

R

# AIRGRAM

104-17-6 Cuba-Mex

REP	AF
EUR	FE
CU	INR
P	IO
FBO	AID
COM	FRB
LAB	TAR
XMB	AIR
CIA	NAVY
USIA	NSA
FBI	NSC

37  
 A-13  
 NO. 4-13  
 TO : Department of State

## CONFIDENTIAL

FOR RM USE ONLY

ATR MATT  
HANDLING INDICATOR

1964 SEP 29 AM 11 33

*Sub*

GROUP 3

Downgraded at 12-year intervals,  
not automatically declassified.

FROM : AmConsul, TAMPICO

DATE: Sept 23 1964  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
MEXICAN AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: Visit of Cuban Ambassador to Tamaulipas

SEP 30 1964

REF :

DIR	CON
DEF	IPWC
✓ LW	AID

Cuban Ambassador to Mexico Joaquin HERNANDEZ Armas arrived at Tampico on the evening flight of CMA on September 5, 1964. Hernandez was met at the airport by Cuban Consul José L. POSADA Torres and his wife, Camilo Domenech; Commercial Counselor of the Embassy, and Attaché Alejandro Rodriguez, who had preceded Hernandez by car, and a group of less than twenty local people. No state or municipal officials were present.

On Sunday, September 6, a barbecue was offered in the visitors' honor by Ing. Alfonso MURIEDA of Petroleos Mexicanos at his home in Colonia Petrolera. Murieda is a known communist.

On Monday, the Cubans traveled to Cd. Victoria where they were received by Governor Praxedis BALBOA and other officials of the state government. The Governor had a private luncheon for the Ambassador and his party. The Governor also accompanied them on visits to schools, government buildings and the museum.

The Cubans were in Cd. Mante on Tuesday, accompanied by Lic. Cristobal GUEVARA Delmos, Executive Officer of the state government, and Amado TREVIÑO, Director of the Office of Press, Information and Tourism of the state. According to sources in Mante, no enthusiasm could be generated for a mass greeting; therefore, some school children and municipal employees were ordered out to greet the Cubans.

The Cuban Ambassador visited the Ingenio (sugar mill) of Mante and had a long talk with its manager, Ing. Manuel ZORILLA Rivera. Zorilla is a well known leftist. Information available indicates that he has long been under Communist Party discipline.

## CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY: D. ZISSENKE  
FOR DEPT. USE ONLY

9/21/81

FORM 4-62 DS-323

RDS or YDS EXT. DATE  
 AUTH. REASON(S)  
 In  Out

ENFORCE EXISTING MARKINGS   
 DECLASSIFIED  RELEASABLE   
 RELEASE DENIED   
 PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

COPYFLO-PBR

Warner, Jr.

The visitors were entertained at supper at a dingy cafe on the edge of Cd. Mante. It is not known by whom they were entertained or who attended. It is understood that only a few persons were present. The party also visited a school and the new Social Security Hospital.

Newspapers stated the next day that the Cubans had announced that they will buy 40,000,000 pesos worth of Tamaulipas cotton. If true, it is probable that about fifty per cent of the cotton will be purchased from the Ingenio del Mante. Members of the cooperative planted 4,000 hectares in cotton this year.

On Monday afternoon, the Mayor of Tampico was instructed by telephone from Cd. Victoria to give a luncheon for the Cuban Ambassador at the Casino Tampiqueño on Wednesday, September 9. The maximum number of persons authorized was twenty. The luncheon was duly held, but it appears that there was some difficulty in filling twenty places. Only fifteen persons, including the four Cubans, attended. A list of those present is attached. Mayor INGUANZO told me in confidence that he was ordered by Mexico City and Cd. Victoria to give only this luncheon and to invite only city officials. Also, he was ordered to discourage private citizens from making any displays of friendship.

A buffet supper for one hundred twenty persons was given by the Cuban Consul at the Gruta Azul of the Hotel Tampico on the evening of September 9. The affair was attended by the general and admiral commanding the military and naval zones and the finance officer of the military zone. The Mayor told me that he did not attend.

The Cubans have emphasized the commercial in their public and private talks. They continually reiterate their desire to buy cotton, henequen, beans and onions. They grow lyrical over the advantages to Tamaulipas that such trade would bring. Communism or politics are never mentioned.

In Cd. Victoria, the Ambassador talked at length with Oscar GUERRA Elizondo, representative in Tamaulipas of the Department of Agriculture and Cattle Raising. The arrangements for this and other commercial discussions were made by the Banco de Comercio Exterior at Mexico City. According to a reliable source, no contracts or agreements were signed.

The Ambassador is said to have offered grants for five youths from Tamaulipas to visit Cuba. One, a third year law student, José HEFTYE Cuella, who probably will make the journey, said that he had been nominated by the Governor. The Consulate will attempt to learn and report details soon of the exact method of selection as well as the names and backgrounds of other nominees.

GROUP 3

Downgraded at 12-year intervals,  
not automatically declassified.

CONFIDENTIAL

In the Consulate's view the visit should be considered a failure. The minimal courtesies accorded by the state and local authorities; the very poor press coverage; the reported failure to reach any firm commercial agreements; and the apathy of the public (including students) must have been disappointing indeed to the Cubans.

*Leland W. Warner, Jr.*  
Leland W. Warner, Jr.  
American Consul

Enclosures: *att*

Copies of newspaper articles

-cc: Counselor for Consular Affairs  
Counselor for Political Affairs  
Political Research  
Director, Mexican Affairs, Washington, D. C.

GROUP 3  
Downgraded at 12-year intervals,  
not automatically declassified.

CONFIDENTIAL