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FROM AMEMBASSY, HABANA

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TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

March 16, 1953

REF : Embassy's OM of March 13, 1953

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS
DATE
MAR 19 1953
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SUBJECT: Government Action Against Communist Magazine La Ultima Hora

Agents of the President's secret police broke into the editorial offices of the Communist weekly magazine La Ultima Hora the night of March 13 and made off with quantities of papers, books, and other material.

The Communist newspaper Hoy, the companion-piece of La Ultima Hora, said that the magazine's archives and desk drawers were ransacked. Hoy published pictures showing the office strewn with papers and photographs.

While the government had nothing to say about the raid, and the non-Communist press printed not a word about it, Hoy said that the police kicked in the door and systematically looted the office and printshop of books, files, and other material vital to the publication of the magazine.

A printshop employee, a proofreader, and a night watchman were said to have been locked in an adjoining room while the police went about their search.

The latest issue of La Ultima Hora was devoted almost entirely to the death of Stalin (see reference OM). It did not contain any attack against the government more violent than usual.

For the Chargé d'Affaires a.i.:

Richard G. Cushing
Richard G. Cushing
Information Officer

RG Cushing/fmr
REPORTER

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