

Castro Linked Closely To Moscow

Editor's Note - William L. Ryan has been touring Latin America for the last two months, looking into the inroads of communism and Castroism in that area. This is the latest of his dispatches.

By WILLIAM L. RYAN

Associated Press News Analyst

MEXICO CITY (AP) — One of the first things Fidel Castro's current ambassador did when he arrived in Mexico—even before presenting his credentials to the government—was to call on the

And from that time a year ago until today there has been a steady stream of traffic between the embassies of Moscow's Vladimir Bazykin and Cuba's Jose Antonio Portuondo Valdez.

There is every evidence that activities of the two embassies, less than two blocks apart on the Calzada Tacubaya, are carefully coordinated, and that the Russians are the unquestioned bosses of their common efforts.

Portuondo now is the leading spokesman for Fidel Castro and all Castroism in Latin America. He attacks the job with enormous energy, lecturing frequently throughout the country.

Portuondo was a member of the Young Communist League and later of the popular Socialist (Communist) party of Cuba. He once taught in several U.S. universities but left 10 years ago when the heat was on him for his Communist connections.

Able, intelligent and fluent in English, he now is in full charge of Castro intelligence operations in Mexico. Aiding him are mem-

bers of a topheavy embassy staff and about a half dozen employees of Prensa Latina, Castro's news service which is devoted strictly to propaganda.

The Cuban ambassador seems to have plenty of money. His agents are highly paid. His propaganda output is expensive. There is one report that he brought from Havana \$200,000 to help finance last week's Latin-American conference sponsored by the Communists in Mexico City. The Russians are reported to have put up more than twice that and to have pledged to foot any additional expenses.

Portuondo works hand in glove with Bazykin, who speaks English and Spanish fluently. Bazykin is in constant touch with the Soviet Embassy in Havana and the suspicion has been raised that the embassy in Mexico is in charge of all Communist activities in the Caribbean and Central America.

Bazykin's embassy has been stepped up in size recently and now has about 140 staff members, none of them Mexicans and all of them carefully shielded from unauthorized contact with the outside.

The U.S. Embassy has a staff of about 430. Half are Mexicans. But the U.S. Embassy must deal with issuing tens of thousands of visas, with the influx of 700,000 U.S. tourists annually, with a multiplicity of common U.S.-Mexican trade and border questions. The Russians have no such obligations.

The Russians and the Castro Cubans concentrate much of their energies on recruiting among

Mexico's students and teachers and the intellectual class in general. They obviously are making significant progress in building a dangerous fifth column for Mexico.

Mexico is one of the bright spots of Latin America in many respects. The capital has a bright, hopeful look and hums with an energy seldom encountered elsewhere in Latin America. Mexico's economy is sound, its currency strong, its prospects encouraging.

Most Mexican labor unions are headed by strongly anti-Communist leadership. The Confederation of Labor itself is a stabilizing influence in Mexican politics. The Communists have practically no strength in trade union leadership—with one exception. This is the national union of education workers, embracing all education ministry workers outside the university, both in the state and federal school systems.

The Mexican Confederation of Labor leadership disagrees with the charge that the teachers' union is Communist-dominated. But at least six members of its 18-member national executive are known Communists. It is the only Mexican union affiliated with the Communist World Federation of Trade Unions.

Within the union, the Communists and their Castro allies are building for the future, effectively fanning violent hatred of the United States as a political tool in the hands of extremists.

The union publishes a monthly magazine, *Magisterio*, a slick, cleverly produced expensive review of 96 pages which is distributed free to union members. Month after month it is loaded with pro-Moscow, pro-Castro propaganda. Frequently it carries articles by Soviet Communists. It blasts the United States and the Roman Catholic clergy month in and month out.

The Cuban revolution, students are told, "represents the cause of all Latin America." The friendship of the United States, they read, "is a useless trinket." Fidel Castro, they are informed, "is shaking the world with the impassioned words of a true Latin-American leader" while the United States plots against Latin American countries.

Mexico's normal school, source of the country's lower and secondary school teachers, is considered a hotbed of communism. The teachers are ready targets. Generally they are overworked and underpaid in comparison with other professional people, although the government of President Adolfo Lopez Mateos has taken some steps toward trying to lessen the gap. The prestige of the teaching profession makes it necessary for them to live and dress up to standards difficult to afford on their incomes.

The school of economics of the National University, too, seems to have been heavily infected. It is reported turning out many a Communist-oriented graduate to send into the country's economic mainstream.

The Russian-Castro operation in Mexico is a patient one. And the students and intellectuals, as in all Latin America, get the lion's share of their attention.

