

Fidel Castro Newest Thorn In Side Of US From Latin America

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Cuban rebel leader Fidel Castro has now joined a colorful cast of Latin-American characters whose exploits have been annoying, angering and outraging Uncle Sam off and on during the past century. It remains to be seen, of course, whether Castro's kidnapping of American property and use of an American underground to supply his forces will provoke the United States into using its "Big Stick" against him.

But he has already proved himself a worthy associate in the public mind with Cuba's Narciso Lopez, Mexico's "Pancho" Villa, Haiti's Vilbrun Guillaume Sam and Nicaragua's Augusto Sandino.

Lopez was a leader in the fight to free Cuba of Spanish rule. In 1850 and 1851, he led freebooting expeditions recruited and organized in the U.S., a notorious vio-

lation of neutrality laws which American public opinion condoned because of a widespread belief that Cuba's destiny was closely associated with that of the U.S.

Finally, Lopez sailed from New Orleans in a bid for power and glory. His first expedition of 750 men was dispersed by Spanish forces when it reached Cuba. The 450 men in his second expedition were captured and many were executed by the Spanish.

But Lopez's activities did have the effect of helping to create a body of public opinion in the U.S. which was favorable to the eventual liberation of Cuba from Spain.

Francisco "Pancho" Villa, a Mexican revolutionary, has become a traditional theme in books and movies. He might have been remembered only as a minor rebel or even as a bandit except that he boldly crossed the U.S. border

with less than a thousand raiders on the night of March 8-9, 1916, and set fire to part of the town of Columbus, New Mexico.

Villa's grudge against the "gringos" was that the U.S. had recognized his arch-enemy, Gen. Venustiano Carranza, as President of Mexico.

Units of the 13th U.S. Cavalry fought back. Seven American soldiers and eight civilians were killed. Five soldiers and two civilians were wounded. Some reports said 190 of the raiders were killed or wounded.

After the Columbus raid, President Woodrow Wilson ordered a punitive expedition into Mexico under Gen. John J. Pershing with instructions to capture Villa. But Carranza objected to the invasion and the U.S. withdrew its troops in June with Villa still at large. He lived until July 20, 1923, when he and three companions in an automobile were slain in ambush by their own countrymen.

From May 1927 to February 1933, every news item about Augusto Cesar Sandino, a Nicaraguan guerilla leader, was emblazoned in the headlines of newspapers throughout the Western Hemisphere.

On May 3, 1927, Conservative and Liberal factions in Nicaragua

signed an agreement under the urging of Washington aimed at ending the civil war. Sandino, a Liberal, rejected the agreement and organized a guerilla band which was believed to number about 500 men.

The U.S. Marines were sent to Nicaragua to capture Sandino, but they never did and were finally pulled out in January 1933. The next month, he made peace with President Juan Sacasa and retired to a farm.

Later, though, Sandino got into trouble with the Nicaraguan National Guard. In February 1934, he was seized and shot.

Latin-American opinion was generally sympathetic to Sandino. His adventures were a major incentive to President Franklin D. Roosevelt's formulation of the inter-American "good neighbor" policy.

In 1915, there had been President Vilbrun Guillaume Sam of Haiti, a world headline figure at a time when the Haitian govern-

ment was deeply involved in international financial difficulties and domestic factional strife.

When he took office on March 4, 1915, Sam was the eighth president of his country since 1910. He promptly ordered the execution of 160 of his political enemies. On July 28, a Haitian mob invaded the French Embassy in Port-au-Prince, where Sam had taken refuge, and killed him.

President Wilson considered that this incident endangered the international balance of power in the Caribbean. He ordered U.S. Marines ashore to preserve order.

A mission sent by President Herbert Hoover in 1930 negotiated a settlement of U.S.-Haitian differences, but the last elements of the American occupation force did not leave the island until 1934.

By then, the U.S. had agreed to a policy of non-intervention in the personal affairs of its Latin-American neighbors. This policy has been consistently adhered to since then. Will Fidel Castro upset it?

Painting Restores Life To Roof, Wall Shingles

By J. RALPH DALZELL

When asbestos-cement shingles on roofs or walls of a house are eroded, faded or discolored and have a dingy appearance, make them look like new by simply painting them.

Three types of paint are suitable, which have the alkali resistance necessary for use with asbestos-cement products: the solvent-thinned resin coatings, emulsion or latex coatings and oil vehicle masonry paint. Some old, weathered asbestos-cement shingles which have been exposed to the weather for many years may have only a mild alkaline reaction and could be painted with any good exterior paint. However, it is wise to use only coatings in which both the vehicle and color pigments are definitely alkali resistant.

Make a safety ladder as shown in the picture for use when painting shingles. Use 1x3 wood stock for stringers and steps. Strap steel, one inch wide and quarter-inch thick, can be used to hook over the ridge of the roof to hold the ladder securely.

