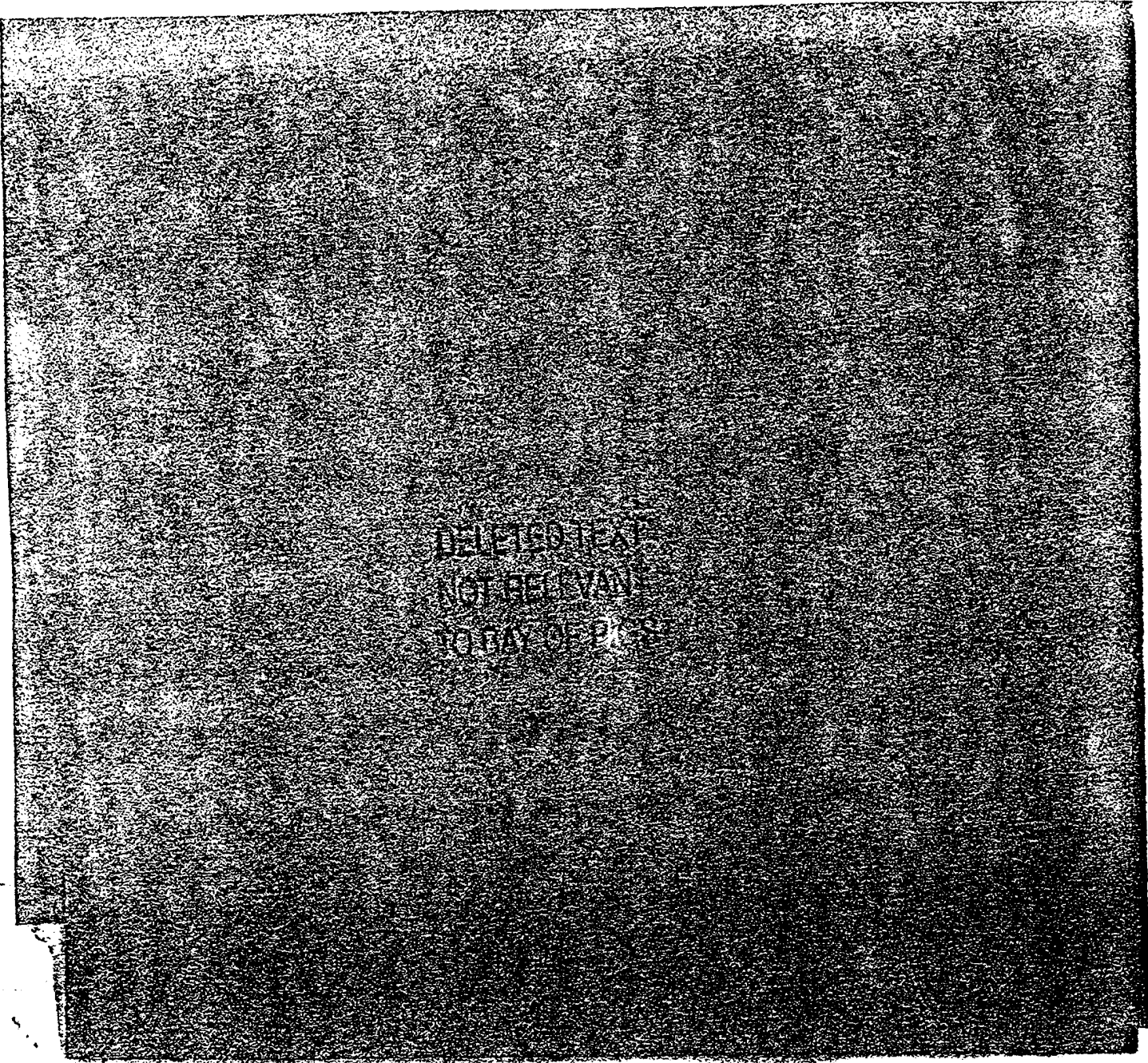


[REDACTED]



DELETED TEXT
NOT RELEVANT
TODAY OF INTEREST

LATIN AMERICAN

2. Colombia's Position on the Cuban Issue: Colombia is seeking Latin American support for its view that Cuba's policies are a threat to the Organization of American States (OAS) rather

4 Aug 60

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE DIGEST
Supplement

Page 1

A HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
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than a mere reflection of Cuba's bilateral conflict with the US. [REDACTED] the Colombian Foreign Ministry presented its evaluation of Cuba as follows: "Other countries are unaware of the gradual deterioration of the Inter-American system" as a result of Cuba's disregard to the OAS charter and Rio Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance; Cuba "needlessly" resorted to the UN and to the political and physical support of the USSR, demonstrating that "its campaign against the United States is owing to a policy rather than a defense of its autonomy;" and the chief threat in the Cuban attitude is its "systematic disregard and challenge to the Inter-American system." The Colombian Government instructed its diplomatic representatives to sound out the attitudes of the governments to which they are accredited. It also recommended that this view be presented to the delegates in the OAS Council and member nations to influence them to abandon their fear of opposing the presumably popular Cuban cause in their countries. Such a fear is known to be partly responsible for the hesitant attitude of some countries in the hemisphere toward the Cuban problem.

Colombian President Lleras, a staunch defender and former secretary general of the OAS, is opposed to Castro's policies and has been a target of Cuban propaganda. A controlled Cuban radio recently branded Lleras an "idiot," which is likely to deepen his hostility.

A group of Colombian congressional representatives meanwhile have reportedly called for a Foreign Ministry report on alleged Cuban pro-Communist activities in Colombia.

[REDACTED]