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INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

ANDEAN PACT ECONOMIC DATA GIVEN

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 13 Apr 77 p 10

[Text] Automotive

The quality of automotive parts manufacturing has improved by 60 percent in Venezuela, according to the executive secretariat of the Venezuelan Commission on Industrial Standards. Specifically, an improvement has been seen in the fabrication of batteries and sparkplugs for vehicles. The automotive sector is the one that has received the most attention from those charged with improving product quality.

Exports

Colombian traditional and nontraditional exports reached \$196 million in the month of January, compared to \$102 million for the same period in 1976. Regarding coffee sales, they were \$65 million in January 1976 and \$162 million in the same month last year [sic].

GIP of the Andean Pact

The Gross Interim Product (GIP) of the Andean Pact totaled \$41.137 billion in 1974. In 1968 the GIP was \$28.996 billion. The growth experienced between 1968 and 1974 was 60 percent. The gross interim product per capita in the Andean Pact totaled \$640. For Bolivia the figure given by the board of the Cartagena Agreement is \$298; Colombia \$327; Ecuador \$482; Peru \$597 and Venezuela \$1,155.

Tobacco

Peru will put 1,000 tons of tobacco on the European market this year. The first 400 tons have been shipped to the countries of that continent. Most of the exportable production comes from the Department of San Martin in the north of Peru.

Financial Cooperation

Bolivia and Ecuador signed an agreement looking toward developing cooperation between the National Financial Corporation of Bolivia and the Center for Industrial Development (CENDES) of Ecuador. The objective of the program is the establishment of an integrated system to strengthen industrial development banking, the creation of a center for productivity and industrial promotion and the execution of a training services program.

Petroleum Income

In 1976 income from petroleum in Venezuela fell because of the increase in costs to the nationalized industry, according to the Ministry of Finance of that country. Income was \$6,513,410,000, compared to \$7,232,000,000 for 1975.

Demographic Projection

Population projection in the Andean Pact indicate that around 1985 the region will have 88,502,000 inhabitants. About 1990 it will have 101,733,000 inhabitants. In the period 1970-1975 the growth of the Andean population was 3 percent. The rural population was 26,323,000 persons in 1975, representing 39.7 percent of the total population.

Aid from UNDP

In the period 1977-1981 the United Nations' Development Program will lend technical assistance to Peru of about \$15 million. The credits are broken down as follows: \$2,100,000 for industry and technology; \$996,000 for international trade; \$2,825,000 for natural resources and energy and \$1,400,000 for farming and nutrition; \$1,012,000 for regional development; \$1,200,000 for education; \$1,100,000 for public administration; \$800,000 for social property and \$21,000 for housing.

Development

The creation of the Colombian-Venezuelan company for working coal deposits has been described as a means to the development of frontier areas. It is estimated that this mixed company could fill the demands of the Venezuelan market that the company working the Naricual Mine, the principal support for the Orinoco steel complex, cannot supply.

9015

CSO: 3010

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

ECONOMIC DATA FOR ANDEAN SUBREGION GIVEN

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 28 Apr 77 p 17

[Text] Cereal Production

The production of cereals reached 591,980 metric tons in Bolivia in 1975, according to the Ministry of Rural and Agricultural Affairs. Land under cultivation reached 519,000 hectares. In regard to wheat, 1975 production was 61,750 tons harvested in an area of 96,860 hectares, with a yield of 803 kilograms per hectare cultivated.

Colombian Trade

Trade with other member countries of the Andean Group increased by 39.8 percent in 1976 compared to 1975. Exports and imports increased from \$352.3 million in 1975 to \$494.6 million in 1976. Colombia's sales to the Andean Group amounted to 15.1 percent of its total exports.

Banana Exports

An Ecuadorean company will export 33,000 tons of bananas to the Soviet Union with a value of nearly 100 million sucres or \$4 million. Last year the government of Ecuador suppressed customs duties on banana exports. At the same time it obliged the producers to improve quality and increase productivity.

Peruvian Investments

About 3 billion sols or \$40 million will be invested in infrastructure works on the first stage of the total Majes project in the department of Arequipa in the South of Peru. According to the authorities in charge of the project, the plans include the irrigation of 60,000 hectares and the settling of 12,000 families.

Venezuelan Petroleum

Venezuelan petroleum production in the first 3 months of 1977 reached 2,364,573 barrels. In relation to 1976, these figures show an increase

of 52,000 barrels per day. The average for all of last year was 2,294,364 barrels.

Coffee Production

The Andean subregion produces 800,000 tons of coffee annually. Coffee exports amount to 23 percent of the total sales of the Andean countries. The work of extraction [as published], harvesting and industrial processing generates almost three million jobs. In a meeting of the Andean Committee of Experts on Coffee Rust, sponsored by the Junta of the Cartagena Agreement and held in Bogota, bases were established for common action to prevent the disease.

Export Capacity

Reports from the Central Bank of Bolivia's Division for Fomenting Exports indicate that in the country there are 46 companies with the capacity to export non-traditional products. Among these are agricultural, handicraft, textile, petrochemical and chemical firms. The division has made a survey of some 100 companies with such export capacity for the purpose of determining what they can offer for export.

Crude Oil Exports Decline

During the months of January and February of this year Ecuador suffered a decline in crude oil exports. Exports amounted to \$75.819 million. The decrease in relation to 1976 was 10 percent, about \$8 million. During the same period of last year sales reached \$83.987 million.

Agricultural Development

According to a decree of the Venezuelan Government, the banking establishment of that country is to finance the agricultural sector with 2.4 billion bolivars (\$550 million) in the first half of 1977. Up to December bank credits reached 5.13 billion bolivars (more than \$1.2 billion). This amounted to 13.6 percent of the total credits granted by the banks.

Coffee Production

Bolivia's export capacity in 1977 will be about 90,000 bags, according to the Bolivian Coffee Committee. The income in foreign exchange from these exports is estimated at about \$28.8 million. In the last 3 years Bolivia has had an average of between 53,000 and 78,000 bags sold abroad.

International Reserves

The Bank of the Republic of Colombia has divulged that at the end of January of this year the country's international reserves amounted to \$1.25 billion. The increase in reserves was \$90 million in relation to 31 December 1976, when reserves amounted to \$1.166 billion. In December of 1968, according to statistics, they only came to \$35 million.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

PARAGUAY SAID ADAMANT ON 50-CYCLE ITAIPU CURRENT

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 6 May 77 p 19 PY

[Text] Itaipu Binacional will have an additional expense of 450 million [presumably dollars] to change the initial plan of the Brazilian-Paraguayan hydroelectric dam. This extra cost will be necessary because Paraguay will not give up its old position regarding the cycle system of the generated energy. Brazil wants 60-cycle turbines (the cycle system used in the country), and Paraguay wants 50-cycle energy. Since this problem is not covered in the contract, the solution--according to a reliable government source yesterday--will be to generate half of the energy in 50 cycles and the other half in 60 cycles.

It was also learned that Paraguayan officials will, under no circumstance, give up the 50-cycle system. According to this same source, there is a tacit agreement between Brazilian and Paraguayan directors of Itaipu Binacional which provides that the final decision on the cycle system will be made by Paraguay. The official report on the final decision is expected to be released within 2 weeks, at the latest.

At this point, it is thought that any pressure exerted by Brazil would be ineffective. The contract with the consortium of companies in charge of the infrastructure will be signed within the next few days, aimed at beginning the second stage. Regarding this contract, there are two factions within the Brazilian Government. One defends the need to continue working on schedule as originally planned. This position is supported by the Itaipu Board, which seems more concerned over the technical aspect of the question.

The other faction defends the position of delaying the project as a means of pressure. In this way it would be easier to convince Paraguay to have all the turbines generating in 60 cycles. The argument used by this second faction is that a good part of the Paraguayan economic structure is directly engaged in projects on the Parana River, and delays in schedule would bring tremendous difficulties in this economy.

"In this way it would be possible to reach an agreement with Paraguay, by offering material and financial compensation."

In fact, the possibility of offering Paraguay special lines of credit to purchase manufactured goods in Brazil has already been briefly discussed. According to the government source, everything indicates that the first faction will win. The negotiations will be concluded, and the contract for the second stage will be signed. This source also noted that once the contracts are signed there will be no chance to change any of the plans. "The list of equipment to be purchased is so long that if money became scarce, only Constructora Camargo Correa would be able to hang on. The other four large national companies would inevitably go bankrupt." Beginning with the second stage, overall expenses could reach \$20 million monthly.

In this context, the tripartite negotiations proposed by Argentina are rejected. Guided by Itamaraty, Brazilian officials reject any interference in negotiations on a project which belongs only to Paraguay and Brazil. Negotiations with Argentina could also mean reducing the generating capacity of Itaipu, and Corpus might be able to increase its head. Paraguay, in exchange, would accept greater Brazilian participation in distributing the energy produced; but Brazil does not accept this proposal.

Meanwhile, the Board of Itaipu Binacional has been meeting since yesterday in Foz de Iguacu. It was learned that this is an ordinary monthly meeting. Proposals by U.S., Japanese and European consortiums to supply the turbines will be discussed at this meeting. Soviet participation in this project is definitely rejected.

CSO: 3001

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

TRILATERAL ENERGY PROBLEM--Talking to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Foreign Minister Azeredo da Silveira has admitted that Brazil is having difficulties in beginning a dialog on the Itaipu Hydroelectric Plant with Argentina. He said that the greatest difficulty lies in Argentina's indecision about what it wants to do with the Corpus project which it intends to build just downriver from Itaipu. The elevation of Itaipu will have a bearing on the output of the Corpus Hydroelectric Plant to be built by Argentina and Paraguay. To solve the problem, the Argentine Government is advocating a trilateral negotiation among Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay. Itamaraty does not agree with that and stands for bilateral negotiations between Brazil and Paraguay and between Argentina and Paraguay. [Text] [Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 18 May 77 PY]

CSO: 3001

BRAZIL

CARTER'S CONFIDENCE IN EUROPE DRAWS COMMENT

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 14 May 77 p 10 PY

[Editorial: "Hope and Confidence"]

[Text] We would certainly like to share President Carter's optimism about the new prospects opened to Western countries by the recent London conference. Carter stated: "The lack of confidence in the future and power of democratic societies could be sensed in the United States and in Europe before the meetings, but it has become clear now that the West is capable of competing with the Soviet Union and the other countries of the communist bloc."

The President humbly refused to accept credit for this sudden, radical and promising change in attitude. But he made a point of indicating two important factors which have greatly contributed to this change: the United States' regaining its position of leadership--which had been greatly weakened by the Vietnam War and the Watergate scandal--and the adoption of the democratic system of government by Portugal (since Spain is still outside NATO [it is not mentioned]). His modesty is, therefore, even more laudable, because, as is known, the political wounds which caused Richard Nixon's fall have been healed and the present Portuguese regime has survived thanks to the new U.S. administration.

It is true that the objectives and the power of the Atlantic Alliance have never been threatened by those problems. It is also true that it is very difficult to understand how a government with obvious political and ideological ties with socialist and "Eurocommunist" regimes can offer NATO greater guarantees of success in the competition with the East than the old Portuguese regime which was radically anti-Marxist.

The new President is also aware of the serious worries which are growing larger in the West over France's drift toward a socialist-Marxist regime (worries which President Giscard d'Estaing's recent pathetic remarks to the press and the tone of the Barre-Mitterrand debate only managed to reinforce). He is also aware of the uncertainties resulting from the existence within the European community of a country, Italy, in which the communist party already has real participation in the government. We can also add that Belgium and the

Netherlands are just emerging from ministerial crisis which cannot be considered totally solved, that minority parties supported by weak coalitions with liberal parties are holding power in Great Britain and the FRG and that, according to a recent statement by a highly responsible person, even the Portuguese regime is not safe from the possibility that the socialist regime may fall. Finally, Spain--which is not a member of NATO but continues to be a member of the Western defensive system (as attested by Vance's recent talks in Madrid)--is not contributing anything to this new "confidence" which Carter claims is emerging, no matter how great the "hope" in the development of its institutions. The electoral campaign in Spain had a bloody beginning, and the arrival of Dolores Ibarruri in Madrid, although having but symbolic value, will only revive the memory and hatred of those who justly consider her responsible for the 1936-39 Civil War.

The optimism is healthy and constructive, and may the next political year in Western Europe confirm Carter's optimism! We also hope that this optimism comes true, and we hope to participate in it; but we cannot yet get rid of the strange feeling that Carter, who campaigned so intensively for his presidency, is still in full electoral campaign--a campaign which he indeed won.

CSO? 3001

BRAZIL

IDEALISM, SUBVERSION BLAMED FOR STUDENT UNREST

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 11 May 77 p 1 PY

[Editorial: "Subversion and Ingenuity"]

[Text] Idealism and ingenuity, manipulated by subversion groups, can be said to be the two causes for the outbreak of the student agitation which is vainly trying to restage the disorder which in the past was imposed on the young students by extremist leaders.

The lack of reasons for the mobilization of groups of university students in Sao Paulo, as a result of which students from other states seek to spread the protest demonstrations, should be enough to expose the inspiration of the movement. The repetition of the agitation can be denounced, however, in all its characteristics, without having to go any further to identify who is responsible and condemn it.

What actually is the cause of the protest? The imprisonment of eight students and laborers from Sao Paulo, charged with distributing subversive pamphlets. They were charged and detained following legal procedures. The investigation process is being conducted with due speed. There has been no report or sign of violence committed against the detainees. The officials stated from the very beginning that the rights of all the detainees were and will be respected. And moreover the court asked for the preventive arrest of five of them only yesterday.

It would be very difficult to imagine any pretext too flimsy in its legality or in its emotional appeal for igniting the fuse of student agitation and spreading it throughout the country.

In spite of the gross artificiality which ideologically poisoned the episode and compelled certain groups of students to hold street demonstrations, the government and security organizations--in Sao Paulo first, and yesterday in Rio de Janeiro--have kept their poise in the responses they made to maintain public order and tranquillity. And to this poise they added effectiveness. The police were used massively, not to increase the level of repression but to achieve the desired quick and dissuasive effect, without resorting to brutality.

The justice minister's note to the governors, following the presidential order, suggests that "preventive measures preferably be taken" against any attempt at student agitation disguised under the forms of rallies, gatherings, or any other indirect or surreptitious demonstrations. The education minister has no doubt that the problem was caused by only an "unimportant minority" at the service of organized subversive agents who have nothing to do with university affairs.

The prudence and caution which, on one hand, marked the government's action will find exactly the same good sense and response by the overwhelming majority of students, incapable of being involved in the communist apparatus which is either acting from a distance or infiltrating the schools. But good sense is not enough for the passive attitude of those students who are simple spectators. It is also necessary to neutralize the means of pressure and of contagion used by the agitators.

In the recent past, the ingenuousness of some and the indifference of others, within the democratic majority, have damaged the future of many students and the Brazilian education system itself. In the Brazil of today, the climate is no longer favorable for such errors among those who are destined to assume the main responsibilities of the country in the future.

CSO: 3001

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

GEISEL DENIES DEMAGOGUERY--Brasilia--President Geisel replied yesterday to what he termed "charges published by some newspapers claiming that I took advantage of the congressional recess to indulge in demagoguery," (referring to the issuance of the decree providing for a 30-day annual leave for workers). He said: "I neither intend nor do I need to indulge in demagoguery. At this stage of my life, at my age, it is too late to indulge in demagoguery." President Geisel made this impromptu statement to union leaders of Rio de Janeiro at Planalto Palace. Earlier, the president of the Federation of Road Transport Workers had thanked him for the 30-day annual leave. In reply to a statement made by Senator Evelasio Vieira (MDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement], Santa Catarina State) who claimed: "The chief of state has lost the leadership of the nation." Senator Eurico Rezende yesterday denied that President Geisel is planning to personally reply to the opposition's criticism. The ARENA [National Renewal Alliance] leader in the senate warned: "The MDB's hasty involvement in the succession process could disrupt the political process." Speaking in the chamber of deputies, Jose Bonifacio admitted: "The issue (succession) will be objectively discussed beginning January 1978 under the coordination of the president of the republic."

ARENA: MONTEIRO FOR PRESIDENT--At the right time the name of retired Army General Euler Bentes Monteiro may be brought into the presidential succession picture by some of the most influential and respected ARENA congressmen. At a time when it seems increasingly difficult to realine the revolution with the democratic principles which were its original banners and to overcome the unprecedented level of resentment and distrust between the opposition and the government--some congressmen argue--who can be less controversial than someone with the qualifications of General Monteiro to begin a process of national reconciliation? When General Monteiro retired 2 months ago upon reaching the age of 60 and upon completing 11 years in grade, he received an unprecedented bipartisan testimonial from the senate. This testimonial took on great political significance, not only because it was unprecedented but also because it was a unique occasion--in a period of political radicalism and intransigence frequently rocking politico-congressional activity--when the MDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement], as a political party, participated in a testimonial to a general whose loyalty to the revolution has never been questioned. [Excerpt] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 12 May 77 p 8 PY]

COLOMBIA

URRUTIA: 100 NEW WELLS PLANNED FOR THIS YEAR

ECOPETROL Program

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 17 Apr 77 p 1-A, 6-B

[Text] The minister of mines, Miguel Urrutia Montoya, has reported that the government plans to explore 100 oil wells this year.

Urrutia Montoya explained that this constitutes the most ambitious petroleum program in the last 15 years.

The program is being carried out by the Colombian Petroleum Enterprise (ECOPETROL) which will encounter no obstacles, thanks to its good financial situation, reflected in a 40 percent increase in its capital.

In 1976, 17 wells were drilled, more than the 11 drilled in 1975, but fewer than the average of 19 wells per year during the last 10 years.

A document from the ministry indicated that, due to the absence of new deposits, proven petroleum reserves--that is recoverable volumes that can be produced under present production conditions--decreased 10 percent. At present, these reserves are only 473 million barrels.

Also in 1976, the volume of oil processed by the country's refineries increased slightly over 1975 (2.6 percent), from 154,982 barrels a day to 158,617 barrels a day in 1976. Due to the decrease in domestic production, it became necessary to import 39,812 barrels a day to maintain an adequate supply of crude oil.

The deficit between supply of domestic gasoline production and demand has been covered by imports, which in 1976 averaged 7,150 barrels a day, as against 5,511 barrels a day in 1975.

Importations of crude and refined oil together (47,166 barrels a day in 1976) represented 28 percent of the domestic demand of both products. If fuel and petrochemical exports are deducted from the aforementioned figure (24,513 barrels a day), a net import volume of 22,653 barrels a day is obtained for 1976.

The total consumption of gasoline (regular and extra), which was 59,000 barrels a day in 1975, increased 6.1 percent, to 62,600 barrels a day last year.

From 1975 to 1976, personnel employed in the petroleum industry rose from 5,328 employees to 5,370. Laborers decreased from 5,624 to 5,451. Salaries earned by employees increased from 1,040 million pesos to 1,242 million pesos (19.4 percent), while wages paid to the laborers, though less, rose from 480 million pesos to 777 million pesos, or 34.1 percent more.



Miguel Urrutia

Immediate Goal: 16 New Wells

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 13 Apr 77 p 1-A, 7-A

[Text] The government has announced the immediate exploration of 16 new oil wells and production of increased crude oil, a campaign directed toward overcoming--as a medium range goal--the serious fuel shortage that the country is experiencing.

This ambitious program, which will be carried out during the remainder of the first half of this year, encompasses investments from the government and from foreign firms worth 1,370 million pesos, that is, approximately \$37 million.

The new policy was consolidated, thanks to the interest spurred among the transnational companies by the government's decision to recognize international prices for new crude oil found within its national territories.

The Colombian Petroleum Enterprise (ECOPETROL) told EL ESPECTADOR the number and names of the wells that will be explored, the areas in which they are located and the international companies that will undertake the ambitious project in association with Colombian capital.

The state enterprise anticipates that a similar effort will be made during the second half of 1977, fulfilling the goal set by the minister of mines and energy, Miguel Urrutia Montoya, of exploring at least 30 new wells this year.

The Companies

The partnership agreements and consequent projects of exploring for crude oil in various regions of the national territory have been signed and will be executed with the following firms: Intercol, Texas Petroleum Company, Webb-Resources, of the United States; Colbras (Colombo-Brazilian Enterprise), Aquitaine Colombie, Phillips and Chevron.

We should clarify the fact that, as indicated previously, this is a highly exploratory project, that may well have satisfactory or unsatisfactory results.

Meanwhile, the Colombian Petroleum Enterprise stressed the fact that imports--of crude oil as well as gasoline--will continue to be made in the same quantities anticipated at the beginning of this year.

The above means that 39,400 barrels are being imported daily,--30,600 of petroleum and 8,700 of gasoline--giving a total of approximately 14.4 million barrels during the whole year, at a cost of \$220 million.

Exploratory Wells

According to information supplied by ECOPETROL, the exploratory wells are the following:

Intercol will begin to drill a well in the La Uribe area, in the department of Meta, which has quite an interesting structure, according to preliminary opinions of foreign and Colombian specialists.

The Texas Company will begin drilling two new wells in the department of La Guajira within the next 60 days.

Within the next few days, the latter firm will also reinstate drilling of the well called "Caribe Uno" located off the coast of Cartagena. Drilling of this well had to be suspended temporarily due to damage to the ship "Glomar-II," which belongs to that firm and suffered some damage due to the bad weather that occurred in the area.

The American firm of Webb Resources has just transferred its drilling equipment to the Opon area, where it will begin to drill a well called "Guayacan Uno" within the next few days. Like the one located in the La Uribe, it shows promising characteristics.

In the department of Huila, the firm of Colbras will drill two wells, while Aquitaine Colombie will drill one more well in the Cienaga area--called the "Caraballo" and another in the Upper Magdalena.

In the Casanare area, Phillips will drill the "Cumara1" well.

Chevron will develop similar exploratory work on the "Fortaleza" well, also located in the Casanare region. Likewise, it will explore another deposit in the area of Retiro in the department of Magdalena.

The "Rio Lebrija Uno" well will be explored by Intercol in the Middle Magdalena area.

The Colombian Petroleum Enterprise, at its own expense and risk, will initiate exploration of three wells called "Peroles," "Salvadera" and "Regalo," for which it already has the necessary equipment. These wells are near the environs of the Mares Concession.

The total cost of these explorations is approximately \$30 million, and includes drilling only.

In addition, the Colombian Petroleum Enterprise reported that it presently has 34 wells for incremental development, with an average production value of \$800,000 each.

He explained that the average cost of these wells is much less, due to the fact that these are secondary recovery operations. Some 22 of these wells are located in the Middle Magdalena area and the remaining 12 in the northern area, that is, in the departments along the coast of Colombia.

8631

CSO: 3010

COLOMBIA

CERROMATOSO NICKEL PLANT NEARLY READY

Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 20 Apr 77 p 3

/Text/ Next September the most ambitious program for utilizing the country's nickel deposits will be put into effect, when construction of the Cerromatoso plant is begun.

Fernando Diaz Bueno, general manager of the Colombian Nickel Enterprise (ECONIQUEL), said likewise that at the end of this month a delegation from the Hanna Mining Corporation will visit the capital and that details for implementing the project will be finalized with them.

