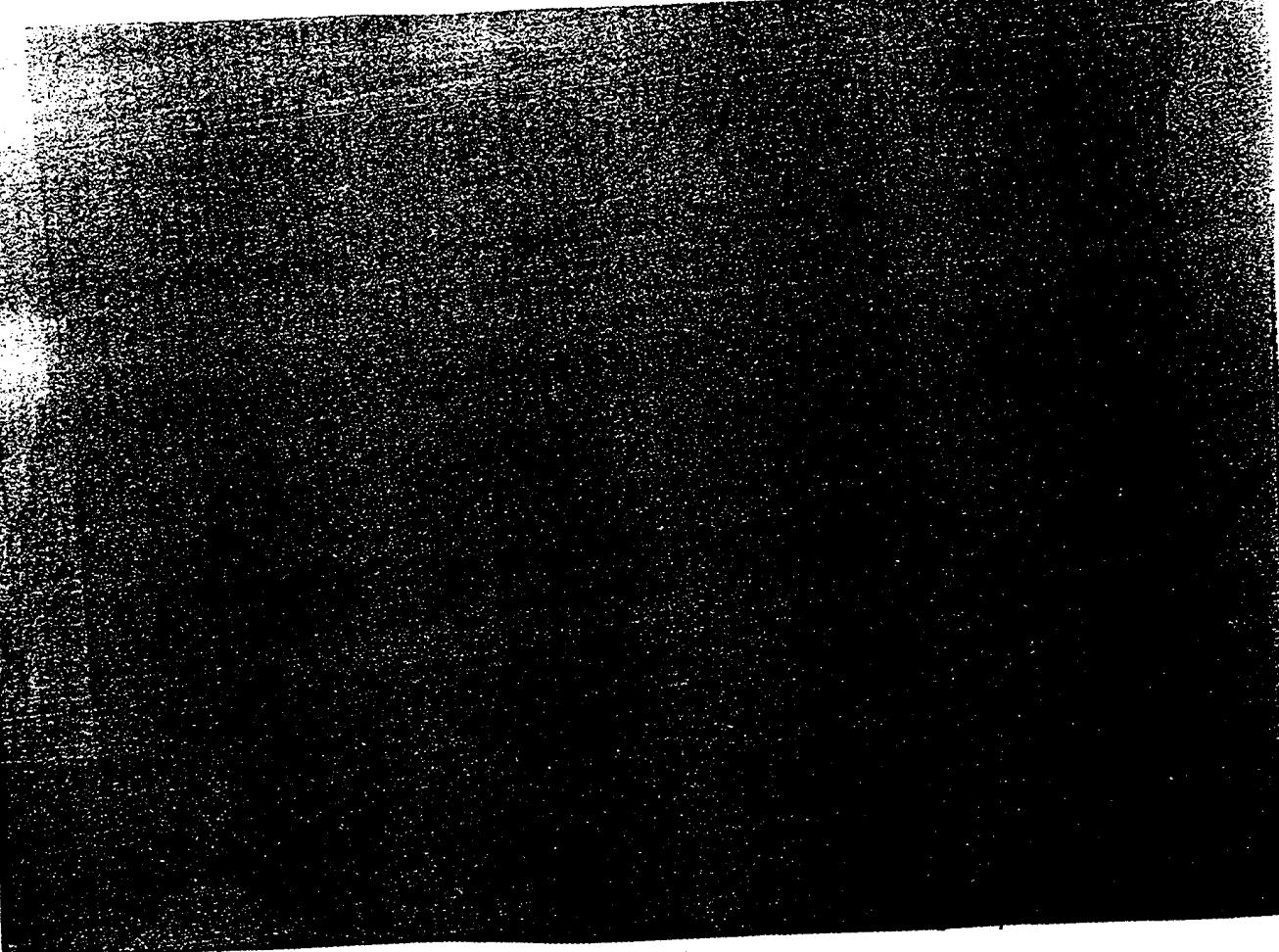


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JUN INTELLIGENCE REVIEW PROGRAM
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1997