The first step of modernizing asbestos-cement shingles consists of cleaning the surfaces so that no dirt, loose paint or oil is present. If mildew is present it can be removed by scrubbing with a wax-free detergent and water. In severe cases, where the detergent does not remove the mildew, use a wash of 5 per cent muriatic acid. Wear rubber gloves and goggles, and protect shrubs and other objects below.

If shingle surfaces have eroded to the extent that a dusty fibrous material, like the chalk on old paint, is present, special treatment is required. Remove all fibrous material with a stiff brush, and wash with water. If erosion is severe, concrete hardeners, such as zinc or magnesium silicate solutions can be applied to provide a more suitable base for painting.

Solvent-thinned paints have extreme water and stain resistance, excellent hiding power, do not scuff easily and protect nail heads from corrosion. Care should be taken not to apply this paint until the shingles are perfectly dry. Two coats should be applied. Or, a solvent-thinned resin primer can be applied and finally one coat of oil or alkyd resin exterior paint.

Latex paints are easy to apply, dry rapidly and can be applied when the shingles are damp. Two coats are required.

Oil vehicle masonry paints can be applied to weathered shingles. Two coats are recommended. But, if there is any doubt as to the degree of weathering, a solvent-thinned primer should be applied as the first coat. All asbestos-cement paints can be obtained in various colors. See your paint dealer for further suggestions and help.

As indicated in the picture, both roof and wall shingles can be painted. Roof shingles are exposed to greater weather conditions and may require more frequent painting.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q.—Is there a way to preserve the shine on metal objects in a home?

A.—Yes, spray them with a thin, transparent coat of clear lacquer. The lacquer can be obtained in spray cans and will preserve the luster on metal for a long time.

Q.—Is it possible to remove light scratches in good furniture?

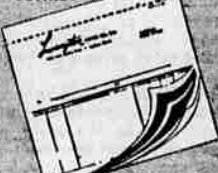
A.—No, the scratches can't be removed. But, you can hide them by rubbing them with a mixture composed of equal parts of boiled linseed oil, turpentine and vinegar.

Q.—Did the very early peoples, such as the Egyptians, use paint and if so how was it applied?

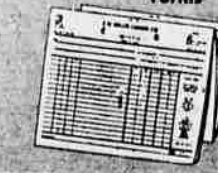
A.—Yes, such early peoples did use paint. The paint was applied with brushes made from reeds which grew along the Nile River. The reeds were shredded into fibers and the fibers used as a brush.

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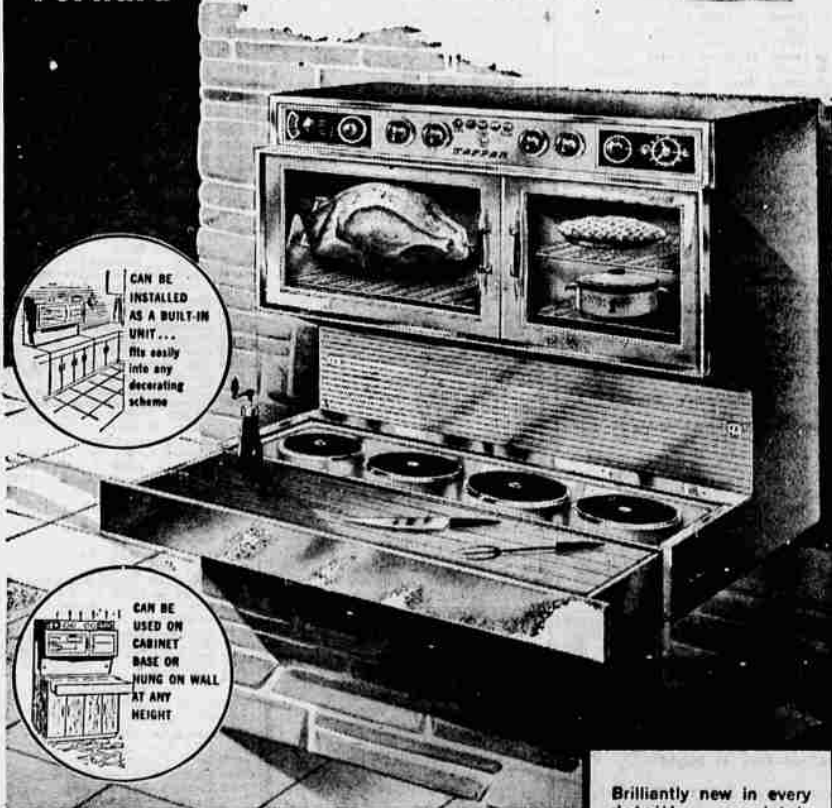
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