An investment of on the order of \$250 million will be required to begin production from the Cerromatoso deposits, which are located in the department of Cordoba.

Diaz Bueno told EL SIGLO that feasibility studies were completed last year and the search for financing began immediately to execute the proposal. Corresponding engineering contracts have already been agreed upon.

"At the moment," he stated, "we are concluding the arrangement of some financial matters, but we are confident that we will begin to execute the project before next September."

Financing for the program, which, as noted, will amount to \$250 million, will be covered with \$50 million from ECONIQUEL's associates and with loans from the World Bank, other sources and from some national banks.

Diaz Bueno indicated that relations with Hanna, that is, its foreign counterpart, are progressing normally, which guarantees that the program will be executed.

At the moment, we said, we are advancing the infrastructure projects that correspond to an enterprise of this nature, such as building roads and housing for the workers and technicians from the Montelibano Plant in Cordoba.

COLOMBIA

PESO DEVALUATION, NEW EXCHANGE CONTROLS ANNOUNCED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 20 Apr 77 p 1-A, 6-A

[Article by Fernando Barrero: "Colombian Peso Partially Devalued Yesterday"]

[Text] The government yesterday issued new regulations for the exchange system that include a partial devaluation of the Colombian peso as against the dollar.

As an immediate effect, more than 4 billion pesos will be kept out of circulation.

Abdon Espinosa Valderrama, minister of finance, explained that beginning today, exchange certificates will be physically issued. This was the intent when the 1967 decree law 444 was issued.

But until yesterday, only a bookkeeping entry was made in the credit institutions. Now, as of today, they will be issued with an expiration date of 180 days.

They will be freely negotiable, either directly or through credit institutions. In effect, this means that there will be an exchange market.

The certificates will be delivered by the Bank of the Republic in payment for all foreign currency it receives. That is, for exports of coffee, services and non-traditional products, but with one difference.

In the case of payments for non-traditional exports, the Bank will purchase them for pesos any day within their term of duration.

With reimbursements for coffee and services (among them those purchased on the so-called "black market") there will be another

procedure: the certificates will be convertible 30 days after they are issued, at the rate of exchange in effect the day of their sale.

But if the payee does not wish to wait the 30 days, the Bank will then buy these certificates at a 10 percent discount, and this will go into a special foreign exchange account.

For example, a tourist arrives at the Bank of the Republic with \$100 and wants to exchange it. At yesterday's rate of \$36.50 he should receive 3,650 pesos. The certificates would be given to him on 19 May (within 30 days) and he would receive the 3,650 pesos that day.

But if he wanted the money immediately, then he would receive 10 percent less (in this case, 365 pesos less). Thus, in effect, he would be given 3,285 pesos, which supposes a rate of 32.85 pesos to the dollar. Here is where the partial devaluation of the peso comes in. This procedure will be applied to exports of coffee, services and repayment of foreign loans. So as not to discourage the sales of non-traditional products, the system will not be applied to these certificates, which will be paid immediately at the rate of exchange in effect the day of the transaction.

Minister Espinosa Valderrama estimated that for 30 days beginning today, \$100 million, or something like 4 billion Colombian pesos, will not be converted, which is "a direct consequence of the effects of the monetary policy."

Espinosa indicated that the regulation is the "most important one regarding exchange policy in Colombia since 1967."

The measure was well received among financial circles. Ernesto Samper Pizano, president of the National Association of Financial Institutions (ANIF) stated that other objectives in addition to those noted by the government are being pursued.

1) To decelerate the conversion of dollars into pesos; 2) To create possibilities for investing in dollars, and 3) To take the first step toward the coffee differential proposed by that association.

In turn, Eduardo Arias Robledo, president of the Banking Association, promised an in-depth study of the matter in order to express concrete opinions about its scope.

The Resolution

The text of Resolution 25, by which the new banking procedure was adopted, is as follows:

Article 1. The Bank of the Republic will issue "Certificates of Exchange" against delivery of the full amount of the foreign currency acquired by it, whether the sale is made through credit institutions or directly by individuals or corporations.

Article 2. Beginning 20 April 1977, the "Certificates of Exchange" that the Bank of the Republic issues will have an expiration date of 180 days beginning the date of issue.

Article 3. During their term of duration, the "Certificates of Exchange" will be freely negotiable by their beneficiaries or holders, either directly or through the credit institutions authorized by the Banking Superintendent to acquire, possess or negotiate them.

The "Certificates of Exchange" can likewise be exchanged for foreign drafts during their duration, after presentation of the respective exchange licenses.

Article 4. In conformance with provisions of article 21 of Decree Law 444 of 1967, the Bank of the Republic is authorized to intervene as a buyer on the "Exchange Certificates" market, within the following guidelines.

1. To support their quotation, the bank will purchase "Exchange Certificates" issued less than 30 days previously at a discount of 10 percent on the market rate for certificates the day of the purchase.
2. When the "Exchange Certificates" have been issued less than 30 days before, the Bank of the Republic will acquire them at the rate quoted on the certificates market the day of the purchase.
3. In the case of "Exchange Certificates" originating from payments for exports of goods other than coffee, the Bank of the Republic will purchase them, whatever their date of issue, at the price quoted on the certificates market the day of the purchase.

Article 5. Payable "Exchange Certificates" will be acquired by the Bank of the Republic, in accordance with the procedure anticipated by article 23 of Decree Law 444 of 1967, and consistent practices.

Article 6. As an exception to the provisions in Article 1 of this resolution, the Bank of the Republic is authorized to exchange directly for legal currency the foreign exchange income coming from services, when sold directly to the Bank or through duly authorized credit institutions. In this case, the Bank of the Republic will buy the foreign currency at the same discount anti-

cipated for the purchase of "Exchange Certificates" issued less than 30 days previously.

Persons who sell foreign currency originating from services instead of following the procedure stated in the previous paragraph, may request that the corresponding "Exchange Certificates" be issued to them, in which case the general system noted in the preceding articles will be applied.

Article 7. The Bank of the Republic and the Banking Superintendent will adopt measures to ensure the proper application of the present resolution.

Article 8. This resolution annuls articles 8 and 9 of Resolution 13 of 1967, and article 4 of Resolution 24 of 1968, and any other provisions which may be contrary to it.

Article 9. The present resolution will become effective beginning 20 April 1977.

The Procedure

The assistant foreign exchange manager of the Bank of the Republic, Oscar Alviar, yesterday sent to branches and agencies of the country's credit institutions, the following regulation circular explaining the procedure that should be followed with the new provision.

The Monetary Board, via Resolution No. 25/77, effective as of 20 April of this year, has determined the following policy for purchasing exchange and issuing and using Exchange Certificates:

All foreign currency that the Bank of the Republic buys, for any item, whatever the amount, whether directly from private parties or through the credit institutions, will be exchanged for "Exchange Certificates" in denominations of U.S. dollars.

The "Exchange Certificates" will have a maturity of 180 days, beginning the date they are issued.

Within this period, the Exchange Certificates, whatever their origin, may be used for foreign drafts, with presentation of the corresponding exchange license.

Likewise, holders may negotiate them for Colombian pesos as follows:

1. On the market with private parties and financial middlemen.

2. With the Bank of the Republic, either directly or through credit institutions. In this case, the following possibilities may occur.

a) Exchange Certificates originating from exports of goods other than coffee, that is, those known as "minor exportations," will be purchased on any date at the rate of exchange currently in effect at the time of the transaction.

b) For those originating from exports of coffee, services, debts or any item other than minor exports, the procedure will be as follows.

1. Within the first 30 days of their issuance, at a 10 percent discount on the exchange rate in effect the date of sale to the Bank of the Republic.

ii. For 150 days following the initial 30 days, without a discount on the exchange rate in effect the day of the sale to the Bank of the Republic.

c) Certificates that have expired, that is, when the 180 days are up, will be purchased by the Bank of the Republic in accordance with the procedure anticipated in Article 23 of Decree Law 444/67.

Issuance

The titles will be issued to the order of the interested parties, whether an intermediary financial institution or a private party. For this they will use blank forms, of which we have sent an approximate quantity to be used while they order more in accordance with their needs.

These certificates of title, being negotiable documents, require the greatest vigilance on the part of our officials, and to effect the required controls on their processing and payment. The blank form is composed of:

Original, negotiable, for the interested party. It should carry the same securities required for checks from abroad.

Duplicate, verifying credit to the account of Exchange Certificates. They will open a subsidiary account called "Monetary Board Resolution No. 25/77."

Triplicate, control copy, that will serve as a basis for the visa when the original is presented for collection.

Quadruplicate, for the Auditor's Office, that will be attached to the daily entry sheet.

For greater clarity, we have indicated to them that the amount should remain protected by its value in dollars. In the space marked "term of duration from" and "to" they will note the initial date of issue and the final date, after 180 days, using a 360-day business year as a basis. This data should remain in the new titles when a split is made.

With Exchange Certificates issued for payment of exports of goods other than coffee, it should be clearly specified that they correspond to that item, with the notation "minor exports" and the number of the liquidation, which they will note below the number. Also, they should punch the copy at letter A, which corresponds to these exports. When they correspond to other items, they will punch letter B.

In accordance with Article 6 of the above-mentioned Resolution, foreign exchange income from "services" can be exchanged for Exchange Certificates or for legal currency through the cashier's office of the Bank, or by request to authorized credit establishments. In this case, a 10 percent discount will also be made, as mentioned in Article 4 of Resolution 25/77. The item of "services" includes those corresponding to paragraphs 1 to 8 of Resolution No. 2 of the Board of Directors of the Bank of the Republic.

The Exchange Certificates may only be negotiated in the town or city in which they are issued. However, they may be sent as a remittance for collection when an individual plans to negotiate them in another city.

The Exchange Certificates originating from minor exports and coffee may be transferred to another city in the customary way, indicating all the details of issuance of the title.

Our branch offices will continue to require that forms 386 and 387 be filled out, as well as registered in the Exchange Office, in accordance with the provisions of the Monetary Board's Resolution No. 12/77.

A commission of 10 pesos will be charged for each new title when one is divided.

By order of the Exchange Office, the foreign exchange returned by commercial banks in carrying out the provisions of the Monetary Board's Resolution 59/77 will be liquidated in pesos at the current price quoted when the foreign draft is issued.

Foreign currency received by credit institutions before 20 April and delivered to the Bank of the Republic for posting on that date, will be liquidated at the rate of exchange fixed by the Exchange Certificate the day of purchase by those institutions.

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CSO: 3010

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

NUCLEAR ELECTRIC PLANT--Yesterday the government announced that it has begun feasibility studies for installing the first nuclear electric power plant in Colombia. The plant will utilize the country's rich deposits of uranium. Ernesto Villarreal, director of the Institute for Nuclear Affairs, indicated that these studies are being carried out by technical organizations employed by the Ministry of Mines and Energy. This investigation will indicate whether economic and technical factors justify the construction of the plant and, if feasible, its location, size and generating capacity. Villarreal explained that this type of project requires a long period of time for study and execution. It is calculated that if construction is approved, the plant would begin to operate around 1990. He also stressed the fact that a contract has been initiated with the French firm, Minatome, to search for and locate uranium within our national boundaries. Within the next few days, another contract will be signed with the Spanish firm of Enusa, based on an agreement made a few weeks ago between the governments of Colombia and Spain for joint exploration and production of uranium from deposits which, according to initial studies, are of great magnitude. [Text] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 15 Apr 77 p 6-A] 8631

CSO: 3010

CUBA

PUERTO RICAN STATEHOOD PLAN CRITICIZED

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 10 Apr 77 pp 22-23

[Article by Manuel Onelio: "Feet in the Bog"]

[Text] The interview took place in the middle of a professional boxing event in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Radio Caracas Television asked the opinion of the new colonial governor about the annexation plan proposed to the Senate by Gerald Ford in one of his political blunders. The pro-United States Carlos Romero Barcelo did not hesitate to answer as the most foresighted press agent for the "American way of life" would do: "I believe that former President Ford's proposal has been a great help to the people of Puerto Rico because it put us on the front page of all the newspapers, not only in the United States but all over the world and it has aroused an extraordinary interest in our country."

But Romero Barcelo has a bad memory and has forgotten what happened in the territory of Texas, taken by the United States from Mexico. He has forgotten the Canal enclave. He also does not remember what the people of Albizu Campos are really interested in. He leaned back in his seat, still excited about the fight which has just ended between light weight boxers Esteban de Jesus, from Puerto Rico, and Serrucho Yamabe, from Japan.

Such a statement does not surprise us, if we bear in mind that the recently elected colonial governor is the leader of the PNP [New Progressive Party] which fully supports the incorporation of Puerto Rico into the United States. The PNP in one of the clauses of its political platform, supports the incorporation of Puerto Rico as the 51st state of the union.

The former mayor of San Juan, a loyal servant of the most reactionary interests, also declared that the statehood proposal has helped to increase tourism on the island. Now, when there is a big snowstorm in the United States,--he said--when the Americans think of visiting some tropical

country, the first thing they do is to decide to go to Puerto Rico because they have read about it in the newspapers. Of course, while thousands of American tourists crowd the refreshing beaches of the island, some 33 percent of the Puerto Rican families in the United States are living below the so-called "poverty line."

The increase in tourism is one of the many advantages the reactionary Romero Barcelo sees in statehood, while he rubs his hands with delight when thinking that as governor he is preparing the ground for the Yankee petroleum interests which want to turn Puerto Rico into the number 19 petroleum-producing country of the world.

According to the statistics of the Planning Committee of the colonial government itself, in 1975 direct U.S. investments in the island amounted to 6.3 million dollars, which according to the 1975 U.S. STATISTICAL ABSTRACT generated 47.9 percent of all of the profits made by Yankee transactions in Latin America. This is not unknown to Romero Barcelo, nor is it unknown to the Puerto Rican people who suffer in their own flesh from the abuse of the imperialists.

But what can we expect from a creature of such moral poverty when he says that Puerto Rico would become the Spanish-speaking state of the United States and that through this the Latin Americans would have a foot in the United States. So great an advantage does the stupid pro-Yankee see in attempting to plunge Puerto Rican feet into the U.S. bog.

8339

CSO: 3010

CUBA

COUNTERCAMPAIGN DECRIES U.S. ABUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Outrages in Vietnam Condoned by U.S.

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 20 Apr 77 p 6

[Text] When we were small, our parents used to tell us stories, events that occurred during national wars and anecdotes. We never forgot the one about a thief who was caught in the act. He started running and yelling: "After the thief! After the thief! After the thief!" He tricked the passers-by who were chasing him and yelling the same thing. When there were many pursuers, they became confused and he disappeared, thus evading his original pursuers.

Imperialism wants to use this stratagem now, running to defend "human rights" in order to evade the peoples who pursue it--the executor of a policy that completely ignores human rights. In addition, it protects the most repugnant regimes that are characterized precisely by a total lack of human rights. However, it will not succeed like the thief in the fable did.

If you want us to talk about human rights, we will talk about human rights!

The imperialist press has begun a campaign to demonstrate that human rights are violated in Vietnam. The North American Government has used its propaganda machine to wage a slander campaign to discredit the humanitarian Vietnamese policy toward former soldiers and officials of the overthrown puppet regime.

The prime human right of the people is not to be exploited by anyone. Their sweat is not converted into profits in order to make the rich richer and the poor poorer. That is the most sacred human right of man and the basis of all other rights. The Vietnamese people obtained it through fire and blood and with world solidarity. There is no longer exploitation of man by man in Vietnam.

Vietnam obtained the human right to live in a free, sovereign and independent country forever.



KEY: 1. You have no morals, Mister. 2. Human rights.

The Vietnamese obtained the right to live as one with their victorious reunification.

Now the Vietnamese people have the right to work and unemployment has ended. They have the right to study; illiteracy will soon be eliminated. They have the right to public health; endemic diseases that they suffered under all the exploiting regimes will be wiped out.

We invite the imperialists to tell whether the existence of all these human rights obtained by the Vietnamese people can be guaranteed in their countries or in those of the regimes that they support. We believe that the invitation is superfluous. They cannot even guarantee a single one of these rights. Exploitation, unemployment, lack of culture, illiteracy, death and inflation assail those people daily.

It is ridiculous for the masterminds who had "tiger cages"--symbols of "Yankee civilization"--in Poulo Condor, who launched more than 10 million tons of bombs and shells against the Vietnamese people and who constructed thousands of jails and strategic hamlets to say today that they feel sorry for the Vietnamese people.

In Vietnam today more than 95 percent of the military and civilian personnel of the defeated Siagon regime are free and enjoy their rights as citizens. Even the president, vice president, prime minister, vice prime ministers, ministers, vice ministers and generals from the old regime come under that policy. The number of soldiers and officials of the old regime that are still in reeducation classes gets smaller each day.

Less than 5 percent are officials who reached the peak of corruption in the North American "Green Beret" units. They received instructions from their Yankee trainers and committed every type of atrocity from burning towns to killing men, women and children. Those who remain in prison are not psychologically or physically abused. They all enjoy the right to visits and packages from their relatives.

How different it is in Chile, Rhodesia, South Africa and Thailand, Imperialists! These are only some of the many regimes that you support and protect.

Socialism cannot be compared to fascism. The first law in socialism is the increasing satisfaction of the growing material, cultural and spiritual needs of the people. The entire world has learned from Hitler, Pinochet, Ian Smith and John Balthasar Vorster the first law of the fascists: death, hunger, poverty and exploitation of every type.

If you want us to talk about human rights, we will talk about human rights, Imperialists!

Blacks in the United States

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 21 Apr 77 p 6

[Text] Two recent violations of the civil and human rights of two black citizens substantiate the fact that discrimination, racism and repression are integral elements of life in the United States.



KEY: 1. Here, take your rights.

One case occurred in Boston, capital of the northeastern state of Massachusetts, where a black girl, Ella Ellison, was sentenced to life imprisonment without appeal.

In the trial this young mother of four children was accused of being an accomplice in a bank robbery that took place in a Boston suburb.

Ellison was arrested 4 months after three men were arrested for the crime. Two of the men were offered a shorter sentence if they named a fourth accomplice.

One of those arrested, a neighbor of Ellison, mentioned her; thus began a chain of events that led to the life imprisonment of the young girl.

In spite of the fact that local organizations defending Ellison had alleged witnesses who admitted perjury, the girl was sentenced to life imprisonment and was denied appeal.

Another violation of civil rights was the case of a black youth, Clide Kenard, who went to Mississippi from Chicago, Illinois, to study at the state university.

Kenard was rejected by the college officials because of "the color of his skin" and he legally demanded his rights.

The only response he got was to be arrested "for disturbing the peace" and sent to jail where he died in still unexplained circumstances after being beaten by the guards.

The case of Kenard and other similar cases were collected by writer John Griffin in his recent book "Now Is the Time to Be People" in which he relates that the present United States system does not even need racist elements to attack the black people.

The writer points out that racism has invented systems like the cases mentioned that permit citizens to be killed psychologically, spiritually and intellectually every day.

In 1959 Griffin changed the color of his skin and lived 6 weeks as a black.

He used those experiences later to write his first book "Black Like Me" in which he related the discrimination that he himself suffered.

A few days ago a judge in the New Hanover, North Carolina, district refused a request to release on bail a group of prisoners known as "The Wilmington Ten" who have been imprisoned since 1972 for civil rights activities.

One of the 10 people who were condemned to sentences totaling 282 years is Reverend Ben Chavis.

Chavis whose cause is supported by liberal and progressive organizations recently asked President James Carter to release all political prisoners in the United States.

Braceros in the United States

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 22 Apr 77 p 6

[Text] The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR calls the almost 2 million braceros in the United States "the most wretched and unfortunate part of the population." The overwhelming majority of them do not have permanent jobs and are employed only a few days or a few weeks.

The salaries of these migrant workers are low and unstable and working conditions are very oppressive. The agricultural workers receive much less for their work than do industrial workers in spite of the fact that they do heavy and hard work up to 17 hours a day. This also reveals the racial discrimination in North American society. The blacks in southern states receive less than do white agricultural workers for the same work and their annual incomes are 32 percent lower.

The exploitation of foreign workers is outrageous. The practice of importing manpower from Mexico, Jamaica, the Bahamas and other regions to do seasonal agricultural work has existed in the United States for a long time. In 1975 8,400 workers arrived by contract from Jamaica to harvest the cane crops in the southeastern states.

Along with the workers who receive permission to enter the country across the Mexican border during the harvesting period every year, many Mexicans enter illegally. Official North American statistics ignore their work and the North American Government ignores their existence as well as their inhumane working conditions.

Agricultural workers are not included in the unemployment compensation program. They can only receive benefits in three states, in the District of Columbia and in Puerto Rico. The heavy work outside and the long workday lead to a sickness rate that is 120 percent higher among agricultural workers than among industrial workers.

They basically catch diseases provoked by cold and dampness. Recently because of the wide use of poisonous chemical substances, there have been many respiratory diseases. The agricultural workers do not receive any compensation for occupational diseases. In the United States there is no real medical insurance program for agricultural workers. Their housing and living conditions will not withstand close scrutiny. They mainly live with their families in cold, dilapidated shacks without any simple

comforts. Their children work in the fields under the same conditions as the adults and frequently they do not have the opportunity to go to school.

In recent years the braceros have been fighting harder and harder for improved labor conditions, increased pay and guaranteed employment.

GRANMA Picks Up IZVESTIYA Article on Subject

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 22 Apr 77 p 6

[Text] Moscow, 21 Apr (PL)--The evening newspaper IZVESTIYA stated that the role that the United States wants to assume as moral policeman to the world pertaining to human rights is covered with hypocrisy.

The newspaper had an article by Vitalia Kobis from New York stating that the expression "moral policeman to the world" was popularized by the magazine U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT. It was on its cover with a big question mark.

It cited the case of Latvian Hans Hasner who resides in Long Island, New York, and participated for many years in the programs aimed at Soviet Latvia by Radio Free Europe, an affiliate of the CIA.

Hasner came to the United States in 1950. It was known that he was an officer in the Latvian SS troops formed by the Nazis. He played a major role in the extermination of Soviet citizens in Riga and other cities in the USSR.

The war criminal was used by the CIA until recently when it became impossible to hide the fact that he had killed or burned alive hundreds of old people, women and children.

IZVESTIYA noted that Hasner's story is repugnant but, at the same time, symbolic. The CIA used a Nazi, a war criminal, to "moralize" to other people.

The newspaper questioned the official North American meanings of rights, freedom and morality.

It asked about the regime in Paraguay which was fostered by Washington. Henchmen there, trained in the "art" of assassination in the U.S. military academies, commit outrages.

The newspaper also recalled the tragedy in Guatemala--a country where the elections were corrected by North American bombings--the situation in the Dominican Republic with Trujillo and the situation in Cuba during the time of the tyrant Fulgencio Batista.

That is the traditional North American policy and its morality according to the newspaper.

It added that the men on the Potomac deliberate about "rights and freedoms" when on the same continent they have people dying in Chile after the CIA instrumented the military coup against the Popular Unity Government and the assassination of President Salvador Allende.

The newspaper indicated that millions of North Americans were dragged into the whirlpool of aggression in Indochina. In Vietnam criminal types like Lieutenant Calley were not the only killers; the inhumane system that sent them is also responsible.

