as much as 20 thousand tons of citrus. Its output includes concentrated juices, ethereal oil, jams, confiture. A new production line for tomato-paste and fruit processing was set up at the complex at the end of 1980. Work is continuing on producing juice from the pulp of citrus and other fruit (bananas, guava, mango).

Alongside the rapid increases of the production of citrus and processed products, the citrus exports from Cuba are developing fairly quickly. In 1975 they amounted to 55 thousand tons, in 1979—161 thousand tons, in 1980—200 thousand tons. The share of citrus fruit in total exports of fresh fruit rose, in terms of cost, from 18.6 per cent in 1958 to 77.7 per cent in 1976.

Oranges account for the largest proportion of total citrus exports. However, because of changes in the production pattern, the share of oranges in total citrus exports progressively declined from 78.8 per cent in 1971 to 63.4 per cent

in 1976 and 60 per cent in 1980. This is mainly due to a rise in grape-fruit exports from Cuba in the past twenty years, the reason being a greater demand for grape-fruit on the world market and its output has been increased to cope with this. In the early 1970s the share of grape-fruit in citrus exports was 28 per cent, in 1976—36.6 per cent. In the future, as planned by Cuban specialists, its proportion in total citrus exports will be kept constant at 36 per

The Soviet Union is a major consumer of Cuba's citrus. In the Tenth Five-Year-Plan Period Cuba's citrus deliveries to the USSR increased more than threefold. Plans for the 11th Five-Year-Plan Period provide for further increases in citrus exports from Cuba. Oranges account for more than 90 per cent of the total citrus volumes delivered to the USSR. Citrus deliveries are handled by Soviet refrigerator ships. Experimental citrus shippings aboard dry-cargo vessels outfitted with forced ventilation systems are now undertaken to secure timely shipments of Cuba's fruit.

Preservation of citrus fruits being transported in the ro-ro ships is determined by delivery schedule. Loading and unloading are made more rapid by the use of special containers, the so-called flats, in citrus transportation. Such containers are convenient for cargo ventilation, cargo inspection and loading into Soviet freight cars.

The question of citrus deliveries from Cuba in dry-cargo ships with

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forced ventilation is quite urgent and, therefore, all its aspects concerning citrus transportation are being studied starting from the picking of fruit and ending with their delivery to destination points in the Soviet Union.

Rising citrus imports from Cuba to the USSR in the coming years are bound to force the solution of certain other important problems, such as additions to the USSR's refrigerator fleet, construction of new specialized terminals and warm storages, further mechanization of unloading operations, building of refrigerators, increasing the number of refrigerator cars, etc.

Citrus growing is one of the spheres of cooperation between the Republic of Cuba and CMEA member-countries conducted on a multilateral and bilateral basis. Extremely important to the progress of Cuba's citrus industry is the Long-Term Specific Programme of Cooperation in the field of agriculture which the 32nd CMEA Session adopted in 1978.

The CMEA member-countries are the principal buyers of Cuban citrus and processed citrus products placed on the foreign market. In recent years the socialist countries bought about 95 per cent of Cuba's citrus exports.

The Long-Term Specific Programme of Cooperation for the comprehensive development of Cuba's citrus production for 1981-1985 envisages expansion of the citrus plantations, higher gross yields and larger exports of fresh and processed citrus in the first place to the CMEA member-countries. To secure the implementation of

this programme, the GDR, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland and the USSR will be partners to capital investments in Cuba and will assist with goods, services and convertible currency to be used for buying packaging devices, refrigerator and transport facilities, machines, diverse equipment, spares, auxiliary materials, and they will also undertake project and design work. Already today the CMEA members are actively contributing to the realization of the above programme.

In Santa Cruz del Norte the construction of a factory for making cardboard (annual output 50 thousand tons) started in 1979 with Poland's participation. In 1980 work began on building a large citrus-processing complex in the Jagüey Grande area (Matanzas province) to be commissioned in 1983. Poland is taking care of the project design and supplying refrigeration equipment; certain kinds of the processing equipment will arrive from Spain. The complex will process 120 thousand tons of citrus annually, will turn out normal and concentrated juices, jams, ethereal oils, nutritive mass for cattle feeding, raw material for pectin production.²

Within the framework of the Long-Term Specific Programme the GDR will grant credits to Cuba for building a citrus-processing complex in the Ciego de Avila province.

