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## U.S. HOPE ON CUBA SUFFERS SETBACK

### Joint Action Unlikely Soon Against Castro Regime

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Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, May 13—

The prospects for any immediate Inter-American action on Cuba dimmed considerably this week, to the sharp disappointment of the United States.

Contrary to earlier expectations, it is now regarded as unlikely that the American Foreign ministers' conference favored by Washington and aimed at formulating a collective position toward Premier Fidel Castro's regime will take place in the foreseeable future.

Special task forces operating on different levels in the United States Government, including a group in the White House, are still seeking to evolve a short-term policy toward Cuba in the wake of the unsuccessful April rebel attack. However, the growing tendency in the Administration is to concentrate on long-range problems in Latin America.

#### Drive Accents Prevention

The belief is that it is just as urgent to prevent "new Cubas" in the hemisphere as to find a solution for the existence in the Caribbean of a defiant regime that the Administration has formally described as Communist.

A high State Department official has compared the present situation in Latin America to that of Europe in 1947. He asserts that efforts to "save" Cuba could be roughly equated with the Greece-Turkey doctrine, with the economic blueprints for the hemisphere reminiscent of the Marshall Plan approach.

The main instrument of this policy is President Kennedy's Alliance for Progress program, designed to raise living standards in Lat America and to produce a political impact.

Plans are being developed for an Inter-American ministerial conference, probably in a South American capital, requested by President Kennedy for July 15 to launch the program. It is known that the President will make every effort to attend the

#### Support Falls to Materialize

In the light of Premier Castro's proclamation on May 1 that Cuba was a "Socialist state" and that she renounced the system of elections, the United States had hoped the majority of Latin-American republics would join in denouncing the Havana regime. It was hoped the other republics might agree to measures such as an economic blockade, a break in diplomatic relations and the creation of an Inter-American committee to combat Communist subversion.

Preliminary reactions to diplomatic consultations and the strongly anti-Castro opinions registered in the Latin-American press in recent weeks had encouraged Washington to believe that joint action on Cuba was possible.

However, the United States was opposed to the idea of calling a conference unless it could be assured beforehand of strong support.

Until the middle of the week there were still expectations of building a reasonably united front on the Cuban question, but the announcement of the Brazilian position Wednesday dashed these hopes.

While these events have left the United States little choice but to concentrate on the long-range plans for Latin America, the Administration also found itself under pressure from Canada to seek an accommodation with Dr. Castro's regime.

According to reports from Europe, Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs, Howard C. Green, offered in a talk with Secretary of State Dean Rusk to arrange for mediation between the United States and Cuba. Canada's position is expected to come up for discussion when President Kennedy visits Ottawa next week.

## Rayburn Hails Kennedy For Shouldering Blame

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., May 12 (AP)—When the Kennedy Administration makes a mistake "the President does not try to shift the blame to someone else—he stands up and takes the blame himself," House Speaker Sam Rayburn said tonight.

"He is a real man," Mr. Rayburn added. "That kind of responsibility makes for real leadership." Mr. Rayburn did not say so, but apparently was referring to Mr. Kennedy's acceptance of responsibility for the Cuban invasion fiasco.

In a speech for a Democratic fund-raising dinner here, the Texas said he had found Mr. Kennedy's popularity growing. He explained:

"Everywhere I go in this country I hear people say: 'Well, he is really working hard, trying to make us a good President. I'm for him.' The American people will always back a man who does his very best, who works long and gruelling hours at his job, who clearly demonstrates that he puts the national welfare ahead of every personal consideration."