It concluded that that system installs fascism in Chile or resorts to genocide as in Indochina when it is convenient. These are the freedom, rights and morality that the United States proclaims.

7717

CSO: 3010

CUBA

SENATOR HUMPHREY FAULTED ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 12 Apr 77 p 4

[Article by Miguel Enrique]

[Text] According to Senator Hubert Humphrey, the "concern of the government for human rights throughout the world reflects the historical interest of Americans in life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

A nice phrase, but...the senator seems to be exaggerating quite a bit and making an unfounded absolute statement when he says "...Americans."

We should remember that Mr Humphrey was vice president under Lyndon B. Johnson and supported each of his moves in the genocide against the people of Vietnam that cut down hundreds of thousands of lives.

This fact in itself prevents him from numbering himself among the Americans who love life, liberty and pursue happiness.

Unfortunately the case of this senator is not the only one in the United States. A campaign is now going on in Massachusettes to get Ella Ellison out of jail.

The committee that heads the campaign describes her case as "a brilliant example of the injustices that are committed every day."

Ella Ellison is a 28-year old black woman and a mother of 4 children who was sentenced to life imprisonment for supposedly having taken part in an armed assault that resulted in the death of a policeman.

It wasn't enough for the witnesses to have told the court that the young woman was innocent. Ella Ellison has been in jail for 2 years and she has not been granted a rehearing.

Another example of how human rights are respected in the United States is the case of black activist Assata Chakur, who was sentenced to life imprisonment for the death of a policeman.

The all-white jury found her guilty even though the murder weapon did not show any of the young woman's fingerprints.

One year after the verdict, the man who was with Assata Chakur on the day of the event was sentenced to life imprisonment for the death of the same policeman. Nonetheless, she has spent 15 months in an underground cell of the New Brunswick, New Jersey jail, and a review of her case has not been completed.

As we can see, it is not only Senator Humphrey who, because of his actions, cannot be included among the Americans who respect human rights, love life, liberty and pursue happiness.

The cases of Ella Ellison and Assata Chakur, among many others, are proof of it.

8743

CSO: 3010

CUBA

CATHOLIC PRIEST DECRIES LACK OF HUMAN RIGHTS UNDER CASTRO

Lima GENTE in Spanish 29 Apr 77 p 45

[Article by Catholic priest Salomon Bolo Hidalgo]

[Text] On 10 April 1977, a number of newspapers published a cable from EFE [SPANISH PRESS AGENCY] reporting that Fidel Castro, the dictator of Cuba, had said, "In order to talk about human rights, it is necessary to begin by being a socialist--actually, by being a communist."

That statement reveals not only ignorance but also sectarianism. Fidel is totally mistaken.

Few people in Peru have praised and defended Fidel as the writer of these lines has done.

Unfortunately, with the passing of the years, Fidel has shown more and more clearly that he is an idol of clay. From being the victor over Batista, he has turned into a slave of Soviet imperialism, a nepotist, and a megalomaniac. He thinks he is the world's policeman: the man who bestows or revokes people's diplomas as revolutionaries. Who is second in command in Cuba--the chief of the Cuban Armed Forces? The dictator's brother. Who holds top rank in feminine affairs? The dictator's sister-in-law. Who has been the only supreme candidate for 18 years? The dictator himself. Is all that "socialism"? Which socialism? Because there are many kinds of socialism, although Fidel seems to be familiar with only one, even though everyone knows about the profound disagreements between Chinese socialism and Soviet social imperialism.

We will not linger here over the shameful applause with which Fidel greeted Soviet imperialism's invasion of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. Neither will we dwell on how ridiculous Cuba looks trying to impose its rules on the whole world when it has neither the physical size nor the intellectual and scientific stature of a country such as the United States, for example. Let us go straight to the specific issue of human rights.

Fidel is wrong in the first place when he wants to view everything solely from the capitalist or communist standpoint, without being able to understand

that above economic designations there stand intellectual, moral, and humanist classifications.

Fidel is wrong when he tries to ignore history and make it appear that human rights are the handiwork of socialism (and we insist: he does not say which of the many kinds of socialism he means) when in fact they are quite simply the handiwork of that same human nature that has been struggling for its rights ever since man began to reason. Human rights were already in evidence when God questioned Cain about the murder of his brother Abel. They were in evidence on the vast er-Rahat Plain when the Jewish people received from Moses the Ten Commandments teaching truth, the worship of God, and honor for one's father and mother while condemning murder, robbery, and slander.

It was not a socialist, and even less a Marxist, totalitarian, cynical, pedantic, and ignorant communist, but the Holy Bible which taught, 1,500 years before Christ, that "You shall not oppress your neighbor or violently despoil him" and "you shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Leviticus 19:13,18).

It was not a poor sectarian communist who has not even been on this earth 100 years but the admirable Holy Bible which taught, 1,500 years before Christ and at a time when the USSR was not even a sketch of a nation: "You shall not pervert justice; you shall not show partiality, for bribes blind the eyes of the wise and corrupt the words of the just" (Deuteronomy 16:19).

And 600 years before Christ, Confucius added this: "Man is distinguished from other beings by a sense of justice." And Sophocles, some 442 years before Christ, presented in Greece his immortal tragedy "Antigone," in which Antigone bravely says to King Creonte, "You have no right to deprive me of my rights."

And it was not a run-of-the-mill totalitarian communist but a Thomas Aquinas, a saint and scholar, who in the 13th century proclaimed the truth that there is an "unalterable law... written in our hearts which cannot be destroyed by all the iniquity in the world."

And a disciple of Saint Thomas [Aquinas], Father Francisco de Vitoria, used the doctrine of human rights as his basis when he founded "jus gentium" or international law. What shall we say of the significant effect that a Francis of Assisi or a Bartolome de las Casas had on human rights through their life and teaching? What shall we say of all the liberators who have always proclaimed their faith in a God in the face of aberrant and stupid atheism and materialism?

Poor Fidel! How quickly you have forgotten what you yourself said in "History Will Absolve Me"! How quickly you have forgotten what you yourself proclaimed in the Second Havana Declaration and in your speech against sectarianism!

Answer, Fidel: do you believe that that communist--that "socialist"--named Joseph Stalin, who practiced genocide against 20 million of his compatriots, was the only one who could talk about human rights? Do you believe that

those communists--"socialists"--who like Stalin and Brezhnev commit their compatriots to mental hospitals for refusing to be sheep are the only ones who can talk about human rights? How can you talk about human rights, you who at this moment are keeping your people oppressed, without freedom of the press, without freedom to go where they wish, and without freedom even to be free of rationing, which has now lasted for 18 years? How dare you rant so much about the capitalist countries when the USSR and other "socialist" countries owe not only their industrial and scientific progress but also as much as 35 billion dollars (!) in cold cash to capitalism? How can you talk about "nonalignment" when you are totally subordinate to Soviet imperialism? Fidel, Fidel, don't be ridiculous! Do not think that you are the "supreme pontiff," even in Cuba, where the Padilla case and the reports by Edwards in "Persona Non Grata" reveal a tyranny worse than that in any capitalist country! You are very mistaken, Fidel! And you are even more mistaken if you think you can swindle the whole world. Forget the megalomaniacs, Fidel! And reread your speeches and promises.

11798

CSO: 3010

CUBA

CUBA ACQUIRES ILYUSHIN-62M JETPLANES FROM USSR

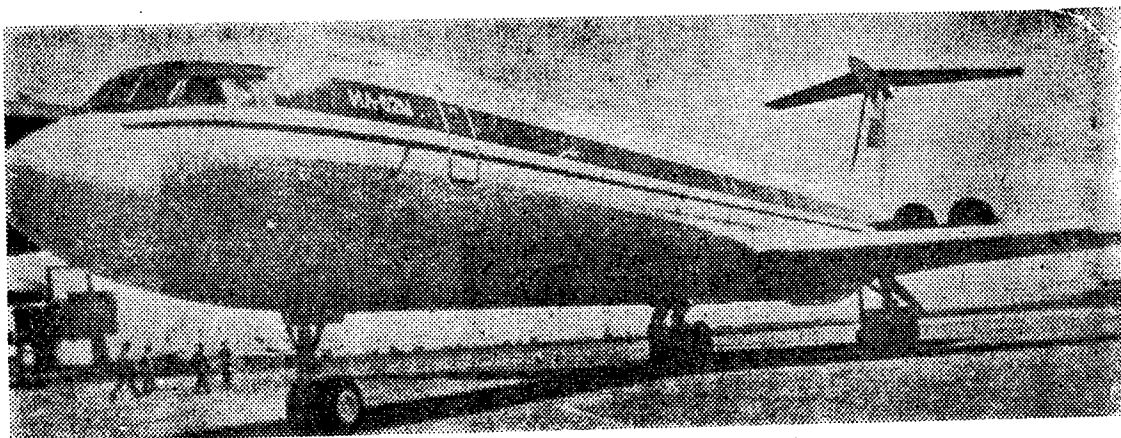
Havana GRANMA in Spanish 23 Apr 77 p 1

[Text] The first of a fleet of IL-62M airplanes acquired in the Soviet Union for Cubana de Aviacion will arrive in our country in about 6 months.

Technicians and crewmen who will be in charge of the operation and maintenance of this equipment which is the beginning of a new stage in our aeronautic development are now taking specialized courses in the USSR.

International flights by Cuban airplanes will increase substantially with the incorporation of these powerful long-distance airplanes to our commercial air fleet.

The modern equipment which has capacity for 163 people will also fly to different European capitals. The IL-62M can reach a maximum speed of 920 kilometers per hour and its maximum altitude is 13,000 meters.



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CSO: 3010

FIFTH ANAP CONGRESS APPROVES RESOLUTIONS

Social Emulation Resolution Approved

Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2109 GMT 16 May 77 FL

[Text] The Fifth ANAP Congress being held at the Lazaro Pena auditorium of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers, CTC, has just approved a resolution on the socialist emulation that will be applied in the peasant sector. Antonio Morales, ANAP president in Las Tunas Province, read the resolution.

The approved document points out that emulation is an essential task to reach the economic, political and social objectives that contribute toward the development of plans of the revolution. Further on, the resolution stresses that emulation in our country is closely linked to the commemoration of the most outstanding historic dates and its application is guaranteed in accordance with the characteristics of each organization or sector.

Based on principles of a general nature, in recent years the ANAP has drafted and developed its emulation plans concerning historic dates dividing them into emulation phases. The resolution just approved at the Fifth ANAP Congress states that the peasant sector will promote the plan on historic dates in which economic tasks are undertaken within the context of production plans. Such a plan is based on collective and individual emulation, adds the resolution on socialist emulation approved by the delegates to the Fifth ANAP Congress.

Elsewhere, the resolution states that farmers will undertake emulation according to their plan for the sale of agricultural-livestock products and they can strive to achieve the distinction of being outstanding fulfillers and producers. To obtain these distinctions, the producers or ANAP rank-and-file organizations must satisfactorily fulfill their plan on sales to the state and achieve high yield per area, keeping in mind the dry lands and irrigated areas.

ANAP's rank-and-file, municipal and provincial organizations, according to the resolution approved at the fifth congress, will perform emulation work

to fulfill their sales plans on livestock-agricultural products that are part of the technical-economic plan. They can also strive for the distinction of outstanding fulfillers and producers.

Regarding evaluation of emulation work, the resolution points out that it will be done quarterly at the rank-and-file and municipal levels and every 6 months at the provincial and national levels. During such assessment, the most outstanding producers and chiefs of FMC-ANAP brigades will be selected as well as the most outstanding rank-and-file organizations and municipalities.

Incentives--such as seals, banners, plaques, cups and the 26 July and Granma landing orders and the flag of the triumph of the revolution--will be maintained.

The resolution also calls for supporting the 17 May special emulation in which all the peasant forces involved in the sugar harvest will participate in addition to the emulation work for the celebration of Peasants Day. The 17 May emulation is established at each level based on indicators concerning participation, productivity, growth of millionaire [cane-cutting] brigades and fulfillment of sugarcane delivery plans.

The resolution also proposes the need to continue developing microemulations in the production of sugarcane, food and vegetables as well as increasing the participation [in emulation work] of tobacco and coffee producers.

The resolution approved today further calls for developing and improving the emulation of the four pacts [as heard] to win the battle for a six grade education during the current 5-year period.

The ANAP resolution proposes to develop an emulation plan to promote tasks associated with the celebration of the 11th World Youth and Student Festival. Considering the other emulation work of the peasant organization, this plan will serve as the driving force for the tasks to be undertaken in tribute to the world youth event.

The ANAP resolution states that the peasant masses, cadres and organizations, in recognition of the importance of emulation for our working people, will continue developing emulation work. All elements in the ANAP are aware that emulation represents an effective tool to achieve fulfillment of the job assigned to the peasant sector by the leadership of our revolutionary government and by the agreements of the historic First PCC Congress.

Peasant Family Resolution Approved

Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2105 GMT 16 May 77 FL

[Text] The Fifth ANAP Congress being held at the Lazaro Pena auditorium of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers has just approved a resolution on the peasant family. It was read by Pablo Martínez, member of the ANAP National Bureau.

The resolution recounts the role played by the peasant family throughout our history and the place which the peasants hold, in close alliance with the working class, in the construction of socialism. In accordance with the historic tasks assigned to the ANAP by the First PCC Congress designed to advance toward advanced production methods, the peasant family is projecting itself toward achieving such an important objective. To this end, the peasant family will continue developing and training itself politically and ideologically by attending clubs of studies and raising its cultural level.

The resolution calls for developing among the members of the peasant family the educational work relating to revolutionary patriotism and the most profound internationalist spirit. This education will be developed with a Latin Americanist feeling until the struggle of national liberation of the peoples of this continent and the world who are struggling against imperialist oppression and exploitation [succeeds], the resolution adds.

Elsewhere, the resolution also calls for continuing the struggle for fulfillment of agreements of the Cuban Women's Federation [FMC] Second Congress concerning peasant women. The document approved today at the Fifth ANAP Congress states that the spirit of peasant women who distinguish themselves in their participation in productive activities in general should be maintained.

The resolution on the peasant family approved at the Fifth ANAP Congress says that the constitutional concepts which make women the equal of men should be disseminated through seminars and conferences. It also calls for dissemination of the family code, the maternity law and other aspects of our legislation aimed at eliminating the discrimination which women suffered in the old society.

It also calls for maintaining, with the same spirit of recent years, the processes of meetings for the selection of outstanding peasant men and women from among the small farmers for membership in youth brigades and the ANAP-FMC brigade.

The ANAP will work closely with the Union of Young Communists through the youth brigades in order to provide the courses derived from the second and third UJC congresses.

The peasant bases will strengthen activities that contribute to the patriotic-military development of youths, the resolution approved at the Fifth ANAP Congress points out. Elsewhere, the resolution states that the ANAP, jointly with the Interior Ministry, will make every effort to achieve a more active participation of its members in the struggle against traffic accidents, prevention of fires and other tasks. The work with peasants and their families is becoming increasingly important for the ANAP since such work ranges from the economic aspects of production to cultural, political and ideological improvement. This work will also have repercussion in the patriotic feeling and internationalist spirit among the men and women of our farms to increasingly develop the tasks associated with children, youths and peasant women--pillars of all the work of the peasant family.

CSO: 3010

CUBA

SAFEGUARDING OF INDUSTRIAL STATE SECRETS DISCUSSED

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 12 Apr 77 p 2

[Article by Pedro Rodriguez Gutierrez]

[Text] Just a few months after it was organized, the Ministry of Construction held a national seminar on state secrets that we feel was timely.

More than 100 office workers and personnel who control information in construction delegations and enterprises attended the seminar.

The head of the ministry, Jose A. Lopez Moreno, and the deputy ministers attended the inauguration. Representing the specialized agency of the Interior Ministry were the head of the State Secrets Bureau, Francisco Garcia, and specialists in this area, who provided their input.

The fact that six different agencies or activities involved in construction were merged in one single ministry accorded the matter particular importance, basically because of the sizable resources and investments that builders have available and are aware of and which have such great impact on the economy.

But the most important reason was cited by First Deputy Minister Raul Cabrera at the end of the 5-day sessions: "In the complex circumstances in which our country pursues its economic activities in developing socialism, the degree of responsibility shown by persons who handle classified information is especially important."

And although this silent battle has its soldiers, it is good for the country if we cooperate and help to observe the regulations that have been established to control classified information.

In his closing speech Cabrera said that from this moment on there will be "without any doubt, greater attention in this regard," and he invited his comrades to be demanding and alert defenders and protectors of the security of this kind of information. He warned: "We must make people see that gossip is the enemy's main agent."

The high marks achieved by those attending the seminar on the assimilation tests were cause for secure confidence.

USSR-CUBA ECONOMIC COOPERATION TALKS UNDERWAY

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 18 Apr 77 p 4

[Text] Havana (AIN)--The official talks within the framework of the Soviet-Cuban Intergovernmental Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, which began recently in Moscow, have been resumed in Havana.

The two sides in the talks are headed respectively by Ivan V. Arkhipov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, deputy chairman of the State Council and Council of Ministers of Cuba.

The Soviet delegation to the talks consists of N.N. Ino~~em~~zev [one letter not legible], deputy chairman of GOSPLAN [State Planning Committee]; A.I. Plokhov, first deputy minister of light industry; N.G. Osipov, deputy minister of foreign trade; Yu A. Ivanov, director of the Bank of Foreign Trade; G.M. Evstigneev, member of the Collegium of the Ministry of Food Industry; I.D. Vozvishaev, chief of the Secretariat of the Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers; V.I. Bondarchuk, executive secretary of the Soviet side in the Soviet-Cuban Committee; M.A. Vilenchik, deputy chief of the Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Trade; and Yu V. Ponomarev, department chief in the Bank of Foreign Trade.

The Cuban delegation is made up of Humberto Perez, chairman of the Central Planning Board (JUCEPLAN); Hector Rodriguez Llompert, chairman of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation; Miguel Figueras, deputy chairman of JUCEPLAN; Osvaldo Fuentes, first deputy chairman of the National Bank of Cuba (BNC); Jose Julio Rodriguez and Jose Garcia Pena, deputy chairmen of the BNC; German Amado Blanco and Andres Yebra, deputy ministers of foreign trade; Manuel Perez, deputy minister of light industry; Alejandro Roca, first deputy minister of food industry; Oddi Gomez, director of foreign trade at JUCEPLAN; Amadeo Blanco, director in the Vice Ministry for Capitalist Countries in the Ministry of Foreign Trade; Enrique Ubieta, director of foreign trade analysis at the BNC; Adalberto Dumenigo, Cuban trade adviser in the USSR; and Luis Gutierrez and Miriam Fernandez, adviser and director respectively in the offices of the deputy chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers.

Attending the opening session of the talks were Nikita P. Tolubeev, USSR ambassador to Cuba, and Severo Aguirre, Cuban ambassador to the Soviet Union.

Both sides reported on the objectives of cooperation, and agreement was reached on a work plan to be followed in the course of the talks during the visit by the Soviet delegation.

11798

CSO: 3010

CUBA

USSR-CUBA AGREEMENT ON METEOROLOGICAL COOPERATION SIGNED

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 16 Apr 77 p 2

[Text] An intergovernmental agreement on scientific and technical cooperation in the field of meteorology was signed yesterday by Dr Wilfredo Torres Yribar, president of the Academy of Sciences of Cuba [ACC], and Prof Yuri Israel, director of the Hydrometeorological Service of the Soviet Union and corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR.

The document, which was signed in the Bolivar Room at the ACC in Havana, includes features of great importance to research into tropical meteorology, hurricanes, manmade rain, agricultural meteorology, forecasting, and so on.

Dr Wilfredo Torres discussed the results achieved in cooperation with the Hydrometeorological Service of the USSR since the start of that cooperation in 1966. He also stressed the importance of meteorological studies to Cuba in view of the effect that weather phenomena have on our economy.

He said, "This agreement which we are signing today marks a new and qualitatively higher stage in our cooperation with the USSR in the field of meteorology, and it takes on special significance in this year of the 60th anniversary of the great October Revolution."

Prof Yuri Israel said that meteorological studies are essential for the successful development of the economy, first of all in order to reduce the effects of negative phenomena such as tropical cyclones, and he added that "the scientific work that our countries propose to carry out gives us grounds for believing that we will achieve positive results in this task--results which we will put to practical use."

Also present were Prof Zoilo Marinello, chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, engineer Tirso W. Saenz, first deputy chairman of the ACC, and other officials from the academy, as well as Ernesto Melendez, deputy chairman of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, and Dr Mario Rodriguez Ramirez, director of the Institute of Technology.

The Soviet side was represented by Marlen Manasov, minister-counselor at the USSR Embassy in Cuba, Takhir Durdiev, adviser, and the members of the delegation from the Hydrometeorological Service: S. S. Khodkin, I. I. Burcev, U. P. Teslemko, and V. M. Ivanov.

CUBA

USSR-CUBAN PORT CARGO HANDLING EMULATION AGREEMENT SIGNED

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 22 Apr 77 p 21

[Interview with Aleksey Arzamastsev, manager of the Soviet Maritime Agency office in Cuba, by Gregorio Hernandez]

[Text] In honor of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, and as a contribution toward a more perfect implementation of the decisions of the First Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba with respect to expediting the handling of cargoes in Cuban ports, a socialist emulation agreement has been signed by the Cuban maritime port workers through the medium of their national union and the Vice Ministry for the Merchant Marine of the Ministry of Transportation, and by the management of the Soviet Maritime Agency [AMS] in Cuba, in representation of the Merchant Marine of the USSR.

This event motivated us to interview comrade Aleksey Arzamastsev, manager of the Soviet Maritime Agency in Cuba, who responded as follows:

Our Soviet-Cuban emulation was officially initiated in the last half of 1973, before the arrival in Havana of comrade L. Brezhnev, secretary general of the Communist Party of the USSR. An agreement to this effect was signed between the Cuban port workers and ourselves (in our capacity as representatives of the Merchant Marine of the Soviet Union).

Every year since 1973 we have signed agreements either with the merchant marine or the port workers of Havana. This effort on the part of both sides in furtherance of socialist emulation has been of great assistance in expediting the unloading of cargo, thereby enabling us to keep the ships moving a greater percentage of the time and therefore to transport a greater tonnage.

In 1976 a total of 648 of our ships were unloaded without incurring demurrage. We can point to 1976 as a year of very good results in respect to socialist emulation, as determined in the course of the inspection carried out in conjunction with the Merchant Marine Union and the Ministry of Transportation and also with the Basic Industry Union and the Ministry of the Chemical Industry.

I should like to emphasize that we now have very good ways in which to make emulation more effective, inasmuch as all means of transportation are now participating. We therefore wish to expand the program to include other organizations, and to sign agreements not only with the Vice Ministry for the Merchant Marine but also with the railroad and other receivers.

I believe that this will help us to develop our good relations even further, intensify our labor and produce very good results, inasmuch as it will all assist the Cuban people in making their fatherland stronger and enjoying a better life.

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CSO: 3010

'GRANMA' CONCERNED OVER DEFLATIONARY PRICE IMPACT

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 19 Apr 77 p 2

[Text] The upward struggle by the peoples of the underdeveloped world against imperialism and neocolonialist exploitation and for a new international economic order has many facets. It includes factors which are diverse but which interrelate with each other and constitute a truly explosive situation revealing unmistakable signs of the worsening general crisis in capitalism.

