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REPORT ON CUBA'S INTERNAL PROBLEMS WITH REBELS

10 Oct 63 [M]
 Routine

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 b(iii)

On 7 October [] reported from Havana:

Comments on FIDEL's speech of 28 September. Cuba's foreign policy and its attitude toward the Moscow Treaty are determined by the aggressive activities of the United States. General relaxation may not be applicable to the Caribbean area.

1. The coups in Honduras and the Dominican Republic, and the rise of reactionaries in Venezuela, he ties in with coordination of operations against Cuba by the CIA from Central America.
2. Smuggling of arms to the capitol is on the increase. The underground is switching to a long-range harassment supported by pirate activities from the outside. In September the government carried out massive military operations in the Escambray and Matanza areas.
3. The Cuban counterrevolutionaries and Cubans from Central America announce heavier underground traffic in men and arms for November and December.
4. I believe that the approaching Presidential elections in the United States will strengthen reactionary forces from within and without. Immediate US aggression is out of the question. Therefore, there is a need for a strong gorilla [sic] collar around Cuba. Simultaneously, the economic blockade is being intensified. This is dictated by the consequent "anti-imperialistic lines of our own foreign policy." On the whole, in their opinion, relaxation is due to the peaceful policy pursued by the Soviet Union, but they attribute this, first of all, to their own position.

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