1964 Will Mark Five Long Years of Castro Power in Cuba

MIAMI (UPI) — Across the straits of Florida, the dawning of 1964 will mean that Fidel Castro has been in power for five long years. Communist control of Cuba today seems tighter than ever.

Nevertheless, the majority of Cuban exiles here cling to the belief that Red domination of their homeland will be shattered and that Castro will be toppled — with U. S. and hemisphere help.

"We shall return," they say, borrowing the words of Gen. Douglas MacArthur. Some exiles are even predicting they will be back in Havana before another year is out.

There is guarded talk of plans for military action against Castro. Fund-raising for arms continues.

Definite preparations for exile elections, no later than February, of a slate of "non-political" leaders to "lead the way back home" are under way. The theme is unity.

Psychological Impact

The outcome of this referendum — to be based on a list of candidates not yet disclosed — is certain to have a major psychological impact on efforts for unified action against Castro.

Observers here beleive that this, in turn, could influence the Johnson administration, which is now reviewing the late President Kennedy's Cuban policies.

Castro, who has constantly mocked and ridiculed the unsuccessful exile attempts against him thus far, will preside at Havana ceremonies on Jan. 2 to commemorate the fifth anniversary of his takeover. He is scheduled to speak after a big parade.

"Why haven't the exiles given up hope?

"When we do that we might as well leave the United States," said one refugee. A former President of his own chemical company in Havana, he is now a handy-man at a Miami laundromat.

"My family came here with 15 suitcases," he said. "Seven of them remain packed, ready to go when the time comes to go back. And it will come."

Topsy-Turvy Year

From the Cuban exile point of view 1963 was a topsy-turvy one. It started out with a "bang" as the U. S. obtained the release of the 1,113 Cuban invasion prisoners.

Kennedy assured them, in the Orange Bowl, that their brigade flag would be returned to them in "a free Havana."

But a sweeping crack-down on anti-Castro raiders — even in Bahamas waters — ensued. The crowded exile colony in Miami was at times rebuffed by local officials. There was even a suggestion by former Florida Gov. LeRoy Collins that they should be relocated en mass to some unoccupied Bahamian or Floriad island.

Exile suspicions of U. S. policy toward Cuba grew. There was increasing criticism of Kennedy himself by refugees. But the President's murder plunged the exiles into mourning as deep as Americas' sorrow.

After the return of the freed Bay of Pigs brigade a vast sea and air lift of $53 million worth of pledged ransom goods that took six months got under way. The 37 planes and nine freighters that went to Cuba brought back some 9,000 Cubans.

Also brought out of Cuban jails were 38 Americans, released through negotiations carried out by New York attorney James B. Donovan. Four Cubans held by the U. S. were sent back to Havana.

Cuban prisons were apparently cleared of all but one American, Cuban - born Ragael Del Pino of Miami, once Castro's trusted confidant.

The year saw three attacks on American - owned vessels by Castro Air Force planes, in international waters near Cuba.

No Casualties

On Feb. 20 the shrimp boat Ala was attacked but not hit by MIG fighter fire. The merchant ship Floridian was fired on but not hit on March 28. Fire broke out aboard the freighter J. Louis after an Oct. 22 attack but there were no casualties.

Cuban exiles carried out about a dozen air and sea raids on the island, including assaults on two Soviet freighters. Numerous other raiding parties were intercepted by U. S. and British authorities.

As a result, various organizations announced they were pulling up stakes and moving to Central America.

A major break between exiles and Washington developed in April when revolutionary council leader Jose Mior Cardona resigned, charging the administration with "duplicity" in its Cuban policies.

Castro continued his hectic speech - making throughout the year, some times delivering as many as three major public addresses in a two-week period. Most of them contained violent attacks on the U. S.

In one, he accused Washington of "swindling" him out of $10 million of the pledged $53 million ransom goods—a charge quickly denied by both the U.S. government and the American Red Cross.

Request Rejected

In another, however, the Cuban leader appealed to the United States to lift its economic embargo to help the island recover from Hurricane Flora's multi-million dollar damage. The request was rejected.