Bulgaria will aid Cuba to industrially process vegetables and fruit and to set up a production line for bottling cold soft drinks.

In accord with a bilateral agreement with the Republic of Cuba, Czechoslovakia will be granting credits, partly in convertible currency, for purchasing equipment and materials from third countries.

² Pectins — organic compounds used as jelly-forming substances in the food and pharmaceutical industries.

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In accordance with the Protocol signed between the USSR and the Republic of Cuba on cooperation in the comprehensive development of agricultural production and industrial processing of citrus in Cuba, the USSR will assist Cuba technically during the 1981-1985 period and in subsequent years to build factories for the manufacture of glass and cardboard packaging, to construct specialized sea terminals for loading citrus cargoes, carry out irrigation work, build citrus-packaging centres and other facilities contributing to the development of citrus production and processing.

This active participation by the CMEA member-countries in realizing the Long-Term Specific Programme of cooperation in the field of citrus growing in Cuba will promote this industry and improve its efficiency, thus enabling the Republic of Cuba to emerge as a major producer of citrus. According to preliminary estimates, Cuba will occupy the seventh place in world citrus output in 1985.

The General Agreement on the comprehensive development of agricultural production and industrial processing of citrus in the Republic of Cuba signed on July 4, 1981, in Sofia will contribute greatly to meeting the CMEA member countries' demand for citrus fruit, both fresh and processed.

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COUNTRY SECTION

CUBA

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED WITH GUINEA-BISSAU GOVERNMENT

PA172150 Havana PRELA in English 1948 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] Havana, 18 Mar (PL)--Cuba expressed satisfaction for the efforts being carried out by the PAIGC [African Party for Independence in Guinea and Cape Verde] and the government of Guinea Bissau to realize the tasks which encouraged the long struggle against the Portuguese colonial domination under the leadership of Amilcar Cabral.

In a Cuban-Guinean communique published at the end of the visit to this country of the Guinean President Joao Bernardo Vieira, the Cuban side ratified the firm and unshakable support that its people, the PCC and the government of Cuba give to the people, the PAIGC and the government of Guinea Bissau in the consolidation of its conquests and in the defense of its sovereignty and independence. When analyzing the situation in Africa--the document stated--both parties reflected the identity of viewpoints regarding the current problems now affecting that continent.

When referring to the process of Namibia, they both denounced the delays in the application of the UN Security Council Resolution 435 stating the modalities acceptable for a negotiated independence of that territory, illegally occupied by South Africa.

The two parties expressed their support to the ANC [African National Congress] engaged in a struggle against apartheid in South Africa and denounced the supply of nuclear arms to that country by the Western powers.

Cuba and Guinea-Bissau denounced as well the South African aggression of Angola and demanded the unconditional withdrawal of the Cuban presence in Angola. [Sentence as received]

The delegation from Guinea-Bissau expressed its recognition to Cuba for its internationalist support to Angola, at the request of the MPLA-Party of Labor and of the Luanda Government, for its efforts in the reconstruction and national safeguarding of the national unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity, to its confrontations with the continual South African racist aggressions.

They reiterated their support to the Polisario Front and to the government of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic in its just struggle to exert its right to self-determination and independence and denounced Morocco's delaying maneuvers seeking to perpetuate the occupation of that country.

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COUNTRY SECTION

CUBA

BRIEFS

NIGERIAN TIES--Havana, 25 Feb (PL)--The member of the national executive staff of the Nigerian National Party, Alhaji Yarima Balla, met here with the chairman of the Cuban Institute of Friendship With the Peoples (ICAP), Rene Rodriguez Cruz. During the meeting the two leaders dealt with issues related with the activities of the Association of Cuban-African Friendship and of the Nigeria-Cuba Friendship Association, to which Yarima Balla belongs. The distinguished visitant, also director of the airlines of the Gongola State and Rodriguez Cruz reaffirmed in their meeting the traditional links of friendship joining both countries. [Text] [PA252240 Havana PRELA in English 2010 GMT 24 Feb 82]

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COUNTRY SECTION

EL SALVADOR

AMBASSADOR SAYS HAIG'S STATEMENTS DISTORTED

PY171711 Buenos Aires DIARIOS Y NOTICIAS in Spanish 1404 GMT
17 Mar 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Mar (DYN)--In statements made here today, Salvadoran Ambassador to Argentina Col Carlos Figueroa Vanegas admitted that his country is receiving military aid which consists of arms as well as foodstuff from Argentina and Venezuela. He also regretted that the recent statements made by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig had "been distorted" since the aid granted does "not consist of men" nor does it represent--from his point of view--intervention.

