

SA 7/29/64

## INTERPRETATION

# Mexico to Continue Cuba Tightrope Act

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MEXICO CITY, July 29.—Mexico is expected to continue her delicate tightrope act on the western hemisphere political scene, despite the sanctions voted by the Organizations of American States against Fidel Castro's Communist Cuba.

Mexico has carried out a polite, diplomatically correct attitude toward the Castro regime without any open sign of official approval—or disapproval—of its policies and actions.

The Mexican government's stand has been widely popular at home. And Mexico has managed to avoid a showdown with the United States or other hemispheric partners over her Cuban relations.

The OAS voted at Washington that member nations should not maintain diplomatic or consular relations with Mr. Castro and should cut shipping links and trade with him, except for food and medicine.

### Embassy Ties Paramount

Of those points, the major one which affects Mexico is the one relating to diplomatic and consular relations. Mexico maintains an embassy and a consulate in Havana.

Trade with Mr. Castro is slight and shipping links are irregular.

The OAS resolution doesn't set a time limit for compliance. Thus Mexico can continue the status quo without coming into open conflict over the issue.

Latin American diplomats feel the Mexican situation certainly will not change before December 1, when President-elect Gustavo Diaz Ordaz is inaugurated.

Since the sanctions were voted, there has been no public demand—even from Mexico's extreme rightist groups—that Mexico break relations with Mr. Castro.

### Leftists Would Quit OAS

On the contrary, extreme leftists have demanded the Mexico get out of the OAS in protest against the sanctions.

To the Mexican way of thinking, it's all a matter of Mexico's rights. And Mexico feels it has a right to handle

Mr. Castro in the way best suiting its interests.

Judicial considerations aside, those interests at present don't include stirring up leftists by becoming openly hostile to Mr. Castro.

Castro foes in the United States and elsewhere have contended the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City is a staging area for Communist subversion in the hemisphere.

The United States has thwarted various attempts to ship materials needed by Mr. Castro to Mexico for trans-shipment to Cuba.