

Reds Drive to Rule Labor in Cuba

Handed 3 Seats in Executive Committee

BY JULES DUBOIS

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HAVANA, Cuba, Jan. 7—

The Communists have already begun their drive to recapture the Cuban Confederation of Labor which they ruled for many years before Fulgencio Batista took control and used the unions to support his dictatorship.

Rebel Chief Fidel Castro will be asked by disgruntled anti-communist labor leaders to resolve this problem when he makes his triumphant entry into Havana Thursday.

Chosen by Three

The Communists were given three posts in the 15 man executive committee of the National Labor Unity front by the labor chiefs of the 26th of July movement, Castro's victorious rebel organization.

David Salvador, head of the front, announced the appointment of the committee which was selected by him, Conrado Becquer and Scholmaria de la Aguilera, two other Castro labor leaders.

Salvador, Becquer, and Aguilera are anti-communist and could not be reached Wednesday to explain why the Communists got the three posts.

Reduced to 15

Other leaders of the 26th of July movement could not explain it, and several of them are protesting about it.

Originally the Communists were given five places on a 22 man national committee, but when Rodrigo Lominchar,

a respected and authentic organization labor leader, protested against this surprising favoritism and the assumption of seven places by the 26th of July Salvador modified the committee.

The original 22 man committee then was reduced to 15. The 26th took seven posts, and divided the others among the Directorio Revolucionario, the revolutionary Orthodox party labor faction, and the pro-Prio Authentic leaders. Heading the list of Communists is Ursinio Rojas who once bossed the sugar workers union.

The fact that the Communists have been given the appointments altho they are in a minority, already has created displeasure in the ranks of many who coöperated in the underground in behalf of Castro.

Castro's delayed entry into Havana has allowed this situation to get out of hand.

Castro's feat in overthrow-

ing Batista was compared Wednesday to Francisco Pizarro's conquest of Peru by Julio Lobo, Cuba's wealthiest citizen and owner of 14 large sugar plantations.

Harvest Can Begin

Lobo praised Castro's victory and said that he sees no communist danger as a result.

"I have the greatest faith and confidence in the new government," he said. "With honesty, ability, and progressiveness in the public administration Cuba will become one of the richest and best developed nations in the world.

"The sugar harvest can begin immediately," Lobo said. "We are ready to produce one of the largest harvests in history."

Cuba's economy is largely geared to sugar. The island nation is one of the world's largest sugar producers and

ships much of its sugar to the United States.

Lobo said that Castro, like Pizarro, who sailed for Peru with a small group of men, undertook an adventure in which few people had faith.

"What Castro has accomplished," he said, "can only be compared to the feat of Pizarro when he conquered Peru. Pizarro told those who had faith in him to accompany him and those who did not to return to Panama."

Lobo praised the cabinet appointments by Provisional President Urrutia and again expressed confidence there would be no taint of communism in the government and the forces supporting it.