

# CUBANS SET RALLY TO HONOR BATISTA

## Thousands Expected to Hail Ruler at Palace Today— Foes Warn on Attendance

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HAVANA, April 6—Thousands of persons are expected to gather at the Presidential palace here tomorrow afternoon to demonstrate popular support for President Fulgencio Batista.

According to organizers, the demonstrators will include members of all the Government political parties, representatives of commerce, industry, agriculture, labor and civic organizations, government employes and other members of the public.

During the last week members of industrial, banking and commercial organizations, including representatives of many United States companies and organizations, have called on President Batista to express their support for his Government. They have tendered congratulations on his escape from assassination March 13, when a group of insurgents attacked his palace.

Today handbills are being distributed in the capital by some sectors of the Opposition warning the public not to attend the demonstration.

### Congress Sets Hearings

The Cuban Congress, which is attempting to draw up a plan for conciliation between the Government and Opposition political parties, will begin a series of hearings next week. Former President Ramon Grau San Martin will be the first Opposition leader to appear before a committee to state his views on the situation. All Opposition parties will be given opportunity to state their views.

Meanwhile, although a few

bombs are exploding in various places in the interior and some acts of sabotage are reported, no news has come out of Oriente Province for more than two weeks concerning Fidel Castro and his rebel forces. Government troops have been engaged in the eastern province since Dec. 2, trying to kill or capture the rebels. No recent reports of clashes have reached Havana.

### No Troop Exit Announced

President Batista said recently: "Neither Fidel Castro nor any of his insurgents remain in the Sierra Maestra." However, no announcement of a withdrawal of troops from the Oriente Province mountains has been made by Army Headquarters.

The Archbishop of Santiago, Msgr. Enrique Perez Serantes, is said to be planning to go into the mountains to inquire into the conditions under which Señor Castro's force would lay down its arms. He will also seek to persuade three teen-aged sons of United States Navy men, who ran away from home to join Señor Castro in February, to return to their parents.

There are signs of an attempt to organize a passive resistance campaign in Havana similar to that going on in Santiago. Circulars are appearing, calling on the public to dedicate next Saturday to the memory both of revolutionists and of soldiers killed during the present movement against the Batista Government.