Castro decreed the expropriation of the American embassy building in Havana earlier in the year, a move said to be unprecedented in modern diplomatic history.

However, determined opposition by Swiss diplomats — who handle American interests in Cuba — apparently prompted him to let the threat hang in mid-air.

The visit of a group of 59 U.S. students to Cuba during the summer was seized on by Castro in an attempt to persuade other Americans, college youths in particular, to violate a U.S. travel ban.

A U.S. airman from Tyndall Air Force Base near Panama City, Fla., defected to Castro in July, about 10 days after the students arrived. He was identified as Airman 1/C Roberto Ramos Michelena, 29.

A Cuban-born, naturalized American citizen, Ramos flew to Havana in a small plane. He has presumably joined a small group of expatriate Americans working with Castro.

Meanwhile the exodus of Cubans in small boats — almost anything that would float — to the Florida Keys continued throughout the year. They were sometimes picked up on the high seas by freighters or U.S. Coast Guard patrol boats. At least one boat was rescued by a U. S. submarine.

Escapers Kidnaped

The gateway to freedom was through the Straits of Florida, sometimes via the Bahamas. Castro patrol boats kidnapped 19 escaping Cubans from Anguila Cay in Bahamian waters last August, and stirred an international incident with Britain.

Despite repeated British protests the abducted Cubans have not been released. Exiles here claimed three or four were executed.

A move by British promoter Harold Deber to set up a Havana-to-Key West ferry service — in defiance of the State Department — was blocked after the initial voyage which brought in 23 Cubans. There are an estimated 350,000 Cubans on the island who hold U.S. visa waivers to come to this country.

But the United States amended existing immigration regulations to make sure that there can be no future mass exodus of Cubans to the U.S. without Washington's prior approval.

If nothing else, 1963 was a busy year for Americans as well as Cuban exiles.

Democrats Facing Possible Political Battle in Oregon

SALEM (UPI) —The political pulse recorders in the secretary of state's office here were thrown into temporary confusion by the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Until the tragedy in Dallas, it was expected the Republicans would have a wide open race in the May 15 Oregon primary—but everyone conceded Kennedy would get the nod from the Democrats.

Now the Democrats face a possible battle, and everyone expects the lineup of Republican candidates may be significantly affected.

Because of its unique election law, the Oregon primary may be one of the most significant in the nation in the pre-convention jockeying for strength.

Lists Advocates

Under Oregon law, the secretary of state arbitrarily lists on the ballot whomever he considers is "generally advocated."

To determine who is being advocated he has assigned his staff to check the daily newspapers and national magazines to keep track of the changing national political pulse.

Before Kennedy's assassination, observers expected Oregon Secretary of State Howell Appling Jr. to list Arizona Sen. Barry Goldwater, New York Gov. Nelson Rockefeller, former Vice President Richard Nixon, Michigan Gov. George Romney, and Pennsylvania Gov. William Scranton.

Picture Changed

Observers didn't think Appling, a Republican, was spending much time seeking out possible Democratic candidates. It was assumed the Democrats wanted Kennedy to run for a second term.

While President Lyndon Johnson now tops the list of Democratic candidates, observers can't yet guess who else might get on the list—if anyone.

Appling will announce his ballot list March 6.

Oregon was conceded by many Republicans to be "Goldwater country" before the tragedy in Dallas. Many observers now feel Goldwater's strength has been severely weakened.

Appling adamently refuses to speculate as to whom he might list on the primary ballot. He said speculation could affect the campaign plans of candidates.

Favorite Sons Eliminated

The Oregon law was changed before the 1960 election to make the state's primary more meaningful. The new law is designed to eliminate favorite sons, publicity seekers and self starters, and to offer the voters a real selection among the most prominently mentioned hopefuls.

Shortly before Kennedy's assassination, Gov. Mark Hatfield urged all Republican hopefuls to enter the Oregon primary. Hatfield who has been mentioned both as a GOP vice presidential, and presidential possibility, has remained neutral in the Republican power struggle.

Hatfield expects to head the Oregon delegation to the July GOP national convention in San Francisco. In Oregon, convention delegates are elected, and must support the winner of the state's primary.