The ambassador stated that "we are receiving concrete aid (from Argentina and Venezuela) but "the unfortunate thing is that they try to distort this type of declaration (Haig's) at a political level and always convert political aid into military aid with the supply of men and this is very harmful for us."

In statements made during the program "Magdalena and the News" of Radio Continental, the ambassador stated: "We place emphasis on our statements that the military aid by no means represents an intervention with men, therefore Haig's statements are in keeping with reality, so long as his statements are not distorted."

Further on, in answering a question as to whether "Argentina and Venezuela have granted both military aid and other aid, such as the supply of foodstuff," Colonel Figueroa pointed out that "we are receiving both types of aid."

During his lengthy telephone conversation with the radio station the ambassador stated that Francisco Manrique has been invited as Argentine observer because "of his moral virtues, which are undeniable, his democratic background and his high civic-mindedness, as is demonstrated by the fact that he gave a prompt and decided answer to our invitation."

The ambassador asserted that "a person with those virtues combined with his political background, is undoubtedly capable of giving an unbiased and impartial opinion on the elections to be held in El Salvador." Figueroa stated: "We need that just opinion to show the world that our government, by making such a dangerous move, with the risk of paying for it with the life

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of more Salvadorans who may be killed by the terrorists, is only encouraged by the ideal of pacification and the search for democracy through civilized means."

He then asserted that "Mr Manrique is the person with enough moral, civilian and political virtues to give that opinion." [Passage indistinct]

He stated "that there is a lot of talk about the extreme right and extreme left terrorism, but in general terms, although this is true, what we are really enduring is not only terrorism but practically an invasion of an ideology foreign to ours, which is known as Marxist ideology" and asserted that it comes "from Cuba encouraged by the Soviet Union."

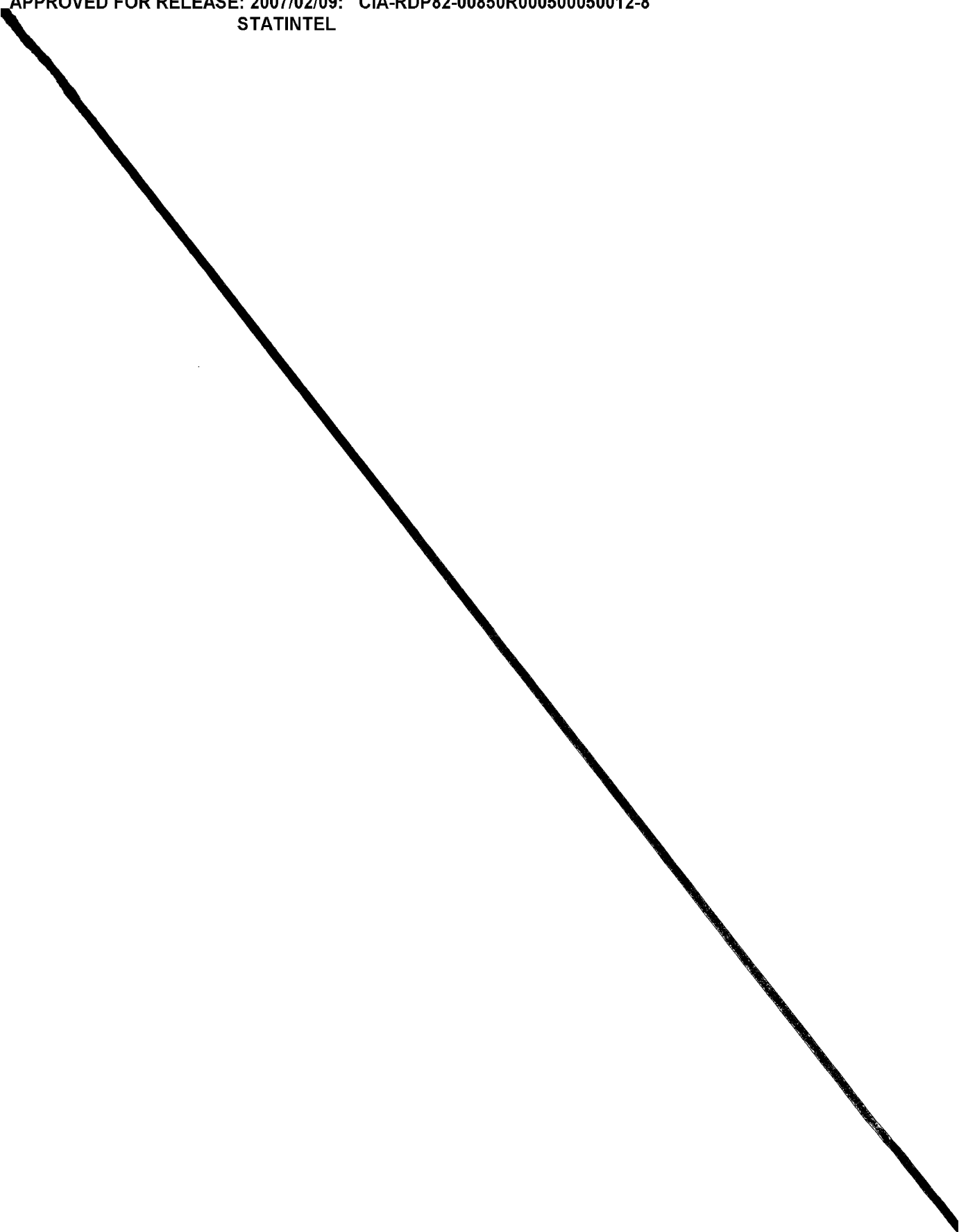
Further on Colonel Figueroa pointed out that "we do not believe we are going to put an end" to the guerrilla groups with the elections because "we are not all that naive," but that "we will be able to change the minds of certain countries that now support international terrorism."

