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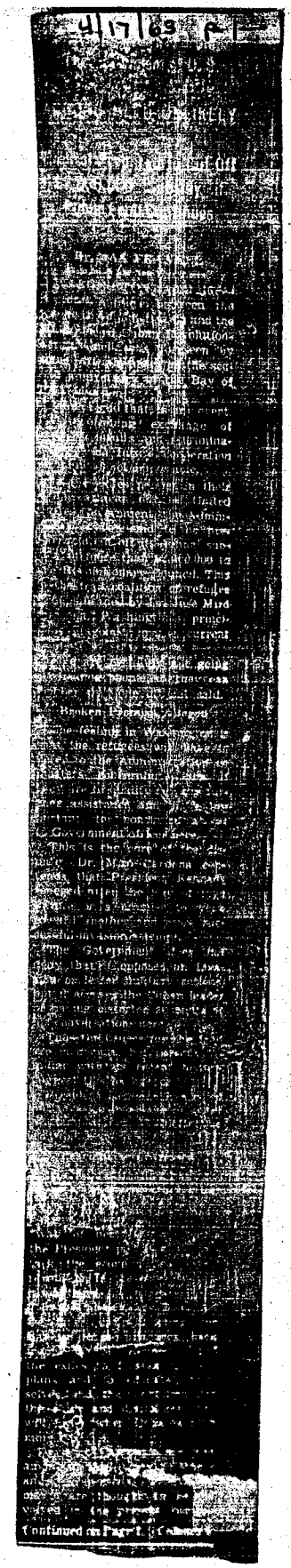

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Text of U.S. Comment on Cuban Exiles

WASHINGTON, April 16 — Following is the text of the State Department's response [illegible]

[illegible] Dr. Miró Cardona [illegible] President [illegible] in the Government is highly inaccurate and [illegible] The Government is [illegible] possession of memorandums of conversation detailing the discussion between the President and other U.S. officials and Dr. Cardona on all occasions and a review of these memorandums of conversations indicates that Dr. Cardona's recollection of the events does not coincide with the record of the talks as [illegible] at the time they took place.

The U.S. Government, under existing conditions, is not prepared to enter into alliances or undertakings that would essentially give exile leaders the authority to determine U.S. policy and plans regarding Cuba, or that would promise at least $50,000,000 to permit exile leaders to recruit an army and wage a war, the unforeseeable consequences of which would almost certainly have to be born ultimately by United States armed forces, or that would engage the United States [illegible] wage a war. All of these commitments were demanded by Dr. Miró Cardona.

The United States cannot coexist with a Soviet satellite in this hemisphere. This does not mean we can permit publicized expeditions which have no tangible effect on the future status of Cuba, which are in clear violation of U.S. law and which are followed by highly colored press conferences.

The Government will wish to enforce consulting with leaders of the Cuban exile community concerning [illegible] methods for achieving our common objective. In determining these methods the policies of the Government in the field of foreign affairs, particularly those which carry the risk of war, will continue to be determined by the Government and the people of the United States.

[illegible]