

Comrades, the facts on which I report must be viewed, must be looked upon from the angle of a country where there is no mass Communist Party, and where the situation is very unlike that of America. The Party is very weak from the point of view of theoretical leadership, and besides it has never enjoyed a legal existence. The Party came into existence and developed under a regime of the worst possible terror. I will not speak more about the terror and the persecutions in Cuba, but will confine myself to saying that it is a regime of civil war, of the worst possible oppression, a regime under which there is no conception of civil rights in the ordinary bourgeois sense of the word. I will show later that several kinds of activity which were prepared by us were liquidated in the very beginning by the persecutions of the existing regime.

The second question, relating to my letters, which I wrote to the comrades here. Some of my letters were written under very bad conditions, lack of paper, lack of records, inability to check up with previous reports. Therefore some of my letters may contain contradictions, because a letter is not like an article where you are careful of each expression which you use, etc. I do not want to defend myself against an accusation made against me that my letters contain a pessimistic tone. There were situations where bombs were thrown into my surroundings, lights went out, in others with some arrests, central committee arrests, - to relate these facts was not pessimism, it was merely an expression of one who is hard pressed by all these facts. I am certain we cannot discover any signs of pessimism in my general activity there.

I have discussed the line of my report with Comrade Bittleman and find that I have prepared myself for a report of too wide a scope because certain things are already known here and I will therefore, narrow down the scope of my report.

Since I have already read the letter of the Buro to the Cuban Party and also the organ of the Buro I will try not to repeat things that are already known to the comrades. I only want to state that the comrades have correctly analyzed the Cuban crisis. The Cuban crisis began not at the same time as the crisis in the U.S. but is of a much longer duration lasting many years, and the basis for this crisis in Cuba is because the main Cuban industry has been undermined for a long period of time and is at the present time at its highest point of development. We will not deal with the figures showing the development of the crisis, I will only state that the question of the Chadborne plan is an important question. We did carry on a campaign against the Chadborne plan as an imperialist plan but we had to do this with great effort because Chadborne himself had declared before a meeting of sugar employers, "Much water will flow under the bridge until we will again restore the sugar industry of Cuba". We have some material containing some facts to the effect that for the advertising of the Chadborne Plan a NY lawyer was paid \$10,000, for the maintaining of the Buro which was dealing with the Chadborne Plan they spent \$40,000. For another lawyer who was engaged in the formulation of the plan they paid \$125,000; a month's wages paid to an expert who was handling the sale of sugar was \$5,250, whereas the Buro is not selling a single pound of sugar. This is so to speak, the technical side of the proposition. I believe that there is not a single human being in Cuba who does not consider this Chadborne Plan the culmination of imperialist oppression. I do not think that the Party will have difficulty in proving this. In some of the material I have noticed a statement that the plan may aid in cheapening the price of sugar. I do not believe that this is correct. Because the fall of the price of sugar has had the effect in the first place of reducing the wages of the workers. There was spontaneous struggle on many sugar plantations where the wages was paid only with Company notes and not with money.

In one of my letters I have related the fact that in order to carry through the sugar harvest they mobilized all the military and especially the secret police. The sugar harvest this year was carried thru by forced labor. It must be stated that the cheap price of sugar is not the result of reationalization but of the utilization of the worst form of exploitation of the workers. The fact is that two thirds of the sugar harvest was not collected at all but was left to rot. Only one third was collected.