

Contents of note?

Weather on news

Cuban Moves on Releasing

Portugal

Associated Press
Cuba sent a second note to the United States yesterday amid mystery over Fidel Castro's real intent on letting freedom-seeking refugees leave his country.

One puzzle for Washington negotiators is the release by anti-Castro exiles in Miami on Tuesday of the contents of the first, hitherto-secret Oct.

12 note from Havana on arranging for a mass refugee exodus.

Some U.S. sources figured that the Cuban Premier deliberately leaked the note this way in a move to score propaganda points and foul up arrangements being worked out in the privacy of diplomatic channels.

Others speculated that the document was slipped to newsmen without Castro's consent. The United States is making a private inquiry to the Castro government as to whether this was the case.

U.S. officials were also puzzled why the arrival of refugees fleeing Cuba in small boats suddenly stopped yes-

terday. More than 600 refugees and shown up in small craft in the Florida waters since Castro let down escape barriers Oct. 10.

Some Washington authorities thought that Castro probably halted the flow temporarily pending arrangements for safer transportation.

Confirmed by Miami Weather Bureau 10/20/61

Refugees Puzzle U.S.

Others speculated that he had become alarmed about the prospective size of the exodus—perhaps 50,000 or more wanting to leave—and is having second thoughts about his promise to let all those depart who want to.

In Havana, a Foreign Ministry official denied that the Cuban government had cut

off refugee departures. "It is possible that boats wishing to leave have been delayed by weather, but there has been no cut-off," he said.

Meanwhile, three small boats—one said to be carrying four Cuban refugees—were reported disabled in the Gulf Stream, the Coast Guard said.

A fourth boat containing the first refugees to arrive since early Monday was sighted.

It was not known whether all the distressed boats were in the Cuban refugee shuttle, which had mysteriously let up after arrival of a boat just after midnight Monday.