The exacerbation of neocolonialist exploitation in all its forms compares dialectically with its opposite: the anti-imperialist struggle and the rapid strides of the national liberation movement in the underdeveloped world.

Just as the multinational octopuses are the basic tool for neocolonial exploitation of the so-called Third World through the exploitation of capital in the form of direct investments, so the credit and banking institutions constitute the appropriate means of maintaining and increasing that exploitation through financial control and the indebtedness of the underdeveloped countries.

Imperialist finance capital--a real international "mafia"--penetrates and gradually conquers the economies of the underdeveloped nonpetroleum exporting countries by granting them loans at ever-increasing rates of interest and requiring that the loans be amortized over shorter and shorter periods of time.

And why have the underdeveloped countries been dragged into this dilemma to the extent that their foreign debt rose from 58 billion to almost 180 billion dollars over the 6-year period ending in 1976?

Among all the other reasons, it is sufficient to cite the following: a reduction in Western purchases from those countries as a result of the economic recession that is gripping the industrialized capitalist world, an exorbitant increase in the price of manufactured goods and other products exported by the West to the underdeveloped world, a relative or absolute decline in the price of the basic products exported by the so-called Third World to the West, and a ninefold increase in the price of petroleum.

Faced with such a critical situation, the underdeveloped nations find themselves forced to ask for borrowed money in ever-increasing amounts. Their foreign debt rises faster than the earnings and resources available for repaying that debt, and they are then forced into the extreme position of asking for more loans, this time not in order to meet their dramatic needs but in order to repay what they already owe to the imperialist financial mafia. Thus they become trapped in an infernal vicious circle of economic dependence and endless debt.

Unequal Trade and Deflationary Prices

Since the progressive indebtedness of the underdeveloped nonpetroleum exporting world is a consequence and not a cause of imperialist neocolonial exploitation, it should be pointed out that one of the basic causal factors is traditional unequal trade, which has constituted one of the pillars of colonial and neocolonial exploitation for 400 years.

This traditional trading of expensive capitalist-manufactured goods in exchange for cheap raw materials has now become substantially worse. Proof of this is the problem of the deflationary prices paid for products exported by the underdeveloped nonpetroleum exporting nations.

"Deflationary prices" refers to prices which in some cases may have risen nominally, but which in fact have all declined, since their purchasing power is lower due to the fact that proportionally, the prices of Western manufactured products have increased much more.

The IMF has announced that the prices of products exported by the so-called Third World, excluding petroleum, rose by 4.8 percent in 1975, while the prices of products imported by those countries from the West increased by 14.1 percent. Meanwhile, the price of petroleum increased from \$10.87 per ton in 1972 to \$89 and \$93 per ton in 1976.

The case of sugar is typical, and it can be taken as an example of a deflationary price. In the case of sugar, matters are made worse by the added circumstance that the nominal price has dropped so far that it is now below the cost of production. But nominally, the current price level for sugar appears higher than ever before, excluding the brief periods of rapid price increases. That is, however, a very deceptive and false picture.

According to data from the International Sugar Organization (OIA), the annual average nominal price of sugar in 1964 was 5.77 centavos per pound, while the deflationary price that year--that is, the real price in terms of purchasing power--was 5.15 centavos. In 1971, the nominal price was 4.50 centavos and the real price was 3.26 centavos. Since 1973, the year in which worldwide capitalist inflation began its dizzying spiral upward, the difference between the nominal price and the real price has grown greater and greater.

The result is that in the third quarter of 1976, according to the OIA, the nominal price of sugar was 7.82 centavos, but the real or deflationary price

was 3.31 centavos. For 1976 as a whole, the nominal price was 11.51 centavos and the real price was 4.92 centavos.

In 1972 an ordinary tractor cost 3,920 dollars, but now that same tractor costs 6,310 dollars, based on the index of price increases for manufactured products as published in the United Nations MONTHLY BULLETIN OF STATISTICS.

In other words, it took 24 metric tons of crude sugar to pay for the above-mentioned tractor in 1972, but now it is necessary to deliver no fewer than 34 tons in order to buy that same tractor. That illustrates in the clearest terms what the deflation of sugar prices means for the underdeveloped countries which export that basic product. There are more than 60 such countries in the world, and 20 of them obtain from 50 to 90 percent of their total foreign exchange earnings from sugar exports.

In our era, unequal trade has its origin in the international division of labor imposed by the imperialist powers on the "poorer peoples." The mission of the latter, according to imperialist philosophy, is to facilitate the heartless draining of their resources, which are then processed in the mother countries in order to keep the imperial machinery running. In short, it is the task of the poor countries to give everything in exchange for nothing--gold in exchange for trinkets, the same system that was used by the European colonizers when they arrived in the Americas--and to serve as a dump for increasingly expensive manufactured products.

According to recent data from the World Bank, the underdeveloped world provides the industrialized capitalist countries with 70 percent of their imported bauxite, 86 percent of their tin, 40 percent of their iron ore, 54 percent of their copper, 56 percent of their manganese, 96 percent of their cocoa, 94 percent of their bananas, 98 percent of their rubber, 96 percent of their jute, 97 percent of their sisal, 96 percent of their coffee, 70 percent of their sugar, 92 percent of their palm oil, 82 percent of their coconut oil, and so on for another 23 basic products needed by the industrialized capitalist countries and supplied to them by the so-called Third World at prices which are, with very rare exceptions, pitifully low.

That is why the struggle by the peoples in the underdeveloped countries for a new international economic order is becoming increasingly vigorous. In the foreground of that struggle is the demand for what is known as indexing, meaning the establishment of "sliding" or flexible prices for their basic products. In that way, those prices would rise in the same proportion as the prices for goods manufactured in the West.

In the UN General Assembly in 1976 and also at the 4th UNCTAD, held in Nairobi last May, as well as at the meetings held by the Movement of Nonaligned Countries and the so-called Group of 77 (113 countries), the underdeveloped nations have succeeded in putting through resolutions concerning the need for this new international economic order in which neocolonial exploitation by the imperialist powers will not go unpunished.

In addition, the formation of associations of underdeveloped countries that export raw materials and basic products is gaining strength and already beginning to make itself felt in the West. The associations that are already well known, such as those of the petroleum exporters (the OPEC), the copper exporters (the CIPEC [expansion unknown]), the bauxite exporters (the AIB [expansion unknown]), the iron exporters (the APEH [expansion unknown]), and others, have been joined by new and very recent organizations.

In Latin America between 1974 and 1975, for example, there arose the associations of sugar exporting countries (the GEPLACEA [expansion unknown]) and banana exporting countries (the UPEB [Union of Banana Exporting Countries]) and the Caribbean Multinational Shipping Enterprise (NAMUCAR), which are already showing positive results in their efforts to defend the national economic interests of Latin America and the Caribbean against the voraciousness of the multinational octopuses, against unequal trade, and, in general, against the neocolonial status of imperialist exploitation.

There is no doubt, therefore, that the underdeveloped world's growing struggle for a new international economic order, which enjoys the determined support of its natural ally, the community of socialist countries, is an accurate reflection of the inexorable advance by mankind's forces for progress and that it occupies an outstanding place on the battle line across which the peoples are facing imperialism and neocolonialism, where it acts as a driving force behind the historical process of the final breakdown of the capitalist system.

11798

CSO: 3010

CUBA

NEW YAK-40 PASSENGER JET SERVICE TO BEGIN IN MAY

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 21 Apr 77 p 5

[Text] The Cuban Aviation Enterprise will begin using its first YAK-40 jets on domestic routes next month. They will be used on regular runs between Santiago de Cuba, other localities in the eastern provinces, and Havana.

At present, the final adjustments in connection with routes are being worked out and technical details concerned with the operation of these planes in our airspace are being settled. In addition, the planes have been subjected to a period of rigorous testing under the conditions prevailing in our national territory.

The IL-14's will continue to provide regular service in the eastern provinces by connecting capitals, industrial centers, and towns in that important region of the country.

The YAK-40--the pride of the Soviet aeronautical industry--can carry 32 passengers. It has a ceiling of 10,000 meters and flies at an altitude of 6,000, with a speed classification of up to 600 kilometers per hour.

It is equipped with the most modern navigation and radiocommunication aids and has double check-out systems throughout. Because of its characteristics, it can fly in all weather conditions and can land blind.

The horizontal stabilizer on the YAK-40 is controlled as an additional lifting surface, and this helps to give the plane greater maneuverability and operativeness. There is no disturbance from air pockets, since the plane's maximum ceiling enables it to fly above the currents that produce them. Its equipment includes three Al-25 jet turbines.

Maintenance on the plane is much less complex and less expensive than it is in the case of reciprocating engines, and general overhauls are made after 3,000 hours of flying time.

Groups of technicians from all specialized branches, including crews, have taken part in complete courses in operating this plane. The courses were given in Kirovonograd in the USSR.

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CUBA

PREPARATION FOR SPARTAKIADS DISCUSSED AT FAR MAIN CLUB

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 19 Apr 77 p 5

[Text] A progress report on the preparations being made in our country for the 4th Summer Spartakiads Between Friendly Armies was presented at the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] Main Club for military attaches from various diplomatic posts.

The meeting was presided over by Col Demetrio Montseny Villa, chief of the Directorate of Foreign Affairs at MINFAR [Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces], and it was attended by the military attaches from the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, the GDR, Romania, Poland, and Peru.

The main speech was delivered by Lt Col Andres Torres Hernandez, chairman of the Technical Committee for the 4th Spartakiads. Using slides and diagrams, he described various organizational aspects, the places where the competitive events will be held in the seven provinces selected as the sites for the different sports, the timetable for the events, and other matters of interest.

Also attending the meeting were Lt Col Gelasio Baras Leon, who represents the FAR at the Bureau of the Friendly Armies Sports Committee--the organization sponsoring the 4th Spartakiads--and commanding officers and officers from the Directorate of Foreign Affairs at MINFAR.

As was previously reported, the 4th Summer Spartakiads Between Friendly Armies will be held in Cuba from 10 to 20 September of this year. Athletes from the 13 countries belonging to the Friendly Armies Sports Committee will take part, as will teams that have been invited from other countries. The 4th Spartakiads will be dedicated to saluting the 60th anniversary of the October Socialist Revolution under the slogan: "For the constant strengthening of friendship between the friendly armies."

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CUBA

CONTRIBUTION OF YOUTH TO NATIONAL DEFENSE

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 10 Apr 77 pp 14-16

[Article by H. Valdes Giral: "Youth and Defense"]

[Text] To tell of the role of youth in the defense of the homeland, names alone could be listed and everything would already have been said: Marti, Maceo, Agramonte, Mella, Villena, Frank, Jose Antonio, Joe Westbrook, Fulgencio Oroz, Pepito Tey, Tony Aloma, Parellada, Pedro Soto Alba, "El Vaquerito," Camilo, Che.

In the wars of '68 and '95, Cuban young people knew where their duty lay and they charged on horseback to do it, turning their machetes against the Spanish colonialists.

More names, thousands could be cited. I have only mentioned symbols. But the "Mambisa" troops of the Major and Lieutenant General Antonio and those of all the insurgent chiefs were filled with still beardless youths who were already dying in the struggle for freedom, shouting "Long Live Free Cuba," a sound more deafening than gunfire.

When the republic was snatched from them, the victory trampled on by war profiteers, how many youths streamed down the glorious Colina Universitaria, with Mella and Villena, to join with the striking workers, with workers who, already led by their party, were fighting to the sound of the echo of the Red October, which reverberated from Lenin's homeland.

And even closer in time, within the lifetime of a pre-university or university student, in the invincible Sierra, in heroic clandestine struggle, youth rose to fight for life, against crime and torture and death.

There was the Moncada. The walls of injustice were besieged by youths of the Generation of the Intellectual Author, Blood and Death. And there

were standard-bearers. Abel, Renato, Raul Gomez, Tassende. Prison or exile. Or better: fruitful peace, such as was necessary to prepare for Marti's war. And there was the Granma, with its prow like a great, open heart, and its crew, mostly young men, which arrived at the coast of Cuba with a real promise: in '56 we shall be free or we shall be martyrs.

The decisive war, the continuation of all the earlier wars, took root among the people, who smiled and were at ease, for the first time, when the bearded men came down from the Sierra, bearing freedom in their hands, "with tyranny decapitated at their feet."

From then on the struggle took another aspect and the young people devoted themselves to the building of socialism and to its defense with the same revolutionary passion as their predecessors.

After the Triumph

From the first moment Cuban youth responded present to the appeal of the revolution. Cuban youth were in the forefront in demonstrations of support, the collection of funds for the purchase of weapons and planes and in a swift, definite and energetic answer to the counterrevolutionaries.

Grouped together into various revolutionary organizations, the young people applauded and endorsed the idea of the Heroic Guerrilla and on 28 January 1960 founded the political-military AJR [Rebel Youth Association], which, with the passage of time, brought young people together behind the Cuban Youth Movement under the motto of Study, Work, and Rifle.

Everyone remembers or has heard anecdotes about the "five peaks." These were youths who went to the Sierra, scaled the highest eastern mountain peaks five times, then took self-improvement courses, or took part in priority plans or defense work.

Many of these in April 1961 were the Child Heroes of the Anti-Aircraft Artillery of whom Fidel spoke.

Similarly children were grouped into Youth Patrols, effective auxiliaries of the National Revolutionary Police, and the embryo of the Pioneers of today.

Thus, there was no revolutionary task or mission left which did not find within its ranks the enthusiastic and militant presence of the AJR: Giron, the literacy campaign, the formation of military units, scholarship plans and so forth.

On 4 April 1962, at the close of the 1st Congress of the AJR, when organic and political conditions were right for a more profound change in the name, objectives and character of the organization, and at the proposal of Fidel, the name of UJC [Union of Young Communists] was approved for our current party youth organization which follows the principles of Marxism-Leninism. After this date, the UJC fervently cooperated in the tasks presented by the October Crisis, the coffee harvests, reconstruction work after the disaster of hurricane Flora, the CJC [Centennial Youth Column] and so forth.

On 15 July 1964 the construction of the UJC in the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] began, in the Border Brigade, with a process which culminated in 1967 in the EMG [General Staff] units.

The UJC strives, within the FAR, to prepare combatants ideologically, using for this methods and means which raise the level of Marxist-Leninist political-ideological preparation of officers, sergeants, soldiers and sailors. Also to be pointed out is the vanguard role of the UJC membership, its strengthening of organization life, its support of socialist emulation and of patriotic military activities.

The youth organization has helped to strengthen discipline and to support the successful fulfillment of Combat and Political Training plans and the improvement of fighting spirit.

International education is a constant activity of the UJC within the FAR. An eloquent demonstration of this is the attitude of our young people in the aid given the fraternal People's Republic of Angola, both in the second war of liberation stage and in the tasks of national reconstruction and of preparation of the People's Armed Forces of Liberation as a well-armed and trained modern army.

Every year, many youths join the FAR through general military service call-ups. Once they have joined their units, along with the tasks of combat and political training, they also take UJC orientation through the Red Brigades and other mass youth organizations.

At the same time, the EJT [Youth Labor Army], born of the fusion of the CJC and of the UMAP [Military Units to Aid Production], the EJT shows a positive balance sheet in its work in the sugar harvest, construction, railroads, etc., as well as in its work in Combat and Political Training.

The Cadet Schools, the Higher Technical Military Institute and the "Camilo Cienfuegos" Vocational Military Schools receive the best of our youth and train future FAR officers, engineers, technicians and specialists.

However, our young people serve in defense not only in the regular forces, but also in the reserve units, which have played such a prominent role in exercises, maneuvers, and even in aid to Angola.

The military faculties in the universities and secondary school centers help to inculcate in our youth the principle that it is an honor to defend the homeland.

This military training, which has long been desired by the Cuban student body, along with the scientific development which is seen on a worldwide level in the military field, allows our young people, once they graduate, to become reserve officers with adequate training.

Along with all of the foregoing, the Military Interest Clubs fulfill the function of bringing together children and young people to learn about various military specialties. Communications, riflery, radiolocation and other specialties of importance in the FAR are taught and mastered in these interest clubs, which are directly managed by the UJC.

Patriotic military work is also given priority attention. As the Program Platform approved at the 1st PCC [Communist Party of Cuba] Congress states, it is a matter of "encouraging the ties of children and young people with the combatants of the FAR and the MININT [Ministry of the Interior], the constant defenders of the people's gains."

Many examples of this could be mentioned: symbolic landings of the Granma, Pioneer assaults on the Moncada barracks and the Presidential Palace, marches to sites of Combat Glory, the Followers of Camilo and Che, school graduations in places of historic interest, etc., help to inform young people and children about our combat traditions and teach them to respect the combatants of the FAR and the MININT, the "uniformed people," of whom Camilo spoke.

Through all of these tasks, young Cubans continue the traditions of earlier generations and make of the defense of the homeland a sacred duty, a daily duty as long as imperialism exists and as long as it may be necessary to offer our assistance to fraternal peoples who "ask for the help of our modest efforts."

Today in the fervor of the 3rd Congress of the UJC and within the framework of preparations for the 11th World Youth and Student Festival, the young Cubans are proud to be the defenders of the first socialist revolution in Latin America.

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REHABILITATION OF YOUTH A TASK FOR ALL

The Amelioration of Antisocial Attitudes

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 11 Apr 77 p 3

[Text] We know of children and young people who are difficult to deal with because of their negative social behavior. Because of their disobedience, lack of respect and the filthy language they use, it is a hard thing for neighbors, teachers and other educators to handle them.

These antisocial manifestations are reflected in the behavior of children and teenagers when, in the first place, their family environment directly transmits to them or tolerates undesirable activities and attitudes such as truancy, lack of discipline, dropping out of school, abnormalities in their inclinations, tastes and aspirations, and secondly when they show disregard for the development of group feelings and love for the revolution, work, our country and school.

First, we must make it clear that these phenomena are remnants of bourgeois society. It is precisely within families whose adult members were brought up in that society that the conditions are still there for the emergence of such behavior on the part of children and young people.

Some homes, because of tolerance or disregard, distort the social feelings and attitudes of their children. Parents can never renounce their social duty to guide their children.

There is the extreme case of the antisocial family; there are few of them, but they still exist. In these cases we must proceed in accordance with the laws of our socialist justice. Children in these families clearly reflect this phenomenon, and thus we know how to combat it.

No child is born antisocial; deviations occur when good influences are not there and bad signs begin to appear.

Even if the child or young person has behavior problems, we should not think that these are hopeless antisocial cases that must be separated from the rest of society. This type of attitude is the result of certain prejudices and makes it difficult for us to provide the aid that we must give to the children and young people whom we call disruptive.

The attitude of a responsible, revolutionary adult will never be to wait until the problem becomes more difficult to resolve. When we see that a family is ignoring the upbringing of its children and is providing bad example, we must intervene and try to help.

To be prejudiced and say: "Juan is no good, and his son must be as bad or worse than his father," is a serious mistake. Whenever possible we must help these parents, get close to them and, through persuasive means, cooperate with them. Perhaps they don't know how to get out of this situation with their children.

We should never show rejection or disdain for one of these disruptive children. Many of them have suffered in their homes and therefore have a negative attitude towards others. They think that no one looks kindly on them; they feel that they only deserve scolding and punishment and for this reason are ready to attack anyone who approaches them.

We will win over these children and young people little by little with kindness and an understanding of their specific problem. (In cooperation with the Department of Non-School Education and Scholarships of the Ministry of Education. Vineta, Manuel)

The Rescue of Dropouts

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 12 Apr 77 p 2

[Article by Luis Carlos Ramirez]

[Text] Santiago--Young people who some time ago paid no attention to study and work are today achieving high marks in their advancement, retention and attendance at classes and shops, within the youth movement.

But the results of the Roberto Rodriguez School, El Vaquerito, in this city have been a surprise to many. One hundred percent promotion, 99.2 percent retention and 98 percent class attendance are figures that are not easily achieved in this kind of teaching.

Its success has been rewarded, and the school now boasts the title of National Vanguard.

The principle of the school, Graciela Espinosa, explained to JUVENTUD REBELDE what they have done to consolidate the success.

"We first decided to work for attendance and punctuality and then we stressed getting promoted. In achieving today's success we have had the valuable help of many comrades: the classroom delegates, CDR [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution] appointees, the brigade of Mothers for Education of the FMC [Cuban Women's Federation], our own students, UJC [Union of Young Communists] members, the

parents of students, the executive of the Roberto Rodriguez Brigade, the monitors, teachers; we all have a lot to do with this success."

The school is located in the heart of Santiago. It currently has 276 students, although more than 3,000 have already passed through it. Most of them are now studying in the various polytechnical institutes in the province.

"Thanks to these joint efforts, today we are proud of the results, which were good not only in attendance, promotion and retention but also in getting students into the shops, in the operation and internal life of the brigade, in duty and honor emulation and in all the rest of the activities," the principle explained.

The ones who are the happiest about the success are the students. One of them, 16-year old Francisco Centro Suarez, a UJC member, has achieved the title of National Vanguard for this type of teaching 3 years in a row. He told us:

"Here we're preparing ourselves to be useful to society. Many of us who came to this school because of backwardness in school or for some other reason have learned a lot of things. We are told about a good upbringing, about our responsibility to society and society's responsibility to us... these are things that you don't learn in the street..."

Everyone is satisfied with the successes that have been achieved, the teachers and students, the CDR delegates and the comrades in the Women's Federation. Society is pleased with the efforts that have been made to rescue these boys, who in a few years will be skilled workers in any sugar factory, industry or any other work center.

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'VERDE OLIVO' CHARGES SALVADORAN ELECTIONS RIGGED

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 10 Apr 77 p 23

[Article by Roberto Morejon: "The Dead Also Vote"]

[Text] Throughout the world the political rights of citizens formally cease at the moment of their death, for obvious reasons, unless while still living they have been expressly deprived of them by a legal decision. Up to here everyone is in agreement.

But it appears that in the recent presidential elections in El Salvador, a large number of dead persons deposited their votes in a "mysterious" way in the various ballot boxes. No one saw them, of course. When the votes were counted, the conclusion was reached that all of the already deceased voters had agreed in a prior solemn meeting to give their vote to retired Gen Carlos Humberto Romero, the 52-year old candidate for the PCN [National Conciliation Party], who is supported by the oligarchy and foreign investors.

False ballots turned up in various localities. Ballot boxes were taken to the polls filled with ballots. Thousands of citizens appeared to be registered as voters in two or more places. As you will deduce, all of these frauds helped Carlos Humberto Romero.

In several protest demonstrations, such as had not been seen for many years in El Salvador, thousands of persons poured into the streets to protest the fraud. Everyone knows that the irregularities uncovered are the work of the "living" who have undertaken to make even the "dead" vote. These flesh and blood beings were quickly identified as close to the triumphant candidate, Carlos Humberto Romero, as the UNO [Opposition Coalition], headed by Ernesto Claramount, has declared.