After asserting that the future of the entire continent is at stake in El Salvador, he said that two political parties have not joined in the elections because "right from the beginning they maintained that the elections would be a fraud" and that "their lives were in danger because they would be murdered."

He then wondered "whether anybody's life in El Salvador was safe" and ended by stating that "there is no censorship in my country at present" because the understanding of all the democratic countries of the world is sought."

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SURINAME

COUNTRY SECTION

MILITARY COUNCIL DECLARATION ON UNSUCCESSFUL COUP

PA190035 Havana PRELA in English 2320 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] Paramaribo, 18 Mar (PL)--The ruling National Military Council of Suriname accused those responsible for the abortive coup of being criminals and declared that they sought to cause a bloodbath in the country. The declaration countered a statement by the Committee of Christian Churches of Suriname that described as an "outbreak of violence" the measures adopted by the government to confront the abortive 11 March takeover bid.

The committee also expressed its "chagrin" at the execution of former Sergeant Major Wilfred Hawker, one of the ringleaders of the coup attempt, after trial by a court martial.

The National Military Council explained that the responsibility for the present state of emergency must be borne by criminal elements whose objective was the overthrow and elimination of the revolutionary leadership without contemplations.

Former rightwing military and some civilians from well to do economic sectors appear involved in the takeover scheme which for several hours occupied the Memre Boekoe garrison, the country's main army facility.

The Committee of Churches should take into account the fact that the plans to wipe out the revolutionary leadership included a bloodbath during a religious ceremony, recalls the statement.

The text refers to a plan of the coup makers to liquidate the members of the Military Council in the course of a meeting in a Paramaribo church to which they had been invited.

"The military authority had to prevent that in order to defend the revolutionary process that began on 25 February 1980," it adds.

Finally it recommends that the church "take care that it is not infiltrated by enemies of the people and that it act according to its preaching on unity and the improvement of the living standard of the populace."

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Meanwhile it was reported that former Lieutenant Surendre Rambocus, one of the military leaders of the plot, was captured. Rambocus managed to escape in the direction of the jungle zone in western Suriname on Friday when forces loyal to the government of the National Military Council headed by Lt Colonel Desi Bouterse ousted the coup makers from the Memre Boekoe garrison, the country's main fortress.

Also heading the coup bid was former Sergeant Wilfred Hawker who was tried and sentenced to death by a court martial. He was executed on the morning of 13 March.

CSO: 3025/1059

END