

Cuban Uprising Hopes Doomed By Red Build-Up

UPI Latin American Editor

The massive Soviet build-up in Cuba has effectively doomed what hopes Cuban exile leaders may have had for an internal uprising.

If during the Pigs Bay invasion of April, 1961, Castro was able to round up more than a half-million Cubans (one out of every 12) as a precaution to head off any simultaneous internal uprising, the added strength in arms and men (including foreigners) he now possesses increases his capabilities in this respect.

Cuban exile leaders have always professed to be able to handle the fall of Castro alone ("this is a matter for Cubans alone to handle") as exile chief Miro Cardona puts it and have confined their demands for aid to arms and equipment.

U. S. "Obligated"

"If the Soviets are permitted to arm and equip Castro, the U.S. should be obligated to do the same thing with its fellow believers in democracy," Miro says.

In truth, however, Cuban exile leaders have long sought a continent-wide "front" against Castro.

It is known that at least six Latin American nations, and perhaps as many as 11, have more or less committed themselves to just such a front. These include, it goes without saying, the five tiny Central American Republics long a Castro target.

(Such nations as Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, for example, have little chance to escape a Castro grab should it be made in earnest. All have been at one time or another targets for Castro subversion.)

Would Join Front

In addition, Venezuela and Colombia likely would join any common armed front against Castro. However, most of these nations would condition their armed cooperation on U.S. participation in such an offensive.

Cuban exiles believe without doubt the U.S. will cooperate in such a coordinated continent-wide effort to oust Castro communism from the New World. The exiles believe, in fact, that U.S. public opinion in this respect is far ahead of the professed administration caution with respect to forceful handling of the Cuban problem.

(It doesn't take a magician to guess Castro's present frame of mind. The recent tiny attack on the insignificant port of Calbarien, in Central Cuba, was enough to touch off a general alert throughout Cuba. Censorship was imposed and foreign correspondents — always regarded by Castro as "spies" — were rounded up until Castro determined to his own satisfaction that the one-boat attack was not the prelude to invasion. He took similar precautions last April.

General Uneasiness

(Other Castro indications of general uneasiness over the building internal situation are his recent orders returning farm lands in some provinces to farm owners from whom they had been confiscated under the so-called Agrarian Reform law.

(Also, despite the widespread "cheating" on food

rationing, with small farms selling their produce direct to the consumer, Castro has confined himself to simple admonitions that such was not a "revolutionary" attitude. In the past, with Castro's power unchallenged, such "cheaters" would have been promptly clapped in jail — at least.)

Nevertheless, these factors do not encourage a belief that an internal uprising can topple Castro. Exile leaders privately admit that the best they hope for is ever-increasing sabotage, ranging from inefficient work to apathy toward so-called revolutionary projects. This could be developed, they reason, into full-scale passive resistance at the time of an invasion.

Spearheaded by Exiles

They hope the troops in any invasion will be spearheaded by Cuban exiles — from all ranks of political thought and not just the anti-Batista factions, as in April, 1961.

And there should be token contingents from the United States and perhaps as many as a dozen western hemisphere nations.

There are more than 100 Cuban exile groups in the United States. The great bulk of them, however, are organized under aegis of Cuban Revolutionary Council headed by Jose Miro Cardona, former Castro cabinet officer and a leader in the civil struggle against Batista in the years preceding Castro.

Are Well Organized

Cuban exiles are well organized but the huge number of such organizations renders them virtually impotent individually as far as any effective action against Castro regime, either politically or militarily is concerned.

Several of the exile groups, although loosely linked to the council, are operating on their own. The student revolutionary directorate, for example. The students have carried out the sea raids. Other major exile groups also working within the council, but also outside, are the revolutionary unity group, the Christian Democrat movement, the revolutionary recuperation movement, etc.

At least two of them are out after blood. The recuperation movement is "enlisting" or making a roll-call of exiles young enough and willing to fight with arms and the students are acquiring ex-torpedoboats, etc. for raids.

Land Small Groups

The recuperation movement also has been landing small groups of infiltrators in Cuba over a period of many months.

All sources from within Cuba — including foreign — agree that Cuban people, by and large, have had a bellyful of Castro, but that any armed uprising within Cuba to topple him is highly unlikely. Just too many arms in hands of Castro army men, militiamen.

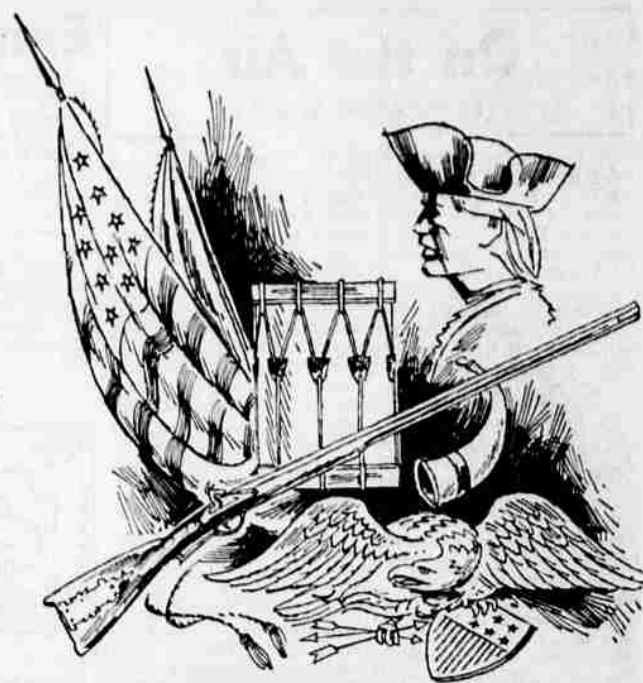
State Dept. estimated at end of 1961, for example, that Russians had furnished Castro 30,000 tons of arms and weapons and equipment valued at \$100 million. You can imagine what total is now what with open Soviet-Cuban admission stepped-up shipments, and landing of men with Soviet equipment.

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Agencies Seek Interest in PWP

Two Medford agencies, the YMCA and the Guidance Clinic, are seeking indications of interest in the formation of a "Parents Without Partners" organization in this area.

The PWP is a national organization with a number of local chapters, devoted to mutual help and guidance of parents who, through divorce or death, no longer have a spouse.

A classified advertisement in this and two subsequent issues of the Mail Tribune solicit expressions of interest, in addition to those already expressed. It says:

Duncan Nearing End of Week-Long Campaign

Scottsboro, Ore. — U.S. Democrat Robert B. Duncan, candidate for Congress in the fourth district, ended a week long campaign swing in Coos and Douglas counties, including visits to industrial sites.

At a speech earlier in Powers he criticized those who fail to exercise their right to vote. "Those who will not participate in making decisions which govern us have no right to complain—though frequently they complain the loudest," he said.

"Parents Without Partners:

Whether you have your children full time or 'on visitation' — wouldn't you like to know others in the same position — to talk over common problems, to develop a fuller life for both yourself and your children, to hold group discussions with psychologists, lawyers, etc.? We'd like to hear from you. Drop a card to the Medford 'YMCA' or Guidance Clinic, Courthouse, Medford."

Neither the "Y" nor the Clinic propose to organize or furnish leadership for such a group, but are offering their services to see if there is enough interest to justify such an organization, and to provide assistance if a group is formed.

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