The solid reaction of the Salvadoran masses against the election fraud is noteworthy, if we bear in mind that El Salvador has not made the front pages of the newspapers since the El Salvador-Honduras border clashes,

recalled sporadically after the so-called "Football War" between the two countries. The apparent calm of the nation was unexpectedly broken.

Some 5 persons were killed, more than 300 arrested and hundreds were wounded as the result of protests by UNO sympathizers and the rest of the people in clashes with the army and the police who, since some days before the elections had taken military control of the capital and other cities of the interior.

Something of the same kind happened before in 1972. In the elections that year it appeared that UNO candidate Jose Duarte was winning, but the committee in charge of counting the votes announced Col Arturo Armando Molina as the winner, a decision which aroused widespread protest among the Salvadoran people.

Carlos Humberto Romero, declared officially president-elect in the recent elections, serves the most obscure interests. As minister of defense he helped to execute their repressive policy. He ordered the massacre of student and peasant masses on various occasions and is said to have connections with a fascist organization.

This is the man who is the "winner" of a very important election, important not for its honesty but rather for its illegality. Carlos Humberto Romero will have to do considerable juggling to win the support of a people which has just rejected him. For the moment he can count only on the support of the oligarchy, the capitalists and the "dead persons" whom he led by hand to the polls.

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CUBA

FAR FULFILLS ITS UJC PROGRAM

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 10 Apr 77 p 17

[Report by Jorge Rojo on interview with First Lt Rolando Alfonso, first instructor of the section for UJC work of the FAR Political Directorate: "The UJC-FAR and the 3rd Congress;" date and place not given]

[Text] In an interview granted by First Lt Rolando Alfonso, first instructor of the Section for UJC [Union of Young Communists] work of the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] Political Directorate said that the results of the organic process of the 3rd Congress in the FAR fulfill the proposed objectives.

"We must say that the reports and resolutions of the evaluation, election and reelection meetings and conferences, in which more than 33 percent of the members attending spoke on questions under discussion, were analyzed objectively," he said.

The basic speeches addressed matters related to the internal life of the organization; the evaluation of successes and failures in ideological work, combat and political training and emulation."

He explained that, as the result of the analysis of the internal life, it was possible to really measure the influence which the organization exercises over the rest of the mass of young people. "And as the result of all this work, the political resolution of the UJC 2nd Congress to double its membership was carried out in the FAR."

First Lt Rolando Alfonso emphasized.... "We must improve the preparation of young people joining the organization and also the role of the UJC in granting membership, an activity which has been going on since May 1974 when a new regulation for the rank and file organizations of the UJC was applied."

Another aspect of the internal life, which since the time of the Third Meeting of Party Secretaries has considerably improved, concerns all the measures affecting the preparation and holding of meetings.

"Today our meetings are planned and organized more in advance, which makes it possible for the members to prepare for them and also to make their results fit in with the objectives or working guidelines of the organization. The preparation of central reports, which touch on the basic questions of work administration which are being analyzed also exercises a positive influence in this."

In the evaluation, election and reelection meetings and conferences, the work of the FAR with children through patriotic-military education was discussed. Advances made principally in the Military Interest Clubs which have consolidated their operation were noted.

The results of the work of the Red Brigades indicate that they have played an important supporting role in political training, in the establishment of the "Material Study Base" and in the development of emulation among the young.

"It was also brought out in the meetings and conferences that it is necessary to intensify the preparation of the comrades who direct the Red Brigades and at the same time to increase their activity in matters related to sports, culture and recreation."

"It is important to point out,"--First Lieutenant Alfonso said--"that the level of participation of our membership in the meetings and conferences is superior in quality to what it was in prior years and that this was achieved through the combination of measures which the political organizations and the committees on the regiment level have taken so that the membership will know about and study in advance the documents to be analyzed in all of this process, while similarly the comrades will have time to prepare in advance the main speeches to be delivered in this type of meeting."

"It is worth pointing out that it was possible to create a big mass movement of young people around each meeting and conference and that this served to promote the important tasks which the FAR carried out to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Granma landing and of the founding of the FAR."

On the presence of the FAR in the Third Congress, he said:

"Of the UJC delegates in the FAR to the Third Congress, 72 percent come from rank and file organizations and 12.7 percent are women, a figure we

consider high when we note that women represent only 6 percent of the total FAR membership."

A high percentage of the delegates have also fulfilled international missions: 56 are winners of orders of merit, FAR Vanguards or winners of the 20th Anniversary medal and 52 participated in the First and Second UJC Congresses.

He said that, as part of the organic process, more than 84 percent of the members attended the theses study and that more than 1,400 proposals were made.

At the conclusion of the interview granted to the magazine VERDE OLIVO, the first instructor of the Section for UJC work of the FAR Political Directorate emphasized that with these results it can be said that the FAR has fulfilled the objectives proposed for the Third UJC Congress. "In it the holding of the UJC conferences on the Army, Armed Forces Type and equivalent units level was a positive experience," he said.

"We must now carry out, with the enthusiasm demonstrated throughout the organic process, the resolutions and agreements which may emanate from this congress or which were agreed upon in our meetings and conferences of the UJC," he concluded.

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CUBA

NEW KTP-1 SUGARCANE HARVESTER PLANT PRODUCES FIRST CHASSIS

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 24 Apr 77 pp 32-37

[Article by Luis Lopez]

[Text] "During the next 5 years the industrialization of Cuba will be accelerated significantly.... The majority of the factories that will be established during this period have already been contracted for, and contracts for the remainder are being negotiated. This program of industrialization is not yet solving many of our difficulties, but it will represent important progress.

"A modern plant for the manufacture of agricultural implements will be established. The plant for the manufacture of sugarcane combine harvesters will be completed and put into production with an ultimate capacity of 600 units per year."

(The above quotation is taken from a report submitted by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba to the First Congress of the party.)

The first chassis of the KTP-1 harvester has just been produced in our country, at the plant which is currently under construction in the outskirts of Holguin as part of the program of industrial development drawn up between Cuba and the fraternal Soviet republic.

Lands that used to bear witness to the backwardness in which our agriculture was submerged are today supporting the foundations of a modern plant for the manufacture of these combines. This plant--which covers a total of 108,000 square meters--will to a great extent dispense with the arduous day labor of the cane cutter and will increase yields and productivity.

The project will be completed by 26 July in honor of the 24th anniversary of the attack on the Moncada Barracks. The plant consists of a main

building of approximately 35,000 square meters which will house--among other things--the basic shop, the cutting and shaping shop, the machine shop, the welding shop, the galvanizing shop, the assembly shop and the paint shop, in addition to the warehousing facilities for each.

The decision has been made to put the plant into operation gradually, as the equipment is installed and the prescribed inspections are made. Accordingly, the cutting and shaping department, the tool department and the maintenance department have been put into operation and are already fabricating parts and components for the first combine (to be completed in time for the plant dedication ceremonies) together with repair parts and certain items needed for completion of the plant and for the operation of the sugarcane harvesting equipment.

This decision will make it possible to test the plant equipment within the established parameters and will afford the personnel who will operate it an opportunity for practice.

As a result, by early February more than 800 tons of nonstandardized equipment such as stands, workbenches, carriers and so forth had been produced.

An idea can be gained of the dimensions of the main building of the plant from the fact that it will house approximately 1,200 pieces of technological equipment with a total value of 20 million pesos. Fifty percent of this equipment has already been installed.

The plant is being constructed in accordance with the industrial prefabrication system, with the prefabs being produced at the local Holguin plant using metal structures supplied by the USSR.

The project is currently in the construction and installation stage. Construction of the buildings was 76.4 percent completed as of December, while the corresponding figure for installation of equipment was 44 percent.

For purposes of safety and protection the main building is equipped with a system to combat toxic gases. This system consists of separating the departments which pose this problem from those which do not, and of an exceptionally rigorous ventilation system. To combat noise and vibration, special foundations mounted on strong springs have been constructed, primarily for the press and certain other equipment. The fire-protection system operates automatically, by means of thermometers which measure the temperature of individual rooms and the plant as a whole.

Among the auxiliary structures being constructed for this industrial complex are the lumber warehouse, the cooling tower, the pump and compressor house, the boiler house, the vehicle repair shop, the lubrication shop, and the combination administration-social activities building, which comprises the part that is devoted to administrative activities properly speaking, plus a dining room; a kitchen; and a section that contains lockers and facilities for bathing.

The table of organization of the plant provides for a total of 2,265 positions, 74 percent of which are for production workers; 12 percent for technicians; and the balance for executives, administrative personnel and service workers.

The plant will also assimilate approximately 600 worker-students who will be trained for subsequent employment at the agricultural implements complex which is under construction in the adjoining industrial zone. Similarly, a continuing program has been developed--in cooperation with the provincial office of MINED [Ministry of Education]--to cover certain aspects of future activities at the KTP-1 plant and to train workers for specific positions at the plant.

Today's Advance Guard

The elements involved in carrying out this important project are: the brigade of the Industrial Projects Construction Enterprise, formerly Brigade 14; the Antonio Maceo Shock Brigade of the UJC [Union of Young Communists]; a group of Soviet specialists who are charged with overseeing, in an advisory capacity, the work of installing the equipment and putting the plant into production; and workers of the Investments Subdepartment of the enterprise that will operate the plant, together with the specialized personnel of the subdepartment who are supervising--for the Cuban side--the work of installing the plant equipment.

In July 1976 Reinaldo Rico Mason joined a shock group that was organized into the present-day SIME [expansion unknown] with the aim of carrying out specified large-scale projects throughout the country. The members of this group have received a number of commendations for the quality of their work and are currently carrying the main burden of the work of building non-standardized equipment for the KTP-1 plant.

"Cayo" (as his colleagues call him) has been doing this kind of work for many years and serves as head of the collective. "The members of this group are true communists," he said. "I have never heard them complain about the work or about anything, he declared, with his customary broad, sincere smile. "Right now they're working as boilermakers, although they're not being paid according to the boilermakers' scale. As far as hours of work are concerned.... No, they work as long as necessary and write down any overtime as volunteer labor.

"Many of them," he continued, "come from the Agrarian Column. Some are UJC activists. Still others are in the process of becoming party members. We realize how important this plant is for the revolution. You know what it means for us to build our own combine harvesters here, in our own "yard"; it's a great thing.

"We decided," he said, "to select the best men for the task of starting work on the first chassis. The Soviet comrades undertook to teach us how

to make the components. I'm here to tell you that the work of these Soviet advisers is the very best. You have to see them at work to believe it. They dig in as soon as they get here and never let up until they're finished. I think that this kind of discipline they have is something that we must learn from them," he added.

A sign hanging from a small grader says, "This Equipment Is Operated by the Shock Brigade."

Similar signs referring to the Antonio Maceo Brigade can also be found in the various areas of the plant.

The 160 young members of this brigade--50 percent of whom are UJC activists--joined in response to the appeal made in mid-1975 by Armando Hart Dávalos, member of the Political Bureau of our party, for support of the construction of the combine harvester plant.

The brigade has received many awards for the prodigious labor it has accomplished since its creation. These include the Banner of Victory, and the Outstanding Shock Work pennant for 1975 and part of 1976.

The activities carried out by the members of the brigade include waterproofing the roof; applying anticorrosion treatment to metal components and structures; painting; concrete pouring; and general supply work for the project.

They have committed themselves to undertake the most arduous and important tasks involved in the project, such as painting the buildings, setting tile and panels, paving the streets in the plant area, creating green areas, installing outside utilities, and caring for and operating heavy equipment.

Special mention should be made of the effort the brigade put forth last year in fulfilling by 108 percent the agreement it had signed, and in performing approximately 19,000 hours of volunteer labor.

In addition to this work the members of the brigade are engaged in other activities, of which the effort to qualify persons for employment is undoubtedly one of the most important. Thanks to this advanced training a total of 20 comrades have qualified as operators of light and heavy equipment. Six others have qualified as surveyors, five as carpenters and four as masons. Still others are specializing in a variety of skills.

With respect to fulfillment of the indices targeted in the area of savings, more than 54,000 board feet of lumber and 8,800 kilograms of steel were collected during the month of January--in addition to various other products and materials--for a total value of 14,960 pesos.

Juan A. Alvarez, commander of the brigade and delegate to the Third UJC Congress, asserts that the overall operation is going forward successfully. "The enthusiasm for fulfilling our commitments by the target date specified

in the plans," he said, "has astounded everyone. This will be our contribution in honor of the important event of the young communists," he added.

The brigade of the Industrial Projects Construction Enterprise (which is constructing the plant) has a total of 1,350 workers at work on the complex. Of this total, 85 percent have undertaken commitments as part of the "individual emulation campaign of duty and honor," which is going forward at a good pace.

One of the activities in which the 10 trade union committees are currently involved--in association with the management--is the program for linking the productivity norm with the wage scale.

This linkage has been successfully established with respect to all sectors of the construction project. It represents an important step forward in terms of productivity and high-quality work, based on the experience obtained during the actual execution of the project--experience which demonstrated that the linkage improved these indices significantly.

Another Industrial Complex

On the other side of the highway and facing the KTP-1 complex there is a large graded area of land that is all ready for construction of the "Martyrs of 26 July Mechanical Industrial Complex," which is being built with aid from the People's Republic of Bulgaria, which will provide technical assistance and technological equipment.

This industrial complex will cover a total area of 350,000 square meters and produce 11 different types of agricultural machinery. In addition, the complex will have a foundry for ferrous metals and one for nonferrous metals.

The types of agricultural machinery produced by the plant will include a centrifugal fertilizer spreader; a 15-meter mower; a three-disc and a six-disc plow; a combination cultivator-fertilizer spreader; and a combination plow and hiller.

It is estimated that the project will cost a total of 60 million pesos and that a total of 3,000 workers will have been employed in its construction.

The project is currently in the earth-moving stage, and it has been necessary to move a total of 608,257 cubic meters of earth to date.

Industrialization is making progress, and in the vanguard are those industries that will make it possible to mechanize agricultural activity, which plays an important part in overall economic development. This will in turn help to bring about elimination of the distinctions between rural and urban life, and between manual and intellectual labor.

PHOTO CAPTIONS

1. p 32. The equipment is being readied for the initial test.
2. p 33. The modern plant for the manufacture of KTP-1 sugarcane combine harvesters will be dedicated on 26 July. By 1980 it will be producing a total of 600 units per year.
3. p 34 (top). One of the sections that will go into production in the very near future.
4. p 34 (center). The second chassis is already in the welding shop.
5. p 34 (bottom right). This machine will go into operation very shortly and will produce one of the KTP-1 harvester parts.
6. p 35. Reinaldo Rico Mason: "We realize how important this plant is for the Revolution."
7. p 36 (center left). Installation of the outside utilities is being carried out vigorously.
8. p 36 (bottom left). Tool adjuster Leonid Leonov transmits his experience to young Roberto Cespedes. The group of Soviet specialists that is working here was commended recently for the good work it has accomplished.
9. p 36 (bottom right). Working alongside the Cuban technicians, the Soviet specialists are participating in one of the finest examples of proletarian internationalism.
10. p 37. Partial view of the testing yard of the plant.

10,992
CSO: 3010

RECORD CITRUS CROP ANNOUNCED

Farm Figures Given

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 10 Apr 77 p 1

[Article by Tony Gonzalez Martin and Lilia Solis]

[Text] Already 203 brigades have reached the million arroba (1 arroba= 25 pounds) mark, and 331 more are on the way, which means that about 400 cutter brigades are expected to become million arroba cutters during the current harvest, a substantial increase over last year.

Rafael Francia Mestre, a member of the Central Committee and the minister of agriculture, closed the nationwide homage to the 80 vanguards and candidates for the title of National Hero of Labor and to the representatives of the 20 best enterprises in the farm sector during 1976.

The ceremony took place in the Lazaro Pena Theater at the Central Organization of Cuban Workers, where the vanguards and the delegates from the winning enterprises were decorated.

In discussing the harvest, Francia Mestre explained that more than 320 combine operators have already surpassed 1 million arrobas, and more than 700 are expected to reach that figure.

He estimated that around 500 operators of cane loaders would become million arroba workers during the current sugar harvest, as well as 75 hauling operators and 10 truck drivers, all of which indicates that the previous harvest's efforts have been surpassed.

He urged all those present to pay the greatest attention to the tasks of sowing, cultivation, fertilization, irrigation and above all cleaning, as a means of guaranteeing the success of this and the next sugar harvest.

The minister pointed out that we also have to continue moving forward in the production of tubers and vegetables, tobacco and citrus fruits, as well as in livestock efforts, and he praised the gains that were made during 1976 in each one of these activities.

After congratulating the delegates from the Giron citrus fruit enterprise for having produced a record 1 million quintales (1 quintal=100 pounds), he listed the main tasks that the First Party Congress established for livestock workers.

By 1980, he explained, 2 billion eggs must be produced, and there must be a rise in the supply of poultry for the people. In addition, some 80,000 metric tons of pork on the hoof must be produced by that year.

He called upon all those present to pursue a policy of maximum savings and efficiency in all their activities, as an ongoing concern that is an inseparable part of farm activities.

Francia Mestre said that we have more than 60,000 tractors for our farm activities, whereas there were less than 9,000 before the triumph of the revolution. He stressed that mechanical cane loaders harvest 98 percent of the hand-cut cane.

Cuban agriculture employs more than 3,000 university technicians, more than 25,000 intermediate-level technicians and skilled workers and more than 50,000 lower-level specialists.

He noted that more than 97,000 workers in the sector are registered in the program for the sixth grade, the attainment of which is a task for all.

In conclusion, he recalled the date of 9 April, when the vanguard workers would be rendered homage, and he evoked the names of Lazaro Pena and Jesus Menendez, beloved leaders of the working class.

Reynaldo Castro and Lino Carreras, members of the Central Committee, Rene Penalver for the SNTA [National Union of Food Industry Workers] and representatives from the Soviet Embassy in our country, plus 14 national heroes in the sector, among others, presided over the homage.

Citrus Fruit Experts Discuss Research Papers

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 10 Apr 77 p 2

[Article by Tony Gonzalez Martin]

[Text] More than 100 scientific papers will be analyzed and discussed by specialists in citrus and other fruits during their Fifth Research Meeting, which will be held in Jaguey Grande from 13 to 16 April.

Including delegates and invited guests, 300 experts will take part in the meeting; they will be coming from the National Directorate of Citrus Fruits and its branches, from the Academy of Sciences and from the universities of Havana and Camaguey.

Also participating in the scientific forum will be representatives from the administration of the Plant Disease Control Front of the Agriculture Ministry, from the Research Institute of the Ministry of the Food Industry, from CENIC [National Scientific Research Center], from the Institute of Agricultural Sciences and from the National Botanical Garden.

The headquarters of the meeting will be the Antonio Jose de Sucre Basic Secondary School in the Field, which is part of our country's largest citrus fruit program.

The materials to be discussed include 92 scientific papers, 8 scientific reports and 4 lectures.

The previous scientific meeting of the Agriculture Ministry's Directorate of Citrus Fruits was held in Havana in 1975.

8743

CSO: 3010

CUBA

COLLECTIVIZATION OF FARMLANDS PROMOTED

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 10 Apr 77 p 2

[Text] Transformation of Ways of Farm Production

"...we must be thinking of formulas which will make it possible for us to apply the principle of the maximum utilization of the land, ways to take the maximum from the land in order to be able to satisfy the needs of the population...."

Speech by Commander in Chief
Fidel Castro in la Plata, 1974

The Need of Changing to Superior Ways of Production Is Established Because:	The land is our principal natural resource.
	The population is growing and cultivable land is decreasing.
Two Ways We Can Follow To Go Ahead in Agricultural Production	Incorporation of the farmer and his land into the plans of the state.
	The agricultural cooperative as a way of collective production.

8339

CSO: 3010

CUBA

RAIN CAUSES HARVEST PROBLEMS IN VILLA CLARA

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 23 Apr 77 p 1

[Article by Juan Varela Perez: "Rain Causes Most Time Lost for Villa Clara Sugar Mills"]

[Text] Santa Clara--As of 20 April rain was the cause of the most time lost by the 27 sugar mills that operate in Villa Clara. This means some arrobas were not refined and less sugar was produced; this will have to be made up.

The figure--4.64 percent--is much higher than the quota which is assigned based on the average of previous harvests; in this case it was 2.68.

In past campaigns rain had been a pretext in some cases to cover up other deficiencies. In 1977, however, the rain has repeatedly interrupted cutting and harvesting in many provinces.

In central and western Cuba, rain gauges record the amount of precipitation. This amount has concerned all those in charge of making the pledge of a perfect harvest a reality.

Villa Clara, without doubt, is one of the areas that has felt the negative influence of the rain which paradoxically benefits agriculture in general, especially the cane badly affected by the long drought which few areas escaped.

That reality shows up in the analysis of the progress of the harvest. Only 83 percent was refined by the end of April. The same situation can be observed in the use of petroleum; 1.22 gallons per metric ton of cane processed were used instead of 1.19. It is necessary to point out the concern of the personnel at the 13 mills that have maintained reserves. This select group of mills includes Antonio Finalet, Perucho Figueredo, Braulio Coroneaux, Mariana Grajales, Abel Santamaria, Jose Riquelme, El Vaquerito, Hector Rodriguez, Carlos Balino, Unidad Proletaria, Emilio Cordova, Juan Pedro Carbo Servia and Panchito Gomez Toro. As is already

tradition in that industry, they have not used up their petroleum this year yet.

The recovery of 86.61 percent in this group of Villa Clara mills is higher than the quota of 85.79 that they must average at the end of the refining.

Sugar mills Efrain Alfonso, Heriberto Duquesne and Marcelo Salado have the negative distinction of consuming the most petroleum in Villa Clara ranging from 2.76 to 3.83 gallons.

Let us see the situation of time lost in the industry for various reasons as of 20 April.

	Quota %	Actual %
Rain	2.68	4.64
Railroads	1.06	0.56
Cleaning	4.48	4.17
Operational Problems	3.45	2.73
Industrial Breakdown	3.73	2.98
Miscellaneous	1.53	4.50
Agricultural	----	4.39
Total	16.93	23.97

As can be observed, there is no quota for agricultural causes. This column includes the hours lost for many reasons like breakdown of the cutting and harvesting equipment, low productivity of cutters and decreased yield of the complexes.

The rain also has indirect effects because it makes the roads worse, reduces operational possibilities in the field and can increase breakdowns.

However, in Villa Clara justification based on numbers does not prevail nor is there room for resignation. On the contrary, refining 81 percent last Thursday under difficult conditions proves that where there is hope in the harvest, there is life.

7717

CSO: 3010

CUBA

AGRICULTURAL WORKERS UNION CALLS FOR EXTRA EFFORT

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 23 Apr 77 p 3

[Text] SNTA [National Agricultural Workers Union] exhorted its members participating in the present sugar harvest to step up cane cutting and harvesting this April so that the yields remain high in homage to International Labor Day.

"It is pleasing," stated SNTA, "that due to the effort of the agricultural workers, the figures in the Million Arroba Cane Cutting Movement are higher than in the same period last year in spite of difficulties caused by the bad weather in the western and central provinces and the drought in the eastern part of the country."