Thompson Denied Immediate Bail

ST. PAUL, Minn. (UPI) — T. Eugene Thompson observed his first Christmas behind bars Wednesday despite the determined effort of his attorneys to free him on bond.

The Minnesota Supreme Court, which must rule on his appeal for a new trial, Tuesday denied a petition that bail be set immediately.

But the case left the door open for considering the bond matter when a "settled case" was on file. It was estimated that this would take at least two months.

Thompson was convicted of first degree murder in the death of his wife, Carol, 34, last March. She was brutally beaten and stabbed in their home.

Thompson was accused of plotting her death so that he could collect $1 million in insurance and be in position to marry his mistress.

TROLLEYS OUT

SEATTLE, Wash. (UPI) — A survey shows that almost all major American cities are replacing their electric trolleys with motor coaches, according to the Seattle Transit System. The number of cities using them has dwindled from 48 in 1945 to 15. And 14 of those 15 cities plan to abandon them within the next year.

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Del Monte Sweetheart lean and tender boneless hams. Heat and serve or slice cold for a work-free dinner or buffet.
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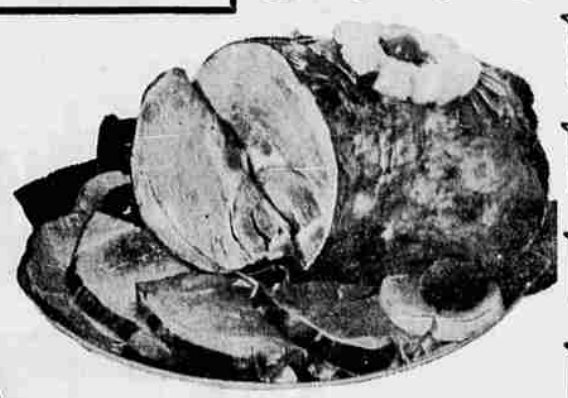

Full Cut Round Steak
U.S. Choice or Swift's Premium
lb. 69c

U.S. Choice or Swift's Premium Boneless Top Round
lb. 98c

U.S. Choice or Swift's Premium T-BONE STEAK
Tender and delicious T-bone steaks cut from slowly-aged beef for more flavor.
lb. 98c

United Meat Jumbo Bologna
For holiday parties or sandwiches . . . by the piece.
lb. 39c

Save on Mild Cheddar Cheese
lb. 59c

Open-Eye Swiss Cheese lb. 79c
Swift's Premium Boneless Pork Roast lb. 49c
Swift's Premium Pork Steaks lb. 49c
Swift's Premium Lean Pork Cutlets lb. 59c
U.S. Choice or Swifts 'Premium Beef Short Ribs lb. 39c
U.S. Choice or Swifts 'Premium Lean Ground Chuck lb. 59c
U.S. Choice or Swift's Preminum Blade Pot Roast lb. 59c
U.S. Choice or Swifts Premium Boneless Chuck Roast lb. 79c
U.S. Choice or Swift's Premium Beef Rump Roast lb. 79c
U.S. Choice or Swift's Premium Standing Rib Roast lb. 79c
U.S. Choice or Swift's Premium Sirloin Tip Roast lb. 89c
U.S. Choice or Swift's Premium Beef Chuck Steak lb. 59c
U.S. Choice or Swifts Premium Bone-in Sirloin Steak lb. 89c
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Scotkins Dinner Size Paper Napkins 50-count package 25c
Cut Rite Heavy Wax Paper 125-foot roll 29c
Regular 43c Scot Tissue 4-roll package 39c
Softweve Bathroom Tissue 2-roll package 29c
Regular 49c Schilling's Vanilla Extract 2-oz. bottle 39c
Carnation Creamy Egg Nog quart carton 59c
Regular 67c Carnation Sour Cream pint carton 59c
Regular 99c C-20 Detergent 4-lb. package 79c

7-Up OR Coca Cola
Regular 20c Each
Giant 28-oz. Bottle—15c Each
8 Bottles 99c
Plus Deposit

LAY'S Potato Chips
Regular 69c Potato Chips or Barbecue Chips
Triple Pak 59¢

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