

FACTIONAL SITUATION BREWING IN CUBA

April 10 — Raul Castro, Deputy Prime Minister and head of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces, has just returned home from a long "unofficial" visit to Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union which began immediately after Brezhnev's visit to Cuba early this year. During his absence some of the most crucial policy shifts in Cuban revolutionary history were concretized by the visits of Canadian, Argentinian, Peruvian, Mexican and French commercial delegations.

While Raul was abroad, the Coordinating Committee of the Non-Aligned Nations met in Algiers. The meeting was attended not by Raul but by the Cuban Minister of Foreign Relations. During the same period Raul was reported to be unofficially visiting Siberia!

Policy Shift

Soviet Communist Party leader Brezhnev's visit to Cuba in February marked the death of any last bit of revolutionary integrity left to Fidel Castro. Since the assassination of Che Guevara, Fidel has continuously compromised with the unprincipled leaders of the old Cuban Communist Party (Partido Socialista Popular), a trend consummated by the degradation of Castro's support for Peru's CIA regime. Brezhnev's visit made overt the promise that Cuba would no longer try to "export revolution." Brezhnev made clear that the Soviets could no longer finance the Cuban revolution; henceforth it would have to fend for itself on the high seas of detente.

This formally ended Cuba's long-standing policy of seeing Latin American socialist revolutions as the only guarantee of the survival of the Cuban revolution. Fidel will instead embrace the so-called revolutionary nationalist regimes and beg to be admitted into a Rockefeller/Central Intelligence Agency-controlled "Latin American Community." He thus makes public policy the dangerous game he has been playing since announcing at the Trade Union Congress at the end of last year that the Cuban masses were not really ready for socialism.

Rockefeller Lackeys Flirt With Cuba

Waves of support for the integration of Cuba into the Latin American community came from various Latin American national sectors, giving these blood-stained regimes a more credible left cover. Heavy trade commenced with Argentina; Peru and Venezuela began to formulate projects for cooperation with Cuba. Even the embryonic Caribbean Common Market began studying the possibility of Cuba's full membership. Mexico's President Echevarria sent his Foreign Minister Rabasa to prepare economic ties and to plan Echevarria's July visit to Cuba. Rabasa, Kissinger's Kissinger in Latin America, declared: "Cuba is not alone in its revolutionary thrust" — pushing as "revolutionary" Rockefeller's planned "critical changes."

Kissinger announced in late February that the U.S. was happy to review its attitude towards Havana "with an open mind," provided Cuba changes some of its policies and gives certain guarantees, such as not to interfere in another country's internal affairs. This guarantee was already assured by Brezhnev's visit.

Rumor has it that President Nixon, with his affection for the Gusano community in Miami, is unwilling to allow Cuba into the Organization of American States (OAS) or formally to lift the blockade. But with or without official U.S. approval, Cuba is already trading with

U.S. companies through subsidiaries in Canada and Argentina, and was welcomed into the "Latin American Community" at the LA-EEC (Latin American-European Economic Community) conference in Punto del Este last month.

At the 13th annual meeting of the governors of the International Development Bank (IDB), which met last week in Santiago, Chile, the leading CIA-controlled Latin American frontmen for Rockefeller stepped up their efforts to masquerade as revolutionary leaders of an "independent Latin American Community."

Representatives from Peru, Venezuela and Argentina demanded the "Latin Americanization" of the IDB, which would entail a "change in the voting equilibrium" and a transferral of decision-making power from the Bank (i.e., U.S.-Rockefeller financial interests) to the Latin American countries (i.e., Rockefeller/CIA-controlled regimes)!

In a direct attempt to bind Cuba to life-sucking capitalist loan structures, Argentina proposed that the loan policy of the IDB be altered to include the financing of exports (manufactured and capital goods) to any country in the world. This comes at a time when Argentina has just agreed to extend a \$1.2 billion credit to Cuba for the purchase of automobiles and an extensive list of manufactured and capital goods.

Trying to bring Cuba under direct Rockefeller control, Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez (having named Cuba as a "sister nation" who is a victim of the same conditions as other Latin American countries) announced plans to establish a fund within the IDB. The fund would attend to the necessities of Latin American countries which have difficulties applying for credit from the IDB because of "pressures that the U.S. establishes for political reasons or to discourage nationalist ideas of the member countries."

Cuba Declares Victory

Cuba has walked into the progressive-nationalist trap set by U.S.-trained counterinsurgents and claims victory. Radio Havana gloats: "At the conference for American foreign ministers in Tlalteleleo (last week in February — Ed.), held outside the influence of the OAS, Latin American countries abruptly rejected the concept of 'a community of hemispheric interests...' (for a community of Latin American interests — Ed.). At the present moment the correlation of forces on a world scale shows a strong nationalistic tendency of recuperation and defense of natural resources..." This tendency of course was created and directed by Rockefeller and the CIA to implement raw-materials "shortages" aimed at the industrialized sector! With the introduction of U.S. capital and the accompanying crippling debt service, Fidel is allowing creeping capitalism to eat away at the revolutionary process of Cuba.

In spite of this capitulation to Rockefeller's raw-materials hoax and its nationalist cover, there is a possibility that some thinking continues in Cuba. If Raul, Number 2 man and longtime hard-liner, who forced Fidel to take direct personal leadership of the July 26 movement after the revolution, was indeed shipped out so as not to disturb Cuba's accession to economic rape, he is back now and apparently kicking after his long silent absence.

Factional Splits?

At a meeting of Communist Party Youth the first week in April, Raul spoke with little fervor for detente: "Cuban youth will never coexist in any way with alienating and marginal manifestations that try to infiltrate; nor will they coexist with extravagant behavior, with individualism, with profit-seeking or with whatever worm-eaten forms of intellectualism remain. None of these things must find fertile ground to grow among our youth!

Communist youth must be firm jealous custodians of communist ideas, and you must defend them with love, passion and intransigence."

Raul's speech is an attempted inoculation against the internal counterrevolutionary dangers that must surface in this period of total loss of revolutionary integrity and capitulation to capitalist forces. Thus all indications point to a brewing factional situation, similar to the current factional line-up in the Soviet bureaucracy.