In a communique for 1 May the union organization stated that even though these achievements demand public recognition, it is necessary to repeat that quotas for this harvest must be strictly met. This means finishing the harvest with the highest levels of productivity in manual and mechanized cutting and harvesting, efficiently carrying out the spring sowing and cultivation and cleaning of the cane fields and working hard on the Special Sugar Harvest Competition, emphasizing an increase in the Million Arroba Movement and the arrival of fresh, pure cane to the sugar mills.

After indicating that it is necessary for each worker to give adequate maintenance to his equipment and to observe the strictest discipline in order to meet the quota for an efficient sugar harvest, SNTA stated that it has complete confidence that the agricultural workers will improve work organization and standardization, especially the link between quota and salary. They will faithfully comply with the savings plan and the provisions for safety and hygiene and an increase in the indices of use of agricultural machinery.

It indicated that large quantities of cane still remain in many national sugar mills. These will serve as incentive so that the agricultural workers will continue their efforts toward a perfect harvest.

7717

CSO: 3010

CUBA

VEGETABLE PRODUCTION UP IN FIRST QUARTER

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 23 Apr 77 p 3

[Article by Ariel Rojas: "Almost 8 Million Quintals of Fruits, Vegetables Harvested in First Quarter This Year"]

[Text] Fruit and vegetable production reached almost 8 million quintals during the first quarter of the year according to the noncane agriculture production council of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The national cultivation directors and assistant delegates from all the provinces and the Isla de Pinos analyzed the progress of production in the different agricultural categories until now and the prospects for this year.

In the first quarter 7,792,000 quintals of fruits and vegetables were produced; fruit was the dominant crop. The increase reported in fruits until now and the predictions for the sown areas that will be harvested this year are higher than last year and higher than the technical and economic quotas for this year.

The optimistic estimates for fruit which are based on the availability of larger areas for banana, taro and potato crops will help offset the negative effects the climate has had on vegetable crops.

The efforts to raise tomatoes for industrial processing and the systematic cultivation, fertilization and irrigation, principally of banana and taro fields with high productive potential, will continue. Larger areas were sown this year in Villa Clara, Cienfuegos, Sancti Spiritus, Camaguey and Havana.

It was reported that 97.3 percent of the citrus export quota has been reached; it will increase this year by 30 percent compared to last year.

Advances in Mechanization

Rafael Francia Mestre, minister of agriculture, and the national cultivation directors and assistant delegates for noncane agriculture in all the provinces toured the Artemisa banana plantations where they observed the efforts that Havana Province has made to encourage mechanization, principally in this agricultural field.

The visitors accompanied by Angel Curbelo, vice minister of agriculture, and Maximo Diaz, delegate from the ministry in Havana, observed the functioning of the banana plant, fertilizing equipment, a motorized sprinkler for irrigating the banana plantations and a sorting plant for seed potato.

Later, speaking to the participants of the production council, the minister of agriculture emphasized the effort Havana Province has made to encourage mechanization and exhorted them to continue because it means a savings in manpower, an increased productivity and a contribution to efficiency in the use of resources.

Francia Mestre indicated that it is necessary to increase agricultural production, principally of the basic products, with the aid of technology, irrigation and fertilization. He urged improvement in technological charts classifying fields for fruits and vegetables.

He pointed out that it is necessary to work for the fulfillment of the quota this year and also plan for the future. He emphasized the importance of classifying the fields as to irrigation, mechanization and use of technology to achieve "the maximum with the resources that we have."

He pointed out that we are still not getting maximum use from the land nor proper rotation as in the case of lands with irrigation investments used for potatoes and tobacco. Crops there can be harvested twice a year with a short-cycle crop like tender corn. Rice fields can be used after the harvest to feed livestock.

Francia Mestre repeated the need to use the resources that we possess well, to increase specialization of cultivations and to make efforts to achieve increasingly more efficient agricultural enterprises.

The meeting where a representation from the National Agricultural Workers Union also spoke was concluded by Anibal Henriquez from the Agricultural Department of the Central Committee of the party.

7717

CSO: 3010

CUBA

MILITARY RETAIL, SERVICE OUTLETS DESCRIBED

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 10 Apr 77 pp 32-33

[Report by D. Kindelan: "Military Commerce"]

[Text] Military commerce was created to improve the living conditions of the troops. For this purpose the MINFAR [Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces] issued the first guidelines for the creation of the Military Commerce Administration and its agencies and institutions on 11 January 1973. On this date the organization of these agencies and institutions began in the various FAR commands.

In mid-1973, the formation of such agencies and institutions began in the units, military schools, and so forth, with the installation of cafeterias for the sale of meals, barber shops for barber service and tailor's shops to make and sell military clothing.

Later the commercial lines were diversified to include the sale of personal grooming items, industrial products, including books, phonograph records, stationery for personal use and so forth. As these products were made available, facilities to purchase them were increased. Similarly eating facilities were developed with the opening of officers quarters, clubs, recreation centers and so forth.

Both food and industrial products as well as commercialized food services follow the policy established by our government for all of the country. That is to say, the products are the same as those which can be freely purchased in any Internal Commerce establishment and the prices are also the same.

Practical experience gained in this area within the FAR and, in accordance with the institutionalization and development of the country, made it possible to establish an enterprise to control and organize commercial activity within the FAR.

Therefore, the Military Commercial Enterprise was created by Decree No. 3825 published in the GACETA OFICIAL on 6 August 1975. This is a paramilitary enterprise with the status of juristic person for all legal, economic and administrative purposes. It maintains relations on this basis with the Central Planning Board, the National Bank of Cuba and the various ministries and central agencies. It operates under the MINFAR.

The enterprise is responsible for the marketing of food and industrial products and for providing personal, eating, recreation and other services to FAR personnel through the network of establishments currently in operation or which may be created in accordance with norms and regulations in effect.

Relations With SDE

In fulfillment of the resolutions of the First Party Congress concerning the establishment of the new SDE [Economic Management System], the Military Commerce agencies will follow the same principles as other national agencies. On the basis of this new concept, the Military Commerce enterprises have been created territorially under the Military Commerce Administration of the FAR Rearguard Command.

One of the peculiarities of the service offered is that it is for FAR members within the military units or their territory. Commercial enterprises have been created for this purpose and another has been created for production. The latter manufactures military clothing to be purchased later in shops established for this purpose.

Structurally the FAR enterprises, both the commercial and production units, resemble those in the rest of the country. They are national in character since they come under the central control of the Military Commerce Administration, but their work is located in the territory of the corresponding military commands and they operate for the benefit of the latter.

From the economic viewpoint they operate in accordance with the guidelines set up for other enterprises. The principles established in the SDE are applicable to them and the bases for their operation are determined by economic calculations. In other words, in general terms, the same guidelines are applied.

That is to say, the FAR enterprises must meet their expenses through their income and also guarantee a margin of profit. They will enjoy operational economic autonomy and, within the established limits, they will administer and use the property allocated to them. They will conduct their activities under the direct control of the Military Commerce Administration, which, in its turn, is subject to socialist legislation and state discipline. In conclusion, they are subject to the guidelines established by the new SDE.

In order to assure the Marxist-Leninist training of their personnel, study club groups and political classes are established for officers, cadres and civilian workers, respectively, in accordance with the directions issued by the FAR Political Directorate and the FAR National Union of Civilian Workers.

These enterprises will play an important role in the FAR, since their objective is to contribute to the improvement of the living conditions of our officers, non-commissioned officers, soldiers and civilian workers in the FAR and to thereby improve the fighting spirit of the troops.

The activities of military commerce must be assured under any circumstances, both in peacetime and in wartime. We have practical examples of this within the socialist community, especially in the Soviet Armed Forces. Through the new enterprise structure, positive steps are being taken to carry out the tasks assigned by the party leadership and the Revolutionary Government.

8339

CSO: 3010

CUBA

REPORTS ON SUGAR HARVEST PROGRESS PUBLISHED

Million-Arroba Cutting Movement

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 13 Apr 77 p 1

[Text] As of 10 April, the million-arroba [1 arroba = 25 pounds] movement in the cutting, loading, and dumping of sugarcane was ahead of its record for the same date last year. The 5,242 operators listed in the various steps far exceeded the 4,866 who were taking part at the end of the first 10 days of April 1976.

Only the well-known "truckers" had fallen behind with a total of only 611 on their way to a million, compared to 1,177 in the preceding harvest.

In that activity, which is of the greatest importance in the direct line to the dumpers, Havana resident Valeriano Gonzalez from the Boris Luis Santa Coloma unit became the first to reach the 1-million mark in this harvest.

Only one trucker employed in dumping the cane reached the goal of 1 million arrobas in 1976, too, but it was thought that that figure would be greatly exceeded this time. Considering the present stage of the harvest, it will apparently be difficult for the truckers to surpass the figures from the last harvest.

The improvement in the million-arroba movement among the harvester operators was to be expected, seeing that the number of machines increased in all the provinces. But the work done by those operating the mechanical loaders is outstanding. Daniel Cabrera from the Manuel Martinez Prieto unit already has the 2-million-arroba title, and he is the first to attain it this year.

That vital equipment, which helps increase the productivity of the canecutters and eliminates the hard work of loading by hand, involves 158 more operators in the program this year than last, including all the steps. Experts on the subject feel that better qualification and experience on the part of the men engaged in mechanical loading are influencing the progress made.

The strength of the million-arroba movement is making itself distinctly felt among the workers engaged in cutting, loading, and dumping.

The million-arroba classification--meaning 1 million arrobas or more--has been won by a total of 708 operators in 1977, compared to the 638 who were entitled to the top incentive as of 10 April 1976.

The conditions in which the current harvest has progressed have not been easy as far as mechanization is concerned, especially in the country's western and central zones. Those zones have been hit frequently by the rains that have accompanied all the cold fronts this winter.

Analyses show that a good portion of the 884 operators in the third step would already be over 1 million arrobas if it had not been for the weather changes.

A comparison of that possibility with the 666 who reached 750,000 arrobas in the 1976 harvest fully demonstrates the great strides made by the million-arroba movement in mechanized work.

But a great deal of cane is still standing in the fields, and the potential capacity of the sugar industry remains available and waiting for the quantities of raw material to exceed the current levels, which are still below what could and should be achieved in April.

Together with the canecutters, those responsible for mechanized cutting and for loading and dumping hold in their hands the opportunity to make up a portion of the initial lag--which is continuing--if they will step up their supplies to the operating sugarmills.

Giron Day provides the proper encouragement for all the operators in the various steps to put forth an effort to progress and reach the next level before the end of this month, since April is the decisive and key month as far as harvest results are concerned.

Much can still be achieved if agriculture makes a greater response.

Harvest Nears Homestretch

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 14 Apr 77 p 1

[Text] The sugar harvest is not yet in the homestretch. On the contrary, many days of grinding remain, and they may be decisive, depending on the levels of industrial output.

It is certain that the processing rate over the past 30 days has not come up to the expected levels, and accumulation toward the potential quota is remaining at the national average, not rising above it as had been predicted. But April is still young, and considerable quantities of cane remain to be delivered to the mills.

The ups and downs in the grinding process have increased petroleum consumption in some provinces, although recoveries have continued at their favorable levels.

Yesterday the Organizing Committee for the 15th Sugar Union Congress urged workers to maintain the same spirit of combat and victory during the remaining days of April that was shown at Giron Beach.

It called on all the men and women in the industry to keep up their efforts at each job post, to pull through, and to overcome any temporary difficulties.

It said, "We know that we have been working on the harvest for a long time, but the time that remains is basic and crucial to our hope of making the perfect harvest a reality, as the party has asked us to do."

The rains--and yesterday it rained again in Havana--have caused considerable delays that are being prolonged excessively, especially in the west and the center. The Organizing Committee emphasized, "But we must be attentive and not neglect any of the efficiency indicators." And it added, "Do not let the rain serve as a screen for concealing other shortcomings that can be overcome by human participation."

It saluted the collectives that are keeping up the grinding, the output, and the absolute recovery while consuming little or no additional fuel, but at the same time it called for increased operational vigilance by area, shift, and job post, emphasizing night work as a time when vigilance is particularly necessary for seeing that not a grain of sugar is lost or a drop of unnecessary petroleum used and ensuring that none of the crews stops work or works inefficiently.

Leaders in the sugar sector told GRANMA that "the industry is already beginning to feel the rigors of the months of continuous activity, and so are the people. But because of the circumstances in which it is being carried out, the 1977 harvest cannot be interrupted for either of those two reasons."

They feel that the list of "giants-of-recovery" sugarmills--those that exceed 86 percent in absolute terms--must grow for the third national agroindustrial harvest checkup, which will be held at the end of April in Ciego de Avila Province.

Last 24 March the Sugar Union concluded its meetings for analysis and discussion at the 147 operating sugarmills. Those meetings dealt with the progress of the harvest, the steps to be taken for guaranteeing fulfillment of the proposed objectives, and participation by the sector's workers in Giron Day activities.

The conclusion of those meetings, which were begun on 14 March in Pinar del Rio, was attended by the leaders in the party, the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Workers], the Sugar Sector Union, and MINAZ [Ministry of the Sugar Industry] at those locations.

Exceeding 84 percent of the national accumulation for potential grinding as soon as possible and with the greatest efficiency is an urgent goal for all the forces involved in the harvest.

The operators employed in the mechanized cutting, loading, and dumping of the cane also have a basic role to play in the remaining days of the harvest. The comparative figures below show the results by type of activity during the 1977 and 1976 harvests.

Situation of the Million-Arroba Movement as of 10 April (1977 Harvest)

	First step	Second step	Third step	1 million	2 million	Total all steps
Cane harvesters	349	299	334	459	11	1,452
Loading operations	532	639	398	212	1	1,782
Dumping operations	829	407	137	24	-	1,397
Truckers	508	87	15	1	-	611
Totals	2,218	1,432	884	696	12	5,242

Situation of the Million-Arroba Movement as of 10 April (1976 Harvest)

	First step	Second step	Third step	1 million	2 million	Total all steps
Cane harvesters	80	220	218	433	24	975
Loading operations	433	608	317	163	3	1,524
Dumping operations	436	654	86	14	1	1,190
Truckers	517	614	45	1	-	1,177
Totals	1,466	2,096	666	611	27	4,866

11798

CSO: 3010

CUBA

SCHOOLCHILDREN'S WORK WORTH 322,000 PESOS

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 8 Apr 77 p 2

[Article by Ramon Brizuela Roque]

[Text] Pinar del Rio--The Pinar del Rio students taking part in the current tobacco harvest have contributed 322,582 pesos to the national economy, covering the "Schools in the Field" period for the 1976-77 school year.

Students in the Tania La Guerrillera Teachers School contributed 47,181 pesos of the total; students in special classes did 2,233 pesos worth of work, while students in the basic secondary day schools did the rest. This does not include the EIDE [expansion unknown] and the ESPA [expansion unknown], which contributed their support in tubers and vegetables.

The work force in the harvest consisted of 7,261 students and 699 workers. In the case of the basic secondary schools, they worked in the farm program from 5 December to 21 January.

The Tania La Guerrillera School worked from 14 January to 14 February, and the special students did so from 24 January to 19 February.

This year was marked by the high percentage of students from day schools who took part, as well as the productivity of the students in the fields, who have made their work in the tobacco harvest a traditional campaign every year.

8743
CSO: 3010

CUBA

BRIEFS

UNITED KINGDOM ECONOMIC AGREEMENT--Havana (AIN) --A scientific and technical collaboration agreement was signed between the governments of Cuba and the United Kingdom in the protocol rooms of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation. Hector Rodriguez Llompart, minister chairman of the state committee, and Mr John Edward Jackson, British ambassador to Cuba, signed the document. The agreement is for the development of a cooperation program that includes technical assistance and training as well as integral scientific and technical projects. The signing was attended by: Ernesto Melendez Bachs, deputy chairman of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation; Raul Taladrid, committee director; Bryan White, British consul in Cuba; Pamela Taylor, third secretary at the United Kingdom Embassy; and other officials from the Cuban state committee and MINREX [Ministry of Foreign Relations]. [Text] [Havana GRANMA in Spanish 23 Apr 77 p 3] 7717

COLOR TV SETS UNREPAIRABLE--Although an explanation has already been given to Jose A. Paz, who resides at 165 Blanco in the city of Havana, of why it is impossible to repair American-made color TV sets, we are making known what the Radio, Television and other Electrical Equipment Repair Enterprise says in this regard, as it might help other readers who are in a similar situation: "We do not repair American-made color TV equipment in our **shops because** of the total lack of components. As we **told** our comrade during the visit that we paid to his home, the screen in his set is defective. Emelio Quesada Sotolongo, assistant director." [Text] [Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 10 Apr 77 p 2] 8743

MANZANILLO-NIQUERO-PILON AIR SERVICE--Granma--The administration of Agricultural Aviation reported here that on the 15th of this month air service will begin from Manzanillo to Niquero and that towards the end of the month a Manzanillo-Pilon line will begin. Both flights will take 20 minutes in AN-2CX planes. The flights from Manzanillo to Niquero will take off at 700 and 1030 and 1530 hours, while return flights from Niquero will be at 730, 1000 and 1600 hours. The schedule of flights to Pilon is currently under study. The cost of the flights for both lines will be 6½ pesos, and travelers will be able to bring 22 pounds of baggage or other cargo. The opening of these two new air routes along the Gulf of Guacanayabo in the eastern region of Granma Province will mean substantial support for transportation activities here, both by increasing the capacity of transportation modes and making travel faster. The administration of Agricultural Aviation is also studying the possibility of inaugurating flights during the vacation season to tourist centers in Las Coloradas and Pilon. [Text] [Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 8 Apr 77 p 2] 8743

CSO: 3010

ECUADOR

GOVERNMENT WARNS AGAINST POLITICAL DISORDER

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 22 Apr 77 pp 1, 3

[Text] The progress of the judicial restructuring plan with its different alternatives and recent events concerning the plan have been reported abroad by the international news agencies from different angles. Below is one of them.

Warning

Quito, 21 Apr (LATIN)--The Ecuadorean military government warned the political parties that it will not tolerate disorder during the present institutionalization process that will culminate next year when the government is handed over to a popularly elected president.

This statement was made last night by the secretary general of the administration, Ship of the Line Captain Victor Garces, as the preelectoral climate began to "heat up."

"If we want true political order, all demonstrations must be authorized by the minister of government and justice so that there will be proper security to provide public safety and defend private property. Otherwise there will be chaos," the official said.

Garces alluded to a demonstration held here 2 days ago by a dozen members of the CFP [Concentration of Popular Forces] because they felt that the commission drawing up two constitutional drafts to be voted on before the elections is obstructing their leader, Assad Bucaram.

The spokesman said that two leaders were arrested on that occasion and are being held.

"There will be many demonstrations from now on and they must be planned. They must be organized and held at appropriate sites with protection for the safety of the demonstrators themselves," he added.

He denied that these were obstacles imposed by the military triumvirate that has been governing Ecuador since 1976, saying that they are safeguards so that the process of institutional restoration can be carried out in "peace and tranquillity."

This plan of the military junta will be carried out in two basic stages, the first of which is in progress.

This stage consists of the elaboration of two constitutional drafts that will be voted on this year and laws governing referendums, elections and political parties.

Once this stage is over and the new constitution is put into effect, presidential elections which should be held in 1978 will be announced.

The political climate "heated up" throughout the country recently after one of the commissions writing the drafts included exclusive Ecuadorean nationality among the requirements for president. This would directly affect Bucaram who has Lebanese parents.

The leader of the CFP and his followers reacted strongly against the decision, stating that it was "intended" for him.

Several of the members of the commissions said that they have received telephone threats from Bucaram's followers. However, this was denied.

Meanwhile, other political parties--including the liberals, conservatives and socialists--began forming a "front" in an apparent attempt to oppose the CFP in spite of the fact that Bucaram's electoral strength is technically unknown.

7717

CSO: 3010

ECUADOR

JUDICIAL COMMISSIONS REPORT THREATS AGAINST MEMBERS

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 22 Apr 77 p 3

[Text] The two judicial commissions reported yesterday that several of their members have received anonymous threats in recent days. The chairman of the second commission, Dr Ramiro Borja y Borja, reported that he will meet with the minister of government and justice today to make a direct complaint.

The members reportedly threatened were: Dr Gonzalo Karolys, Dr Homero Salvador and Dr Federico Veintimilla from the first commission; and Dr Miguel Angel Cevallos, Dr Carlos Feraud and Dr Vicente Ordenana from the second commission.

They reported that the people who threatened them by telephone said it was in the name of the CFP [Concentration of Popular Forces]. They wanted to eliminate any provision in the final drafts of the constitution that could impede the presidential candidacy of the leader of that party, Mr Assad Bucaram.

Nevertheless, attorney Jaime Roldos Aguilera, leader of the CFP and a member of the second judicial commission, in the name of his party categorically denied any tie between the CFP and these warnings and threats. As he said: "That is incompatible with our methods."

He added: "At the same time we denounce these maneuvers to prevent attainment of a real system of law. Some circumstances like these threats make us feel that there are very strong interests trying to keep the people from freely choosing their future. Could it be an attempt to arouse feelings against the CFP?"

After the accusations of the members, the police authorities took precautionary measures but the official complaint will be made today by the chairman of the second commission.

7717

CSO: 3010

ECUADOR

FORMATION OF POLITICAL FRONTS CONTINUES

Quito EL TIEMPO in Spanish 17 Apr 77 pp 1, 8

[Text] Democratic Socialism represented by Dr. Gil Barragan Romero, the Popular Action Front headed by Dr Manuel Araujo Hidalgo and the Nonpartisan Leftist Movement led by Dr Fausto Teran Eguez resolved to join the Center Left Front which was formed by the Liberal Party and the Socialist Party. They signed an agreement setting forth their positions

The sector of the Conservative Party led by Dr Julio Trujillo Vasquez ended its deliberations and ratified the decision to promote with other parties the formation of a progressive platform.

The Left

The leaders of the groups that joined the liberal socialist front indicated in the agreement that they completely endorse the contents of the act of alliance of the parties and the principles of democratic socialism of the liberal socialist front. They said finally that they invite groups and people who share their convictions to help strengthen this movement to achieve a better country.

Study of Draft

One of the resolutions adopted by the conservative sector headed by Dr Trujillo provides that a special commission will study the constitutional draft that best agrees with the spirit of transformation that characterized the convention that ended. The national government will be required to fulfill its promise to return to a constitutional regime, adopting the indispensable amendments concerning term and form.

General Elections

The conservative sector also resolved to demand that the commissions establish temporary norms so that in the coming elections all the electoral duties and responsibilities that are planned in the new constitutional

system be applicable and that once the constitution that the people choose is in effect, the dictatorship will end.

Finally, the General Directorate was authorized to publish the party government program.

