

CUBAN UNIONS SET TO PURGE LEADERSHIP

All Anti-Communists Expected to Go

BY CHESLY MANLY

[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

HAVANA, Cuba, Jan. 7—A statement by David Salvador, secretary general of the Cuban Confederation of Workers [C.T.C.] was interpreted Thursday as evidence that the Communists control Cuba's labor unions and are determined to purge all anti-Communists from their leadership.

Salvador said the C.T.C. executive committee had reaffirmed a decision to purge the labor unions and would proceed as rapidly as possible to eliminate all "Mujalistas and counter-revolutionaries." Eusebio Mujal was secretary general of the C.T.C. during the regime of Fulgencio Batista, ousted dictator.

Would Purge All

This statement means, according to those who know most about Cuba's labor unions, that the Communists intend to purge all non-Communists, including David Salvador.

Salvador, who was expelled by the Partido Socialista Popular [Communist] party in 1952, is regarded as a weakling and is opposed by Jesus Soto, pro-Communist secretary general of the textile workers and organization secretary of the C.T.C.

The labor unions, the peasants and the army are the main pillars of Premier Fidel Castro's totalitarian revolution. The Communists control the army and thru the National Institute of Agrarian Reform [I.N.R.A.], Castro's super-government for the nationalization of agriculture, industry and commerce, they control the peasants.

End to Opposition

When the anti-Communists are eliminated from the labor unions, the Communists will have no effective opposition.

All Cuban business and industrial firms exist at the mercy of the labor unions. Managements are terrorized by union leaders. They dare not resist the most outrageous demands, for under one of Castro's revolutionary laws the government has authority to "intervene," that is to take over, any company involved in a labor dispute.