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## Chile and Cuba

Chile's break with Cuba is a harsh blow to the Castro regime. The only important nations of the Western Hemisphere still retaining diplomatic relations with Cuba are Mexico, Bolivia, and Uruguay within the inter-American system, and Canada on the outside.

The move by Chile was not unexpected, as the Organization of American States resolution to which she was responding was interpreted as being mandatory on all members. Of the three remaining Latin countries that voted against the resolution, Bolivia is expected to conform because President Paz Estenssoro, who is starting a new term, is at odds with the Bolivian left and the country is dependent on United States aid. Uruguay will probably break with Cuba also, as she is in a difficult position between her two giant neighbors, Brazil and Argentina. Their Governments are both now strongly anti-Fidelista.

This will leave only Mexico as a holdout, but Mexico is important. She is one of the leading nations of Latin America and her revolutionary mystique is still strong. The airline route between Mexico City and Havana is the last remaining commercial communication that Cuba has with the Western Hemisphere. President Lopez Mateos has made it clear that his Government will not accept the O.A.S. resolution. Mexico does not consider the resolution to be legal; she has historic and neighborly links to Cuba she regards as precious; and she considers it desirable for humanitarian and political reasons to keep an embassy in Havana. It is, therefore, unlikely that this policy will change even when the new President, Gustavo Diaz Ordaz, takes office Dec. 1.

The effect of the other breaks on Havana will be psychological, not economic, as Cuba has little trade with Latin America. Cuba's dependence on the Soviet bloc will, if possible, be increased. Yet the United States has unquestionably in its power the unconditional surrender of the Castro Government.