7717

CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

LIBERAL PARTY COUNCIL--Quito--In its last session, the Liberal Party Council ratified the actions of its director, Pedro Jose Arteta, and its political commission in relation to the formation of the Center Left Front to unify the political parties. The council also resolved to make Dr Arsenio Vivanco Neira the head of the Liberal Party until the return of Arteta who is abroad at the invitation of the Labor Government of Great Britain. Arteta will return to Quito at the beginning of next month. Upon assuming the leadership of the party, Dr Vivanco Neira said that membership in the Center Left Front has increased since not only the liberal and socialist parties have joined but also related groups like Democratic Socialism, the Popular Action Front and the Leftist Movement. He also reported that he has called a meeting of the political bureau of the Center Left Front for next Wednesday to begin to shape the political platform that will be the basis for campaigning in the Ecuadorean provinces. Finally he indicated that liberal leaders have already been summoned to a national meeting next Saturday in this city to discuss fundamental matters concerning the political situation of the country. The meeting will be held in the party building. [Text] [Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 20 Apr 77 p 11] 7717

PROVISIONS ON REPRESENTATIVES, SENATORS--Quito, 20 Apr--Representatives will serve 2-year terms and can be reelected. The Second Judicial Commission included this in its revision of the 1945 Constitution. According to Article 68, election of representatives will be as follows. The provinces that have up to 100,000 inhabitants will elect one representative, those that have up to 200,000 inhabitants will elect two representatives each, those that have more than 200,000 inhabitants will elect one additional representative for each additional 100,000 inhabitants. If there is a balance of 75,000 or more, they will elect one more representative. The duties and prerogatives of the Senate include the following: to elect among its members a president and vice president; to approve or disapprove treaties and other international agreements; to grant or refuse authorization for the president of the republic to leave the country temporarily and contract loans or other agreements that involve public credit; to decree according to law the legal and monetary responsibility of the

ministers; to form or abolish provinces and districts with precise determination of their jurisdictional boundaries; to honor those who gave service to the country or publicly decree honors in their memory; and such other duties and prerogatives as the Constitution confers on it. [Text]
[Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 21 Apr 77 p 1] 7717

CSO: 3010

MEXICO

NEW INTEREST RATES TO ENCOURAGE INTERNAL SAVINGS

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 23 Apr 77 pp 1-A, 10-A

/Text/ The government of President Lopez-Portillo, in an effort to encourage domestic savings and to reward those who place their money in the nation's banking system, will restructure the existing savings system and authorize increases in the interest rates, ranging from 5.6 to 15 percent net per annum.

The new system which will go into effect early next month and which was made public at the recent banking convention by Finance and Public Credit Minister Julio Rodolfo Moctezuma Cid, is composed of the following principal points:

First, there will be only five instruments of savings which will primarily favor long-term investments; second, no minimum or maximum levels of investment will be set for any of them and, third, interest rates will be higher than the current ones.

Officials of the Finance and Public Credit Ministry, the Bank of Mexico and the Mexican Association of Bankers are still studying the new regulations. However, EL SOL DE MEXICO was able to learn of the recent agreements which tend to simplify the savings system and provide the same earning opportunities to investors.

According to the information that was obtained, 3 and 7 day investment securities will be established. These will be called prior notice /preaviso/ securities which will earn 5.6 and 5.8 percent net per annum. Certificates of deposit for 30, 90 and 180 days will also be available in addition to certificates of deposit and promissory notes of 12 and 24 months. The respective interest rates will be 8, 11, 13 and 15 percent.

A very important point is that these changes do away with maximum and minimum limits on investments and it is very likely that the optional instruments created by the Bank of Mexico last year will be eliminated.

In this way an effort is being made to provide the small investor with the same opportunities available to the large investor. In addition, the existence of a smaller number of instruments of savings makes them more effective.

There currently are instruments of savings in million [peso] denominations and under a million, that is where sums over a million or under a million can be invested. These have different interest rates.

In fact, for example, currently 6-month term investments have a minimum limit of 100,000 pesos and a maximum of just under a million and carry a net interest rate of 10.25 percent for natural persons. Six-month term investments of 1 million and above carry a net interest rate of 12 percent.

As for 12- and 24-month term investments, these earn up to 12.75 percent in interest.

As for 90-day instruments of savings under a million, these earn 11 percent net interest and those over a million earn 12.95 percent net per annum.

With the elimination of minimum and maximum limits, all investors have the same right to earn the interest that corresponds to their investment and this leads to a greater splintering of the existing savings systems.

The final studies have not been made public but these are to date the most recent agreements reached by government officials and representatives of the Mexican Association of Bankers. The feeling is that this new system will stabilize the entire banking system.

8599

CS0: 3010

MEXICO

PRICE DIFFERENTIALS SPARK DIESEL FUEL, CACAO SMUGGLING

Illegal Diesel Fuel Shipments

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 23 Apr 77 pp 1-A, 14-A

/Text/ The board of directors of Petroleos Mexicanos and the Under Secretary for Fiscal Oversight of the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit announced yesterday that an investigation conducted by both agencies uncovered that large amounts of diesel fuel have been exported to the United States without the required export permits.

It was announced that to prevent such "illegal exports" of this fuel, which is "damaging to the economy of Petroleos Mexicanos and of the nation in general," a series of steps have been taken to keep the actions of "unscrupulous Mexicans" from continuing to harm the nation. These steps include the closing of service stations and the cancellation of permits to distributors of our products who engage in or promote the illegal exports, particularly in the northern part of the country.

It was explained that Petroleos Mexicanos sells diesel fuel at 65 centavos per liter throughout the nation, that the same price in the United States ranges from 2.30 to 3.30 pesos per liter and that it is feared that the situation is continuing and becoming worse because U.S. officials have announced that within a few days there will be a price increase for all fuels.

It was reported that illegal diesel fuel exports have cost Pemex tremendous amounts of money because it has been forced to import diesel fuel to meet internal demand. It was also announced that the Under Secretary for Fiscal Oversight was taking the steps necessary to strengthen its surveillance of the northern border area.

Diesel Fuel Shortages Cause Serious Harm

Mexicali, Baja California, 22 April--The shortage of diesel fuel in the Mexicali Valley has done great damage to the agricultural sector because tilling and leveling of the soil in the valley has been stopped since last Wednesday due to the shortage of fuel for the tractors.

In view of this situation, the peasant members of the State Agrarian League agreed during a special meeting to meet with President Lopez-Portillo during his visit to Tijuana. They will ask him to severely punish those who are responsible for the shortage of diesel fuel.

Several farmers have taken barrels to gasoline stations in rural and urban areas in an effort to buy the fuel but gas station employees have refused to sell it to them. It is believed that this shortage has been created because apparently the diesel fuel is being taken from Pemex warehouses by disloyal employees who are smuggling it into the United States.

The shortage of fuel could lead to delays in crop planting and the loss of several million pesos, peasant leader Francisco Diaz Echerivel said.

Cacao Smuggled Into Guatemala

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 23 Apr 77 pp 1-A, 14-A

/Text/ The low price of cacao in Mexico has forced producers to go into other businesses: "many have cut down the trees on their plantation and are turning to raising other crops such as bananas while others are now working for Pemex." The low price has also led to cacao smuggling, Ramon Celorio Valle, president of the National Union of Cacao Producers, said yesterday.

Over the past 2 months 2,000 tons of cacao were illegally taken across the border into Guatemala. A kilo of cacao is worth 25 pesos on the Mexican market but it is worth 100 pesos or more abroad, he said.

Therefore, Celorio Valle explained, the Federal Government should authorize a rise in the domestic price of cacao "as a means of providing producers with economic incentives and to prevent smuggling." An official request has been submitted to the Ministry of Commerce.

"If a price increase is not authorized, the peasants will continue to cut down their trees and turn to other activities. Mexico will cease to be an exporter and will become an importer of cacao," Celorio Valle warned.

The cacao producers are asking that the domestic price be raised to 52 pesos per kilo of fermented cacao. This would double the existing price.

The leader of the cacao producers explained that production costs "had increased tremendously, particularly in the area of salaries." Although the minimum wage in the Tabasco area is 63.80 pesos, "we have to pay our workers much more."

Workers and producers "have gone to work for Petroleos Mexicanos where the pay is better. This has contributed to a drop in production," Celorio Valle added.

He complained that Pemex "is taking the best workers from the cacao fields, the better paid ones."

"It is important for everyone to remember that the petroleum boom in Tabasco might last for 4 or 5 years, who knows. And when it ends, what are we going to do without cacao," he said.

In meetings held with Commerce Ministry officials and industrialists who use cacao as a raw material, "we have asked them to understand that if there is no increase in price, production will fall even more. They seemed to have understood the situation."

"As it is, production will drop because of the heavy rains, 120 consecutive days of rain, which caused the growth of a fungus, a toadstool that is dangerous to the cacao trees."

In Tabasco, the main producing area, there are between 40,000 and 50,000 hectares planted with cacao. Some 20,000 families make a living from cacao, he concluded.

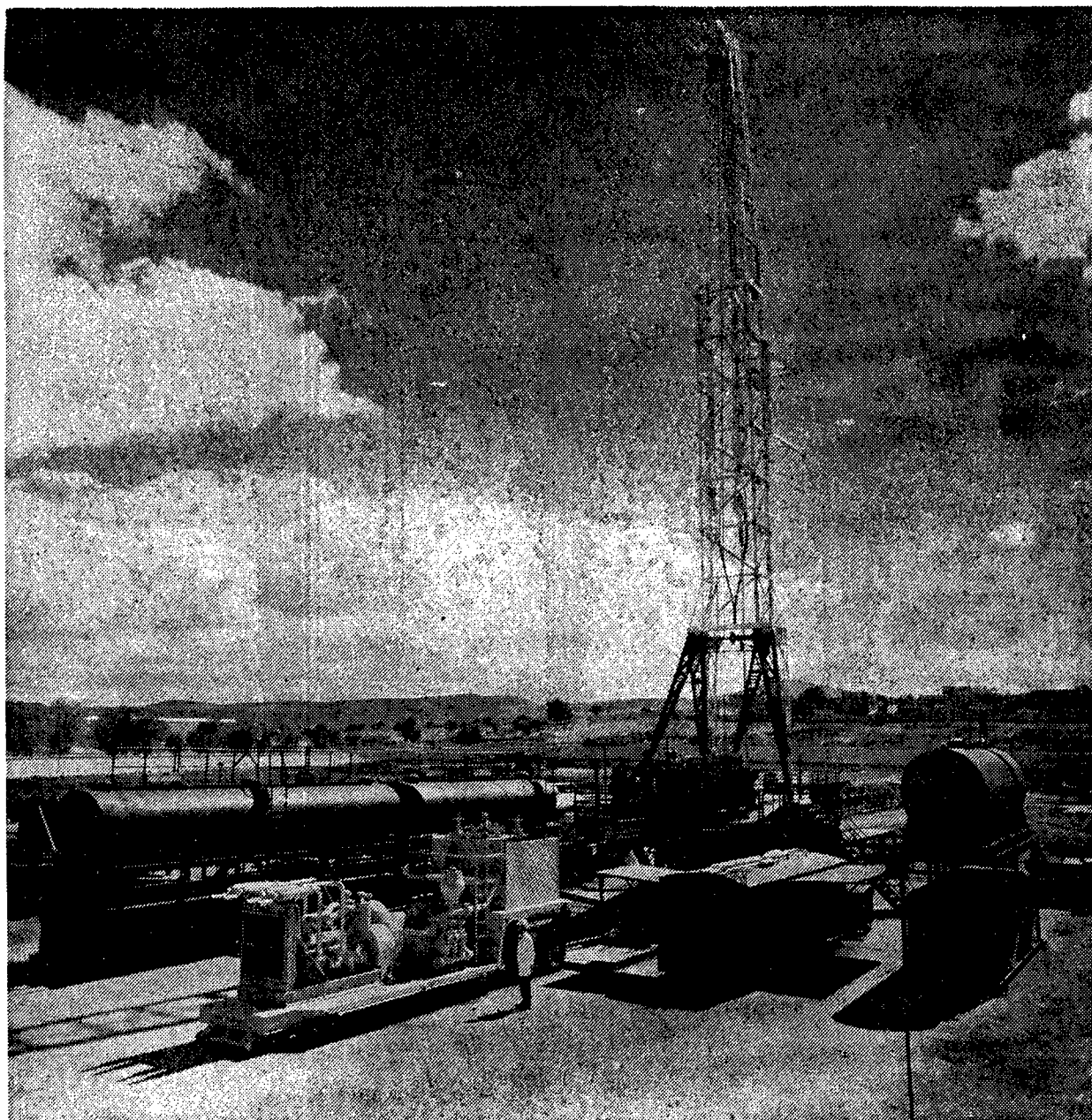
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CSO: 3010

MEXICO

QUICK SET-UP DRILL RIGS DELIVERED TO PEMEX

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 24 Mar 77 p 17-A



[Text] The 17th of last March, Industria del Hierro, S.A. [Iron Industries] delivered through its mechanical division-8 land rigs for drilling, repair and maintenance of oil wells to Petroleos Mexicanos [PEMEX].

Each rig consists of a capstan T-45 with a drilling capacity of 2,500 meters, telescopic and folding post, auxiliary equipment for mud samples, service booths with soldering plants and compressed air, substructure and elevated reservoirs for fuel and water. All these components are mounted on trailers to render them completely portable and to move them by road.

The rational design of this equipment allows it to be re-installed in only 3 days.

Industria del Hierro was established in the city of Queretaro in 1963, with the objective of cooperating in Mexico's progress, by manufacturing capital goods comprising heavy industrial equipment destined for the various basic industries of our country.

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CSO: 3010

MEXICO

LABOR: CHECK INFLATION OR RAISE WAGES

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 24 Mar 77 p 1

[Text] "Let it be clearly understood: either inflation and speculation are checked, or we shall legitimately seek higher salaries to compensate for the loss in purchasing power," the president of the Labor Congress, Senator Daniel Espinoza Galindo warned yesterday.

The labor leader said that this will be the case despite the good intentions of the trade authorities; if this situation is allowed to continue, "the labor movement will have no alternative but to reconsider its position of solidarity with the anti-inflationary measures," he stated, "because we cannot fold our arms and wait."

He reported that, according to a survey of 135 basic products conducted by CONAMPROS [expansion unknown], only 15 have maintained the same price level. Prices for the other products have risen from 10 to 65 percent. "We do not ask for spectacular or ideal solutions, but we do expect realistic and effective measures."

Espinoza Galindo criticized the "criminal and shameless speculation" on products such as milk for infants; merchants are following the same tactics they used in the case of soluble coffee. He noted that the price of fish rose by 292 percent. The "price reductions" advertised by merchants, he added, are merely symbolic and do not in any way conform to presidential requests.

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CSO: 3010

MEXICO

HERNANDEZ: TRADE DEFICIT TO DECREASE IN 1977

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 24 Mar 77 p 7

[Article by Estela Vaylon: "Trade Deficit in 1977 Will Decrease by 50 Percent"]

[Text] Mexico will reduce its foreign trade deficit by 50 percent this year compared with the 1975 deficit, but this will require an effort to increase exports, Under Secretary of Foreign Trade Hector Hernandez stated.

Meeting with the members of the Association of Industrialists of the State of Mexico, this official, in answer to a reporter's question, said that he is in total agreement with Secretary of Commerce Fernando Solana, who recently stated that our country will definitely achieve this notable and substantial decrease in its trade deficit.

He explained that both Solana and Adrian Lajous, director of the Mexican Foreign Trade Institute--who stated last Tuesday that this decrease would not be possible either this year or in the coming years--are right: while the secretary of commerce was referring to commerce in general, Lajous, in lawyer Hernandez' opinion, was referring exclusively to the foreign trade structure, in which case a decrease is actually more difficult to achieve.

CEDIS [Certificates of Tax Rebates] Will Resume

Allaying the fears of the industrialists, who wish to know if this system will be restored, Hernandez stated that this system will resume soon, but that the certificates will be unlike those issued before the devaluation of our currency. The certificates of tax rebates (CEDIS) will be issued to those enterprises which, because of the present fiscal conditions, are in no position to export. Moreover, those industrialists receiving the CEDIS must promise to increase their export potential at all costs.

The Way Is Open

Another question from the press was aimed at finding out what the activity of 2,650 firms is, out of a total 2,800 firms in the export trade, or appearing as exporters in the reports, and of which barely 150 have generated 98.8 percent of the export trade. In answer to the question, the undersecretary of

foreign trade, after pointing out that he agrees with this fact, said that it was an indirect invitation to the industrialists to strive for increased production and exports.

The way toward and the possibilities for increased exports, he asserted, are wide open. It is therefore up to the industrialists to accelerate the rate of increase of the export trade.

Necessary Equilibrium

In the speech delivered to the industrialists, the undersecretary of foreign trade pointed out that it is necessary to achieve without delay an equilibrium in the trade balance, in order to concentrate on other economic and social development plans. It is possible to achieve this equilibrium by a drastic cut in imports or a substantial increase in exports, without, for that matter, discounting the importance of a better rationalization of imports.

He stated that the best way would be to increase our sales abroad, since this enables us to buy more goods, technology, equipment and parts required for our development, which are not available in this country.

"Gentlemen, it is urgent that we take advantage of the options and alternatives offered us by the present national and international situations, in order to transform foreign trade into one of the strongest supports of development and social welfare, thus contributing to the alliance for production."

"We should propose," he added, "to expand the export markets, though not at the expense of the present ones, to which, on the contrary, we must direct a larger proportion of sales; we should not promote any illusions, nor diversify markets at the expense of those already used up."

Our natural resources are in considerable demand abroad, a fact which we will not unduly exploit, since they will be carefully regulated to achieve a fair balance in their utilization between internal demand and export; this is the case with hydrocarbons, minerals, seafood, agricultural and livestock products.

Industrialists Promise

In response, the president of the Association of Industrialists of the State of Mexico, Engineer Sabi L. Sampson, stated that the industrialists intend, and as a matter of fact, promise to fulfill the government's requests, offering all their help to the alliance for production.

He said that the industrialists of the State of Mexico will invest 8 to 10 billion pesos during the present year. The chemical industry will invest 2 billion; the metal industry 1.6 billion; the textile industry 600 million; the electrical and electronics industry 1.6 billion; the paper and paper derivatives industry 1 billion; the food industry 500 million and the automotive 1 billion pesos.

He noted that they are awaiting the actual implementation of the announcement made at the last convention of Mexican bankers, according to which legal intrusions into private banking of the State of Mexico will diminish.

In 1976, the industries of the State of Mexico exported 7.3 percent of the country's total exports. The imports constituted a percentage of 13.5, with a deficit of 6 percent. These figures can be easily exceeded.

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CSO: 3010

MEXICO

CROMATOS DE MEXICO CLOSED AS POLLUTER

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 24 Mar 77 p 13-A

[Text] The Cromatos de Mexico, S.A. factory was closed yesterday at 1730 hours by order of Dr Jorge Jimenez Cantu, governor of the State of Mexico, following a study which ascertained that dust and industrial wastes from the factory are polluting the environment and constitute a health hazard for the inhabitants of the Lecheria village.

The closing of the factory came 6 months after the Undersecretariat of the Environmental Health Service and the state government of Mexico opened the investigation.

The company has a capitalization of 50 million pesos and manufactures yearly 25 million pesos worth of chromium-based products.

This industry, founded in 1958, is owned by the Bayer world consortium.

Contamination primarily affected potable water, as a result of the industrial wastes having been filtered down by the rain and having deposited toxic materials into the underground wells. Moreover, wind-borne dust is causing nasal hemorrhages in young children, as well as respiratory diseases.

The 150 workers employed by the factory, which works on a three-shift schedule, will be relocated in other industries.

The raw materials used by the factory are chromium, lime and carbonate. It produces sodium dichromate, potassium dichromate and sodium sulfate, used in the tanning and dye industries and in the preparation of various chemical compounds.

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CSO: 3010

PERU

NEW DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS MAKE IMPROVED TRADE POSSIBLE

Diplomatic Relations With Malta

Lima LA PRENSA in Spanish 28 April 77 p 2

[Text] Lima 27 April (ESI-PERU). The governments of Peru and Malta have agreed to establish diplomatic relations, giving good prospects for fruitful trade relations. Such relations were promoted by the recent visit of the minister of commerce of Malta, Patrick Holland.

The representative of the Maltese Government engaged in positive dialogs in our country with the ministers of economy and finance, industry and tourism, commerce, and foreign relations.

The communique of the Ministry of Foreign Relations follows:

Communique on Maltese Relations

The Government of the Peruvian Republic and the Government of the Republic of Malta, wishing to further their cordial ties, have agreed to establish diplomatic relations with the goal of making more effective the actions that they may be able to bring about in the promotion of the high interests that they have in common, in agreement with the principles consecrated in the charter of the United Nations.

Both governments have agreed to maintain diplomatic relations through their respective embassies accredited to the government of the republic of Italy.

Lima, 27 April 1977.

Trade With Malta, Libya

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 27 Apr 77 p 4

[Text] The Republic of Malta is interested in constituting mixed trinational enterprises with the participation of Peru, Malta and Libya. Such mixed enterprises would dedicate themselves to producing and commercializing products.

This information was divulged immediately after the meeting that the head of the National Planning Institute, Gen Jorge Chavez Quelopana, had with the Maltese minister of commerce, Patrick Holland.

During that meeting Holland indicated the possibility of forming a mixed commission with Maltese and Peruvian members for the establishment of commercial relations.

To this end he offered to receive in his country a Peruvian delegation for the purpose of analyzing the possibilities of fomenting trade.

For his part, General Chavez Quelopana presented an analysis of the Peruvian economic situation and a synthesis of the new legal dispositions related to foreign investment in our country.

General Chavez Quelopana will travel to Guatemala next Saturday 30 April at the head of the delegation that will represent Peru in the 17th period of sessions of the Economic Commission for Latin America.

This meeting began on the technical level on Monday 25 April. The first vice presidency was given to the Peruvian delegation for these sessions on the recommendation of Bolivia. Their visit will last until next 5 May.

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CSO: 3010

PERU

AIRPLANE CONSTRUCTION PLANNED

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 13 Apr 77 p 6

[Text] A twin-engined cargo aircraft designed by Peruvian technicians may be built in our country with domestic materials, in order to contribute to the solution of the transport problem in the jungle regions.

The plans for the aircraft have already been delivered to the pertinent authorities of the Ministry of Aeronautics, according to the announcement made yesterday by Julio Cockburn, president of the Peruvian Model Airplane Association.

He said that the construction of the airplane would mean "reopening of the aeronautical industry of Peru," after it reached its peak years ago with the manufacture of the Faucett single-engined aircraft.

The model planned is similar to the present Canadian Buffalo. Once built, it would become a prototype, subject to improvements for later construction on an assembly line.

The first stage of the project would consist of the building of a model 1 meter, 80 centimeters long, with all the characteristics of a real aircraft to scale. Then would come the construction of the prototype, on which modifications would be carried out.

The aircraft would be finished within a year. It would have two engines with propellers, capable of transporting both passengers and cargo. All the materials employed, including the engines, would be domestically produced.

Successes of Peruvian Model Airplane Clubs

Alvarez Calderon, engineer and world authority on this type of design, Julio Cockburn brought out the international successes enjoyed by Peruvian model airplane clubs. He said that two big triumphs were won in Buenos Aires in both team and individual competitive trials. He pointed out that this demonstrates the high grade of efficiency attained by Peruvian engineers and experts in this activity, which combines sport, science and art in a single plane.

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CSO: 3010

PERU

GOVERNMENT APPROVES FOREIGN INVESTMENT AGREEMENT

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 13 Apr 77 p 1

[Text] Lima, 12 April (ESI-PERU)--The Revolutionary Government today approved reforms for improving the ordinary regulations governing the treatment of foreign capital within the Andean region, and on trademarks, patents, licenses and privileges, contained in Decisions 103 and 109 of the Cartagena Agreement Commission.