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French Scientist Offers Hope For Mongoloids

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mongolism and a cause for hope, dogs and heart attacks, common colds, and sharp razors are subjects with a focus on health.

RAZOR'S EDGE

Razor blades take off four to 15 times as much skin as electric razors, say Boston researchers.

Seven times as many complaints of after-shave burn come from razor users as from electric shaver users in tests on 249 men and 120 women, indicates a report in *GP*, journal of the American Academy of General Practice.

HOPE FOR MONGOLISM

A young French scientist who has found a strange error in the body chemistry of mongoloid children now says: "There is no reason to say that mongolism is definitely incurable."

Tests on mongoloid children indicate the error may affect production of a key brain chemical, serotonin. The discovery comes from Dr. Jerome Lejeune of the University of Paris who also found the children possessed an abnormal number of chromosomes—those delicate strands of genes that determine what we will be.

Dr. Lejeune recalled an experiment 25 years ago in which fruit flies with abnormal chromosomes suffered from small, slitted eyes. When fed corrective material, the fruit flies became normal again.

So far Dr. Lejeune has been unsuccessful in finding an answer to human mongolism, reports *Medical World News*. In fact, Dr. Lejeune says the error may not be the only or the responsible one in mongolism, but it is a lead.

DOG WITH A HEART

Dogs often fall victim to one of man's big enemies, heart disease, a new report shows.

A study of 3,000 dogs by University of Pennsylvania veterinarians found 290 with reliable signs of

Company Can't Reduce Profit

HARLAN, Ky. (AP)—There are plenty of firms who don't make money, but the Harlan Community Television, Inc., has just the opposite problem. It can't seem to stop.

The citizen-owned corporation was formed as a non-profit business to bring television reception to this mountainous area.

Original shares were priced at \$100. Too much money. They were devalued. Still too much. Devalued again—this time to \$20. Still too much.

So the firm returned \$40 to each subscriber—and hopes it reaches a balance some day.

Majority Race

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's capital is the only major American city where Negroes form a majority of the population, the Census Bureau said today.

The agency said preliminary data from the 1960 census shows that 411,737, or 53.9 per cent, of Washington's 763,956 residents are Negroes.

New York City has the largest number of Negroes, 1,087,931 or 14 per cent of the total population of 7,781,954.

heart disease and 322 others with suspected disease.

THE COMMON COLD

There may be no practical vaccine against the common cold. The reason: There are just too many kinds of common colds.

Researchers report several, perhaps many, viruses cause colds. And the prevalent viruses in your neighborhood are always changing. Chances are if you do pick up a particular cold, you won't catch the same one again that season, since the body builds up defenses against that virus.

I'M ONLY 39, REALLY

Men between the ages of 30 and 50 are the most frequent liars about their ages, a study shows. But women, although they lie less frequently, tell the bigger lies.

