

Hi!

Enclosing stats of articles on Cuba in "Facts on File". Picked out couple stories to show type of coverage. Most of them appear to be newsworthy. Stats are only 10¢ per copy.

Mark those you deem usable in your work. Library of Congress fills only orders for three dollars and up. Terrible for small items. Trying to get them in other sources.

The chap, living here, who represents Puerto Rico paper and worked for other Latin-American papers, told me that O'Rourke, who resigned from News, had file an IPA. He was active member and officer. Thinks I might be able to find IPA proceedings in Newsfiles. I'll try it - meantime -

Dallas News - Oct. 20, 1963 - (excerpt) JFK in speech at Orono Maine stated that "basic American Soviet differences will give rise to further crises, large and small, but we always make clear both our willingness to talk, if talk will help, and readiness to fight, if fight we must."

we regarded freedom as a domestic institution and progress as a national privilege." [See p. 93A1-C2]

Cuba

Castro Criticizes Khrushchev. Cuban Premier Fidel Castro criticized Soviet Premier Khrushchev's stand in the Cuban missile crisis in a 2-part interview published in the Paris newspaper *Le Monde* Mar. 21-22.

Castro denied Mar. 22 that he had given the newspaper an exclusive interview. But he acknowledged he had held "informal talks" in Havana in January with Claude Julien, assistant foreign editor of *Le Monde*. Castro speculated that his conversations with Julien had "served as the pretext for the elaboration of this intrigue."

In the *Le Monde's* Mar. 21 installment, Castro was quoted as saying that Khrushchev "should not have removed his missiles without consulting us. Cuba does not want to be a pawn on the world's chessboard. Cuban sovereignty is a reality. I cannot agree with Khrushchev promising Kennedy to pull out his rockets without the slightest regard to the indispensable approval of the Cuban government."

Other points made by Castro, according to *Le Monde* Mar. 21:

► In offering rockets to Cuba, the USSR "explained to us that in accepting them we should strengthen the Socialist camp in the world. And because we receive large scale aid from the Socialist camp, we did not think we could refuse. That is why we accepted them. It was not to insure our own defense. . . ."

► The reasons for the placement of Soviet rockets in Cuba "is a mystery. Perhaps historians will succeed in clarifying that in 20 to 30 years."

► Although the Soviet missiles were not under direct Cuban control, "they were on Cuban territory, and nothing should have been decided without consulting us. We are not a satellite."

► "Obviously the Soviet Union has world responsibility we do not have. Khrushchev wants peace, and we also want peace. He avoided war, but he did not win the peace."

► Cuba was justified in refusing outside inspection of its arms. "We are the only judges of the arms we should have. I already knew [First Deputy Soviet Premier Anastas] Mikoyan [whom Castro had appraised of the Cuban decision to bar arms inspection]. . . . If Khrushchev himself had come I should have boxed his ears."

► "The Chinese [Communists] are right in saying one should not yield to imperialism. But we . . . know that imperialism is not a paper tiger."

In *Le Monde's* Mar. 22 installment of the Castro interview, Castro was quoted as saying: "What support did we get during the [U.S.] blockade last October when we were on the edge of a major conflict? Where were any big mass demonstrations in our favor noticed? What did the revolutionaries of Europe and Latin America do? Only the Venezuelans reacted then. But the big parties that call themselves revolutionaries did not budge. They are not revolutionaries but bureaucrats. They are satellites."

Le Monde complained Mar. 22 that the UPI report of the Castro interview as published in U.S. newspapers had

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Headline News

Pres. Kennedy reported on San José conference.

Castro criticized Khrushchev stand on missile crisis.

Cuban exiles attacked Soviet army camp, ship in Cuban port; U.S. deplored raid.

Gen. Clay panel submitted guidelines for reduced foreign aid program.

French mine strike talks collapsed.

Israel demanded Bonn bar German rocket experts from UAR.

Hungary granted amnesty to political prisoners.

omitted passages in which Castro praised Khrushchev and the Russians and expressed gratitude for Soviet aid. *Le Monde* also complained that U.S. newspapers had interpreted Castro's reference to wanting to "box" Khrushchev's ears as a serious statement, whereas it was meant as a joke. [See pp. 1G3, 18F1, 80A1]

Exile Raid. "Commando units" of 2 anti-Castro organizations attacked a Soviet army camp and a ship Mar. 18 at the north coast port of Isabela de Sagua, about 130 miles east of Havana.

The raid was disclosed at a Washington news conference Mar. 19 by representatives of the 2 exile groups, Antonio Veciana of Alpha 66 and Cecilio J. Vazquez of the 2d National Front of Escambray. Their account of the raid: 2 high speed boats carrying exiles armed with machine guns and cannon participated in the operation; the attacking force in one boat exchanged gun fire with Cuban Coast Guard customs men and Soviet infantry; the raiders then moved into another part of the port, where they were met by gun fire from a Soviet merchant ship anchored in the bay; the 2d attacking speedboat fired on the ship's stack and bridge, causing serious damage; the raid was not launched from the U.S. or from British territory in the Caribbean. About 12 Russians were wounded, according to the raiders and Cuban underground sources.

The U.S. State Department Mar. 19 criticized the raid and said: "It reinforces our belief that the irresponsible and ineffective forays serve to increase the difficulty of dealing with the unsatisfactory situation . . . in the Caribbean. The U.S. is strongly opposed to hit-and-run attacks on Cuba by splinter refugee groups. It has stated repeatedly that such raids do not weaken the grip of the Communist régime on Cuba—indeed, they may strengthen it."

Pres. Kennedy said at his news conference in Washington Mar. 21: "These kinds of raids" "strengthen the Russian position in Cuba and the Communist control of Cuba and justify repressive measures within Cuba, which might otherwise not be regarded as essential";

REFERENCES in brackets give location of background information in this & preceding volumes

"I don't think" such raids increase "the chances of freeing Cuba." Mr. Kennedy was asked to comment on Russian allegations that the Isabela de Sagua raiders were under U.S. government direction and came from the U.S. He replied: "Our best information is that they did not come from the United States"; "we have not supported this, and these men do not have a connection with the United States government." [See Vol. XXII, p. 353B2]

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