

Xs: PC, NFOs, DOs, José

OCT 18 1978

Miami SWP  
October 15, 1978

National Office SWP

Dear Comrades:

I am enclosing a copy of a magazine that was distributed to 20,000 Cubans in Miami by the Christian Evangelical Reformed Church of Miami. Members of the church went door to door in the Cuban neighborhoods passing this out. Their paster is Rev. Manuel Espinosa, the one person mentioned by name by Castro in his press conference of last August where the Cuban government made overtures to Cubans living abroad.

This church has grown dramatically in membership and influence since it was founded four years ago. Its meetings draw up to 2,000 people. This church's purpose is to get the blockade lifted and "reunify the Cuban family." Today we met with Alvaro Espinosa, Manuel's brother. Alvaro feels that the overwhelming majority of Cubans in Miami support lifting the blockade. He also thinks the majority of Cubans are proud of the accomplishments of the Cuban Revolution and of what Cuba is doing in Africa. Our discussion with him was very interesting, and we're trying to glean out the most important aspects of it for an overdue Militant article.

Castro also mentioned the Antonio Maceo Brigade in his press conference. This Brigade is made up exclusively of Cubans. Their trip last December to Cuba was the first trip of Cubans from the exile community that was permitted to make a visit like that. It was very successful. The Brigade is planning a second trip for next summer. Applications to join the Brigade have to be in by December. The Brigade office will review them and then they are sent to Castro for review. The trip would be for about a month and would probably take place in July. The cost would be only the price of a plane ticket.

The Brigade was initiated by Areito magazine. Both are based in New York. To get an application to participate in the Brigade, write:


Brigada Antonio Maceo  
Box 407  
Medford NY 11763

Or, should this address ~~be no longer in existence,~~ <sup>be no longer in existence,</sup> try Areito.

AREITO  
P.O. Box 1124  
Peter Stuyvesant Station  
New York NY 10009

If we thought it would be good for a Cuban comrade to participate in this Brigade, I would suggest we act quick. Anyone with at least one Cuban parent is eligible. I don't know if comrades in other cities, such as New York; Washington, D.C.; or Boston, have contact with Areito, but I would suggest these branches check this group out. Here in Miami we've met some people who are very open.

Comradely,

  
Rose Ogden  
Organizer