The ratification of these decisions by the highest body of the Andean Pact came about by means of Decree Law 21826, approved in the session of the Council of Ministers. The decree consists of a single article by which Decisions 103 and 109 are approved.

From now on proprietors of direct foreign investments in Peru will have the right, after authorization by the competent organization, to transfer abroad in freely convertible foreign exchange verified net profits deriving from their direct foreign investment up to 20 percent of the total investment annually.

This is brought about by the change in Article 37 of Decision 24 of the Cartagena Agreement, which also indicates that each member country of the Andean Pact may authorize higher percentages, with the obligation of communicating the measures or decisions taken in this regard to the Agreement Commission.

The decree law also contains a transcription of Decisions 103 and 109, which has in its different articles the various modifications in nomenclature, such as "direct foreign investment," "domestic investors," "regional investor," "foreign," as well as the description of what is a domestic, mixed and foreign company.

Decision 103 establishes that the participation of foreign investors in domestic and mixed companies may be approved as long as it deals with the expansion of the capital of the respective company, which at least must maintain its mixed character.

In another modifying article, it is pointed out that the regional investor has the right to re-export the invested capital when he sells the stock, shares or rights to domestic or regional investors or when the company is liquidated.

It points out also that with regard to internal credit, foreign companies will not have access to long terms. The conditions and stipulations of access to short and medium-term internal credit will be those established by the respective national legislatures in these matters; to this effect medium term is considered that which does not exceed three years.

The same Decision 103 incorporates in the regulation for treatment of foreign capital other articles in which investments of government financial entities or cooperative government entities for economic development are described, such contributions being considered neutral capital and, as a consequence, shall not be counted as national or foreign in the enterprises in which they participate.

For its part Decision 109 elaborates on the definitions of "domestic investor" introduced by Decision 103 into the ordinary regulations governing the treatment of foreign capital. This decision also modifies Article 30 of Decision 24 and the second subparagraph of Article 2 of Decision 46.

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CSO: 3010

PERU

RICE IMPORTS ELIMINATED

Lima LA CRONICA in Spanish 13 Apr 77 p 1

[Text] A saving of \$40 million will be achieved this year with the increase in the production of rice and corn, Ernesto Velarde Santa Maria, engineer and managing director of the Farming and Livestock Services Public Enterprise (EPSA) revealed yesterday.

He explained that rice will not be imported in 1977 and at the same time 120,000 tons less of corn will be imported.

"All this," he pointed out, "is due to greater production brought about by a series of incentives being offered by the Revolutionary Government to the producers through EPSA."

He added that one of the incentives offered by EPSA is the direct purchase from the farmer of his products at official prices, affording him a sufficient margin of profit.

Regarding rice, he stated that last year 71,000 tons had to be imported, as well as 390,000 tons of corn.

"With respect to corn," he added, "this year we have programmed imports of 263,000 tons, close to 120,000 tons below the amount imported last year."

He pointed out that this year 780,000 tons of wheat, 16,000 tons of meat and by-products, 40,000 tons of milk products, 35,000 tons of soybeans and 58,000 tons of raw vegetable oil will be imported.

He maintained that in the coming years it is very possible that imports of certain products will decrease, such as soybeans and raw vegetable oil.

Velarde remarked that in order to decrease imports of products of prime necessity the Ministry of Nutrition has been making a series of investigations and studies, such as the incentives that the Revolutionary Government offers to the farmer.

9015

CSO: 3010

FISHING FEDERATION CHOOSES NEW LEADERSHIP

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 28 Apr 77 p 1

[Text] The naming of a new board of directors and the expulsion of their former secretary general, Claudio Nozama Silva and nine other directors, was unanimously agreed upon by the national delegates of the majority bases of the Federation of Fishermen of Peru.

This decision was adopted in a national plenary meeting that was terminated yesterday in the vocational center "Micaela Bastidas" in Ancon.

By means of a joint declaration subscribed by all present, the agreements that were adopted are divulged.

In that document it is pointed out that "as a complement to the action of reconquering our labor organizations, we have agreed to name an authentic board of directors of our central institution, composed of the secretaries general of the bases."

"With this action," the document specifies, "it will be possible to reactivate the life of the Federation of Fishermen of Peru, which will take upon itself the task of proposing a solution to the problems of the workers of the sea. This must be done through a high-level, frank and honest dialog with public authorities and representatives of the private sector."

At the same time they reaffirm their decision to maintain their affiliation with the Workers' Central of the Peruvian Revolution. They refuse to recognize the "putative association with the little union group called 'CCUSC' [expansion unknown] which Claudio Nizama and the other former national directors tried to arrange for exclusively partisan political ends."

In this meeting, after severely castigating the negative policy that motivated the former board of directors, Claudio Nizama Silva was censured and expelled, as well as the directors Carlos Blas Robles, Luis Arce Borja, Gonzalo Niquen Sarmiento, Marcos Bejarano Pinto, Jaime Sussoni Lezama, Abelardo Ojeda Contreras, Timoteo Moscol Fernandez, Alberto Munoz Exhelmes and Juan Nêgreiros Velez.

The expulsions were ordered "without prejudice to the investigations that might have been effected on the possible wrongful use of the funds of our organization for other than legitimate union purposes."

The declaration recalls as well that after innumerable and historical actions the fishing union movement succeeded in occupying a preponderant place in the national labor movement, basing its successes on the unification of all fishermen and on their independence vis-a-vis the political groups both of the right and of the left. Unfortunately, it is said, on the occasion of the Congress of Fishermen of the port of Ilo, certain elements basing themselves on a campaign of demagoguery and violence took control of the national leadership, "with the exclusive purpose of putting the fishing union movement at the service of a deceiving political group, of foreign orientation, hoping to cause a collision among Peruvians."

The joint declaration was signed by the secretaries general of defense, control and discipline, press and publicity, and national delegates of the fishermen's unions of Chicama, Coishco, Huarmey, Supe, Chancay, Callao, Lobo Varado (Pucusana), Tambo de Mora, Pisco, Atico and Molendo, considered to be the majority bases of the FPP [Federation of Fishermen of Peru].

12,116
CSO: 3010

PERU

AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTION 6,550 VEHICLES FOR FIRST QUARTER

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 26 Apr 77 p 10

[Text] Automobile production in the first quarter reached 6,500 units. This is slightly in excess of the figure reached in the same period of last year, which was 6,539 units.

In March, the last month of the quarter, the five vehicle assembly plants completed 2,384 vehicles, which is less than the February production which reached 2,419 vehicles. The differences between the production in March of this year and of last year is considerable. The figure last year was 2,960 vehicles, which means that in that month 579 more units were produced.

According to statistical data divulged by the Association of Automotive Industry Plants (APIA), the greater volume of production recorded in the first quarter of 1977 in comparison with last year is due to the increase in vehicle assembly in the first two months of the year (January and February), which was larger than in the same months of 1976.

Five Plants

Of the five assembly plants, Motor Peru, Inc. is the company that showed the greatest production in March. It reached 958 units. It was followed by Nissan Motor of Peru with 562 vehicles, then by Toyota of Peru, Inc. with 415. Volvo of Peru produced 154 units and in last place was Chrysler Peru Inc., which had vacations in the month of March and produced only 292 units.

The Association of Automotive Industry Plants (APIA) advises that the 6,550 units produced in the first half [as published] of the year consist of 4,599 automobiles and station wagons and 1,951 commercial vehicles.

The production of the several plants during the quarter is as follows: Chrysler Peru Inc., 1,906 vehicles; Motor Peru Inc., 1,662; Toyota of Peru, Inc., 1,571 units; Nissan Motor of Peru, Inc., 1,028; and in last place, Volvo of Peru, Inc. with 383 vehicles.

Expressed in percentages, the automotive production on last 31 March was as follows: Chrysler, 29.14 percent of total production; Motor Peru, 25.41

percent; Toyota of Peru, 23.86 percent; Nissan Motor 15.72 percent and Volvo of Peru 5.87 percent.

The Peruvian automotive industry produced in the entire year of 1976 34,344 units, having made 22,297 automobiles and station wagons and 12,054 commercial vehicles. The plant that produced the most was Chrysler, with 11,031 units.

Sales in March amounted to 1,966 vehicles, of which 1,289 were automobiles and station wagons and 677 were commercial vehicles.

As for the production of motorcycles by Honda of Peru, Inc., it reached a total of 396 units. This figure is lower than the production for the month of February, which was 438 units. The total production in the first quarter of the year was 1,334 motorcycles.

The Association of Automotive Industry Plants (APIA) publishes in its statistical tables the production of tractors by the firm of Andean Tractors, Inc., which produced a total of seven tractors in March. For the quarter the figure was 21 tractors.

Last year motorcycle production was 16,556 units and tractor production was 456 units, according to the Association of Automotive Industry Plants.

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CSO: 3010

URUGUAY

NEW NAVY COMMANDER CALLS FOR HEMISPHERIC UNITY

Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 29 Apr 77 p 9

[Excerpt] The new commander in chief of the navy, RAdm Hugo Marquez, spoke today about "a sophisticated, mysterious and complicated political strategy" aimed at disturbing the relations of the American navy with "its old and unselfish" friend, the Uruguayan navy.

Marquez received the high post yesterday, replacing RAdm Gonzalez Ibargoyen, who completed the prescribed 4 years in the post.

The ceremony was held on the esplanade of the Command located on the inner harbor and it was attended by the president, Cabinet ministers, high officials from the armed forces and all officers from the national navy.

Continental Solidarity

Marquez pronounced a short address upon being invested with the office. Having stressed the need in past months for a South Atlantic alliance aimed at preserving this zone of the hemisphere and the ocean as an area free from communist interference, Marquez appealed to Latin American navies: "To the navies in the Southern Hemisphere, especially those of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile and Paraguay, navies in this region of America, the natural users of the Plata (River) Basin and what is more, the geographical members of the Great Atlantic Basin, we express our fervent desire to continue to consolidate a group of unity and hope. To that indispensable union, the national navy will bring all of its prestige, all of its merits, in order to merge all of our merits and prestige in a collective navy in this part of the continent, one which will respond to the need for a united, strong and free Latin America. Rodo pointed the way when he said that 'we must return to the original law,' that is, to our historic past, to our nation's traditions, to authentic nationalism."

Same Strategy

Along that same line of thought, he stated: "To that effect, not only the armed forces in this part of the continent, but throughout the Southern Cone,

are adopting the same strategy, which will gradually be transformed into something more than nationalist awareness, into a regionalist and integrationist idea."

American Navy

Marquez then referred to the American navy in this way: "To the navy of the United States, we offer our unselfish and longstanding friendship, which is stronger now than ever before, at a time when a sophisticated, mysterious and complicated political strategy is aimed at upsetting it."

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CSO: 3010

URUGUAY

EXPORT FIGURES ON DAIRY PRODUCTS, HONEY REPORTED FOR 1976

Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 15 Apr 77 p 6

[Text] For the first time, exports of nationally-produced honey exceeded 1 million kilograms, bringing in receipts of \$1,004,265. The Federal Republic of Germany was the principal buyer. New markets were also opened up for dairy products in 1976 and the volume exported nearly doubled that of 1975.

Last year, Uruguay exported 1,379,967 kilograms of honey worth a total of \$1,004,265.

This figure marks a 50-percent increase over the volume exported in 1975 and a dollar increase of 44 percent.

The average unit value, which was \$.75 a kilogram in 1975, dropped by \$.02 in 1976.

It should be emphasized that in recent years, the volume exported of this nontraditional product nearly doubled, as shown by the following figures: 1973 - 705,670 kilograms for a total of \$618,932; 1974 - 881,622 kilograms for \$756,662; 1975 - 915,002 kilograms for \$695,397; and 1976 - 1,379,967 kilograms for \$1,004,265.

Federal Republic of Germany Main Buyer

These figures were given to EL PAIS by the Technological Laboratory of Uruguay (LATU), which is under the Ministry of Industry and Energy, based on quality certificates issued by that organization for export shipments analyzed.

The same source indicated that for the fourth consecutive year, the Federal Republic of Germany became the main buyer of honey with 471,920 kilograms purchased, 34 percent of the total exported. The German Democratic Republic and Brazil occupied second and third places respectively. The figures are as follows: Federal Republic of Germany, 471,920 kilograms; German Democratic

Republic, 440,576 kilograms; Brazil, 292,471 kilograms; United States, 145,000 kilograms; and Italy, 30,000 kilograms.

LATU added that prospects for this year of 1977 indicate a continuing process of growth in exports of this product.

Dairy Products

Under the heading of dairy products, it was reported that the volume exported in 1976 was 3,466,210 kilograms, worth a total of \$4,183,553.

Nationally-produced cheese continued to be popular internationally, with exports totaling 674,408 kilograms of the Sbinz type and 135,478 kilograms of other types, worth \$1,382,612.

It should be pointed out that exports of casein totaled 1,253,990 kilograms worth \$1,047,007.

In 1976, lard exports totaled 609,000 kilograms worth \$679,934; butter oil, 549,840 kilograms worth \$684,822; sodium casein, 238,100 kilograms worth \$384,229; and evaporated milk, 5,402 kilograms worth \$4,949.

New Markets

In 1976, Brazil became the main buyer of Uruguayan dairy products, moving Mexico down into second place.

An analysis of volumes exported by country shows that in 1976, new markets were opened up for our dairy products: Brazil, 1,666,314 kilograms; Mexico, 542,057 kilograms; Peru, 459,783 kilograms; People's Republic of China, 205,000 kilograms; France, 150,000 kilograms; United States, 135,000 kilograms; Federal Republic of Germany, 100,000 kilograms; Spain, 68,000 kilograms; Italy, 60,000 kilograms; Kuwait, 20,000 kilograms; Argentina, 20,000 kilograms; England, 20,000 kilograms; Paraguay, 10,000 kilograms; and Chile, 10,056 kilograms.

The main exporter continued to be CONAPROLE [National Cooperative of Milk Producers], which accounted for 64 percent of the total value.

Favorable Trend

Daily product exports in 1976 nearly doubled compared with 1975, and prospects for 1977 are favorable, from the standpoint of production and markets.

It has been reported that studies are being made on the Cabinet level with respect to the implementation of a national milk policy and the improvement in the hygienic standards and quality of milk. This would mean the beginning of a new phase of development of the dairy sector, to which LATU will lend its efforts for the execution of such important programs.

URUGUAY

BRIEFS

BEEF TO EAST GERMANY--The first shipment of frozen Uruguayan beef will soon be on its way to East Germany from the port of Montevideo. EL PAIS has been informed that it is quite a large shipment and that it will be followed by four or five more weighing the same amount. This initial export, which initiates commercial trade with East Germany, is being loaded on the "Theodor Storm." It consists of 2,500 tons of beef worth over \$2 million. As soon as loading operations are finished today, the East German ship hopes to weigh anchor. Another East German ship is also in port. It will carry a considerable shipment of Uruguayan products being exported to ports in northern Europe and East Germany. The ship is the "Quedlinburg." It is taking on 345 tons of wool, tops and rugs, in addition to linseed oil and pellets weighing some 5,000 tons. [Text] [Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 13 Apr 77 p 9] 11,464

CSO: 3010

VENEZUELA

REACTION TO FREE FOOD IMPORTS DECISION

Agriculturalists Reject Official Decision

Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 19 Apr 77 p D-3

/Text/ In reaction to the president's announcement that food products might be opened to free importation due to the problem of shortages, the members of the board of directors of the Venezuelan Chamber of Agricultural Industry--after meeting for several hours--urgently rejected this measure, considering it to be harmful to the food industry.

Tomas Socias Lopez, executive secretary of the organization, said that in the first place, the Chamber feels that these imports will be extremely harmful to the food industry because, instead of solving the problem of prices--which is already acute and complex--it is a decision to adopt free importation.

He adds that the problem with many items now showing a deficit cannot be solved by importing them because prices in the producing countries are even higher than in Venezuela.

In the second place, they confirm the fact that, if incentives to domestic production of important items are not established, shortages will persist, unless the government is thinking of offering new subsidies for imports, which would be an artificial solution.

He indicated that the Chamber already has received reports from its members of major problems in obtaining supplies of various consumable expenditures. For this reason, a shortage of food for children is anticipated due to the lack of glass jars and the problem of retail prices, which have been frozen for several years despite the marked and critical increase in production costs.

With regard to coffee, processors will continue to have the problem of raw materials supply due to the scarcity recently

verified, and that confirms that there will not be a sufficient quantity until December.

Other critical items are products processed from tomatoes, fresh milk, eggs, oranges--the production of which has declined considerably--mayonnaise, juices, cheese and cereal.

Socias indicates that the problem is occurring due to the lack of cans as well as glass jars. Added to this problem, the Chamber has raised the issue of final retail prices for food products that are creating great losses for the companies, as well as the loss of capital resources.

Exceedingly Dangerous for the Country

Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 19 Apr 77 p D-3

/Text/ Mr Concepcion Quijada, former president of FEDECAMARAS /Association of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry/ and adviser to the president on agricultural affairs, stated that the free importation of food products endangers the stability of the country's rural small businessmen and food processors and does not solve the problem completely.

"I believe that these imports may turn out to be artificial. They arise precisely from manipulation by non-nationalist interests that seek to make an easy profit without considering the efforts being made by the country and by rural people to develop the food industry at all levels."

"If it is permitted," he continued, "it will result in the consequence that the majority of the small and medium-sized plants will have to close due to competition from foreign production."

"I believe that this importation should not be free. In any case, if emergency importation is necessary, it should be done only through the Agricultural Marketing Corporation."

Weekly Prohibition on Meat

With respect to the existing problem of scarcity of beef and the progressive price increases at all levels--from rancher to consumer--Concho Quijada noted that the government should devote itself to the serious study of abstinence from meat two days a week. This is done in the majority of cattle raising countries to insure decreased consumption of beef and to diversify the consumption of beef substitutes.

He added that meat prices in all the producing countries show a marked tendency to rise, due to diverse factors. For this reason, fixed importation of this product would not reduce the cost of living but would simply guarantee the supply.

"For this reason, I feel that the problem should be studied carefully in order to protect domestic herds and to decrease foreign exchange losses for importation of meat by 10 percent-a figure that could continue to increase in accordance with the prospect of anticipated new prices."

In conclusion, he asserted that virtually no food product can be obtained abroad more cheaply than it can be produced in this country, with the sole exception of sugar cane, which sells at lower prices abroad than those we have here.

"We must continue to promote national production in all areas and at all levels," he said in conclusion.

Shrinkage of Manpower Possible

Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 19 Apr 77 p D-3

[Text] In the opinion of leader Jose Beltran Vallejo, member of the executive committee of the CTV [Confederation of Workers of Venezuela], the adoption of a free imports policy for basic foodstuffs could cause, in the long run, a shrinkage of manpower in the country, because any enterprise that has no contractual obligations with the unions will devote itself exclusively to importing, leaving its capacity for employment static or reduced.

Opening his remarks, the CTV labor representation secretary noted that "to leave the free importation of food in the hands of the private sector would be to promote the wave of speculation that is arising in this country. We believe, instead, that full power should have been given to the Agricultural Marketing Corporation, not only to import foods, but to import all consumable expenditures required by Venezuelan industries."

"For some time we have maintained the thesis," he said, "that due to the problem of world food shortages, which becomes more pronounced every day, and in view of high prices on the international markets, the marketing of oil is proposed, from one government to another, without interference from foreign sectors."

The labor leader explained that this is "the only way whereby foods imported by the Agricultural Marketing Corporation and distributed by that agency will not undergo the high prices that the Venezuelan people have been subjected to. By marketing our

oil this way, we could apply pressure in order to buy the most urgently needed commodities at low prices."

He then went on to comment on the free importation of foods and said that if this tendency continues, "in the not very distant future it will cause a shrinkage of manpower on the labor market, because anyone who has no contractual obligations with the unions will devote himself exclusively to importation, and the capacity for employment will remain static or decrease."

After making these comments, the CTV leader sought to discuss the subject of businessmen participating in politics. He noted that "this is nothing new or unusual, for the employers' sector has always maintained the strategy of apportioning candidacies in the majority of the political parties. In the end, when their candidates are elected, they all unite to defend their interests in congress and form a shock force against the demands of social laws that defend the workers. This is an old strategy and we union leaders are familiar with it."

Only CORPOMERCADEO, PCV Demands

Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 19 Apr 77 p D-3

[Text] For a long time the Communist Party of Venezuela (PCV) has been warning that a grave situation of agricultural shortages would occur, especially in direct consumption. This situation, as we all know, has happened, culminating in the worst crisis of our history.

The aforementioned remarks were made by Jorge Santana, the PCV national agrarian secretary. He adds that, despite the 36 billion bolivares invested in agricultural development plans--of which the present administration has invested over 16 billion--we see no results whatsoever, neither short nor medium range.

Today, our agricultural system can supply barely 13 percent of the demand.

Therefore, the Communist Party of Venezuela demands that the national government adopt a measure determining that only CORPOMERCADEO [Agricultural Marketing Corporation] can make such imports and distribute the products directly on the free market.

Importation of Foods

Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 19 Apr 77 p D-3

[Text] In the opinion of the Confederation of Autonomous Unions of Venezuela (CODESA), a process of importing food, such as is

going on at present, could lead us into a dangerous dependency on some countries. And, said William Franco, president of that workers' federation yesterday, Venezuela would then suffer the reverses of the domestic problems of those countries.

"The food shortage problem," says the union leader, "finds its explanation in profound facts of the political and economic order. In view of an obvious failure in the fields of agriculture and livestock raising, the government appears to have no answers to the crisis."

Then he said that "in the majority of cases, the process of importation is creating a dangerous dependence on some countries. Recently, an agreement was signed to import cattle from Colombia. This leaves the consumption of meat in our country subject to the performance of Colombian cattle raisers. This creates a very serious situation, because Venezuela could suffer the reverses of the domestic problems of that country, and the consequences that this can occasion in that sector."

"At domestic levels, it seems that those who supported the present government team in the past elections have established two possibilities--one conflicting, due to the absence of any real agricultural and livestock policy--and the other, which is that they are cashing in on their support by endeavoring to raise the prices of food products."

The president of CODESA continued, observing that "it gives the impression that the government is incapable of exercising price control, and likewise, that it is incapable of defending the interests of the people. This impotence is obvious and growing, and it can lead us into a crisis of democratic stability."

William Franco reported that CODESA held a meeting with the presidential primary candidate of COPEI [Social Christian Party], Luis Herrera Campins, during which they discussed the problem of food shortages and the present cost of living. They have tried to meet again with Luis Pinerua Ordaz, secretary general of the Democratic Action Party, and they have not been able to do so. After considering this situation, they plan to address the president of the national congress, Gonzalo Barrios, to propose a debate in the legislative chambers, "so that a response may be given to the public about the shortages of products such as milk, coffee, meat, cheese and other things. The only place where food can be obtained in abundance and cheaply is in the imaginary world of television's channel 8."

The Social Christian union leader again repeated the danger of dependence in the area of food products and added that "this may bring about a dependence on the domestic policies of certain countries. Our image as a rich country is hurting us to the point that it may lead us to ruin."