III. THE WEST

Cuba: The Castro regime, which on 18 October requested the UN General Assembly to consider its charges of US aggression, may now be preparing to stage another "incident" to back up such accusations. The American Embassy, which has received several reports that five or six Cuban planes at the major air base south of Havana have been

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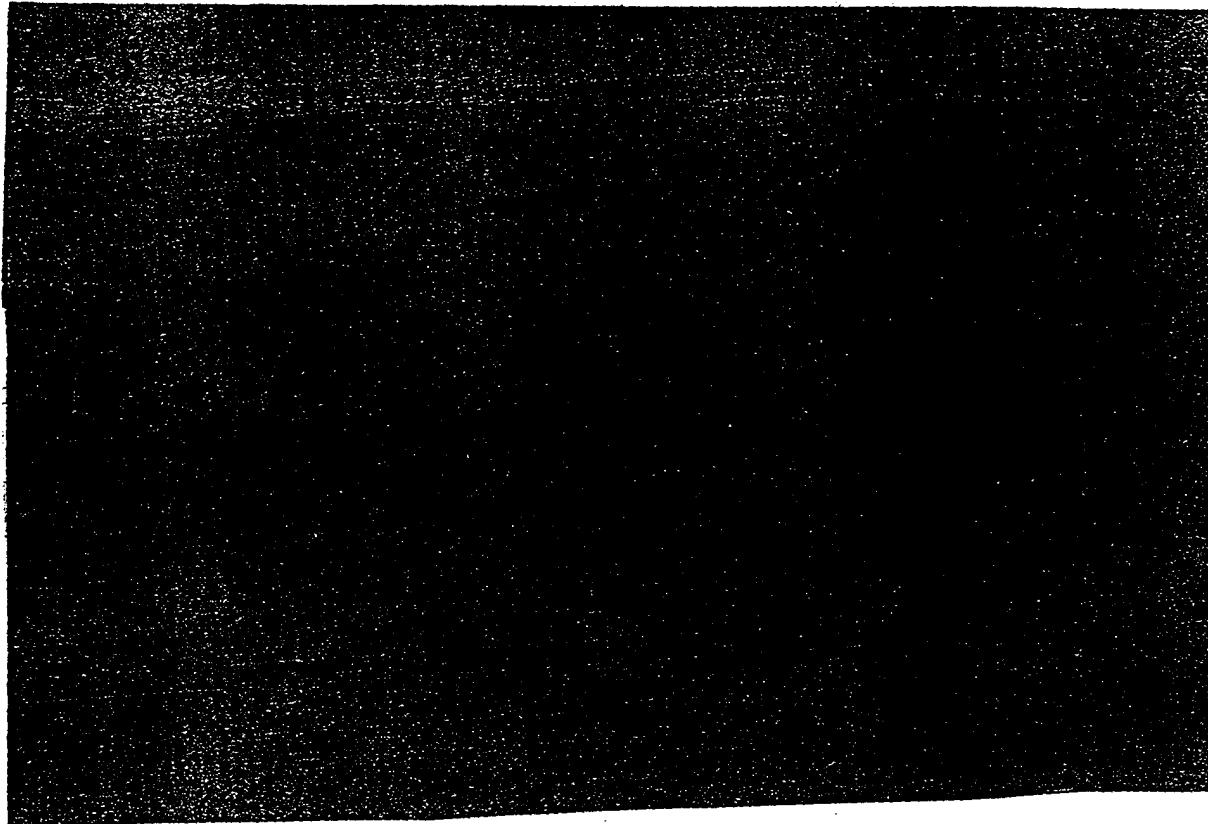
DAILY BRIEF

ii

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painted with US insignia, believes these aircraft might be used in such a move. "The Castro regime has used such tactics before, notably last March when it hired two Americans to stage a flight to Cuba and then used the flight to "prove" US complicity with Cuban "war criminals." The UN General Assembly's Steering Committee will probably take up the Cuban request early next week; Castro himself may return to the UN to press his charges, either there or in plenary session.

*An official of the Cuban Embassy in Ottawa told an American Embassy officer there on 19 October that he believes the Castro regime will respond to the imposition of new US restrictions on exports to Cuba by breaking diplomatic relations.



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DAILY BRIEF

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