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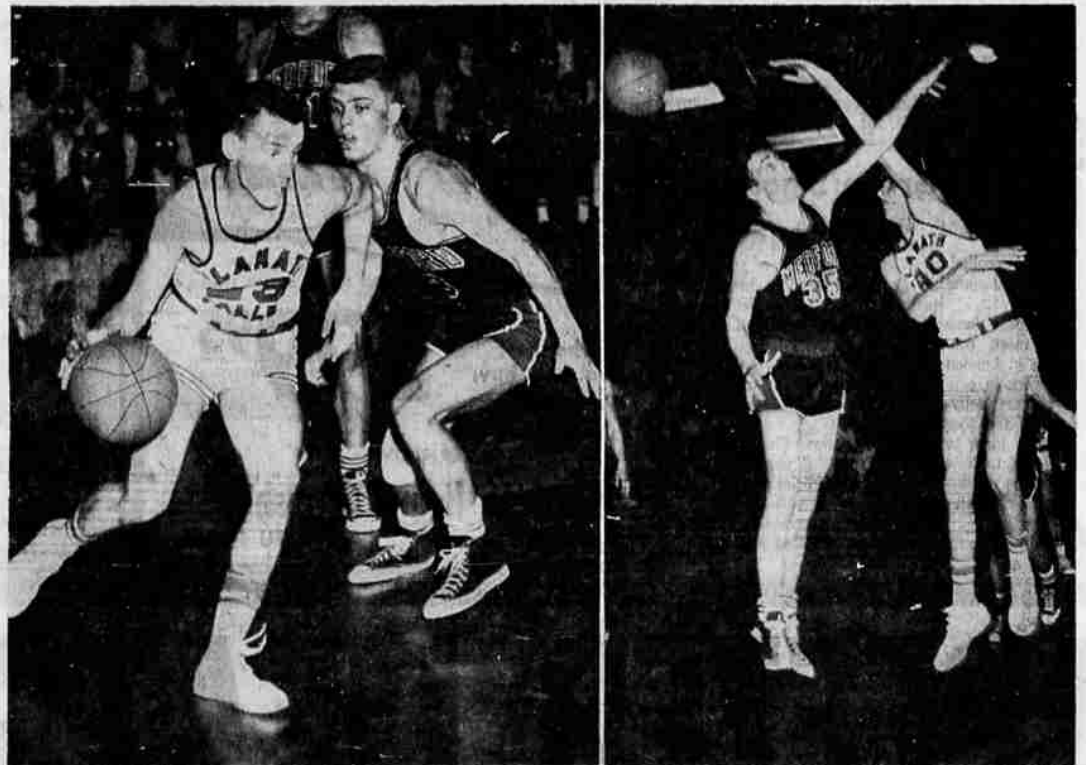
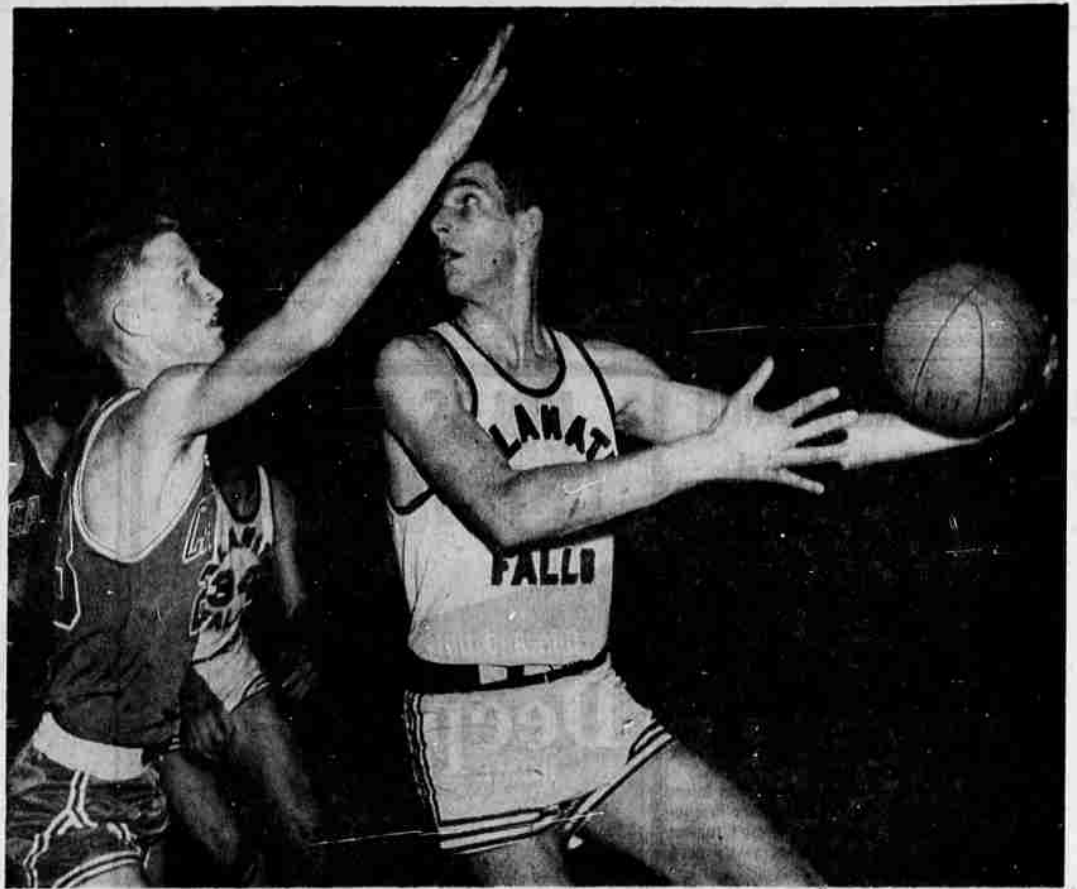
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WAYNE SCOTT
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Direct, on the scene reports and pictures from all the important final games come to you in the Sports Section of the Herald and News.

See today's Sports Section for Wayne Scott's personal coverage of the Western Regional NCAA game in Portland with Glenn Moore and Butch Kimpton of Oregon pitted against USC and John Rudometkin, as well as his state high school A-1 tournament reports from Eugene.

Ted Blofsky's personal coverage for the Herald and News of the Coos Bay state A-2 tournament finals also is in today's Sports Section.

See the Friday, Sunday and Monday Herald and News for complete game reports and all star selections at the climax of the season.

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