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CUBA

economic news

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CUBA

Both delegations agreed on the 7th meeting being held in Paris
in 1981.

PRESIDENTS OF ANGOLA AND CUBA
SIGN BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT (4079)

On March 20, an agreement was signed between the Communist Party of Cuba and the MPLA-Party of Labor by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Party and president of the Council of State and of Government, and José Eduardo dos Santos, president of the MPLA-Party of Labor of the People's Republic of Angola.

Also present as this important document was signed were General of the Army Raúl Castro, second secretary of the Central Committee and minister of the Armed Forces; Ramiro Valdés, Political Bureau member and minister of the interior; along with other Party and government leaders.

That same day, Horacio Bras da Silva, minister of construction and habitat of Angola, who was a member of the accompanying Angolan delegation, met with Jorge Risquet, member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Party, to discuss relations of friendship and collaboration between the two countries, especially the prospects for construction.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT
SIGNED BY MALI AND CUBA (4080)

An agreement for economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the Governments of Mali and Cuba was signed on March 16 by Colonel Amadou Baba Diarra, assistant general secretary of the Malian People's Democratic Union and Carlos Rafael Rodríguez, Political Bureau member and vice-presidente of the Councils of State and of Ministers of Cuba.

In talks held in two occasions, the two parties analyzed in detail the international situation and the role of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries in the struggle for peace and independence for the peoples. The points of view of the two sides coincided.

Special attention was given to the situation in Africa, and the victory of the people of Zimbabwe seen as a valuable contribution

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ANGOLA AND CUBA SIGN SPECIAL
COOPERATION PROTOCOL

(4130)

The 3rd Joint Angolan-Cuban Intergovernmental Commission came to a close with the signing of a protocol and a special agreement in Luanda on May 2.

The signatories were Héctor Rodríguez Llompert, president of the Cuban State Committee for Economic Cooperation, and Roberio de Almeida, Angolan minister of planning. At the ceremony to this effect, Rodríguez Llompert thanked the president of Angola, José Eduardo dos Santos, for the support he had expressed for Cuba in the face of imperialist maneuvers in his May Day speech.

The protocol lays down economic and commercial cooperation for 1980-81 and scholarships for students. The special agreement covers visits by delegations and scientific and technical exchange.

CONSTRUCTION

CUBA AND USSR SIGN COOPERATION

PLAN FOR CONSTRUCTION

(4131)

On May 19, a scientific and technical cooperation program for the construction sector was signed, for Cuba, by José López Moreno, vice-president of the Council of Ministers and minister of construction of Cuba, and, for the USSR, by Ivan Alexandrovich Ganichev, deputy chairman of the State Committee for Construction (GOSSTROY).

Signed in the presence of the deputy ministers of construction and the State Committee for Economic Cooperation of Cuba, and Vitali Vorotnikov, USSR ambassador to Cuba, the documents were, Minister López Moreno said, proof of the solidarity between the peoples and governments of Cuba and the Soviet Union.

For this part, I. V. Ganichev recalled that the first protocol on scientific and technical cooperation between GOSSTROY and the construction sector in Cuba had been signed in May 1975.

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The agreement was the outcome of talks held between June 22 and 25, after which the Cuban delegation, also comprising Deputy Minister José de la Fuente and Director of Prices Antonio Hernández, returned to our country.

COMMUNICATIONS

GRENADA AND CUBA SIGN COMMUNICATIONS AGREEMENT (4151)

On June 24 a communications agreement between Cuba and Grenada was signed in St. Georges, furthering the ties of cooperation in this field between the two countries.

The agreement was signed by Grenadan Minister of Communications Selwyn Strachan and his Cuban counterpart Pedro Guelmes.

On behalf of the Government and people of Grenada, Minister Strachan spoke of how highly appreciated Cuban aid in communications is. Minister Guelmes, in turn, declared that Cuba was ready to help Grenada in every way possible, in the spirit of solidarity which characterizes relations between our two countries.

CONSTRUCTION

OVER 15000 CUBAN CONSTRUCTION WORKERS ABROAD (4152)

In 1981, Cuba will have between 15000 and 20000 construction workers on projects in over ten countries, announced Minister of

Government Levi Farah, in charge of construction work abroad. He was speaking at the closing session of a juridical seminar to over 100 lawyers of the Ministry of Construction, the Caribbean Union of Construction Enterprises (UNECA), and other agencies.

Cuba has at present some 7000 workers in over ten countries, and by the end of this year it is expected that the figure will have reached 10000.

At this moment, UNECA is building in the Americas, Asia and Africa. Some projects have been donated by the Cuban Government; others are commercial contracts, covering waterworks, roadworks, housing, schools, farms, cold storage plants, bridges, cattle farms and hospitals.

ANIMAL HEALTH CENTER

COMPLETED (4153)

Construction work to the value of 25 million pesos has just been completed on the Animal Health Center in San José de las Lajas, by Architectural Works Enterprise No. 6 of City of Havana.

The Center covers a land area of 51 300 square meters of buildings and has highly automated equipment, making it one of the most important of its kind in Latin America and the Caribbean.

There is a pathology unit, along with microbiology and electronic microscopy units, a surgical clinic with operating room and cublicles for sick animals. One of the Center's functions is to research into animal health, genetics and production. It is also to give scientific and technical services to production and help train highly qualified personnel in the field.

148 WHOLE OR PARTIAL PROJECTS

TO BE COMPLETED THIS YEAR (4154)

As a salute to the 2nd Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba and Construction Workers Day, December 5, workers belonging to the construction worker's trade union committed themselves to completing this year 148 whole or partial projects.

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POULTRY FARMING

OVER 52 000 TONS OF POULTRY

IN JANUARY-JULY PERIOD

(4188)

Parallel to the notable increase in egg production, poultry workers have also achieved a total output of 52 885 tons of poultry for the January-July period. This figure surpasses last year's figure for the same period by almost 8 900 tons.

Moreover, this figure was achieved with a lower feed consumption per kilo of fowl obtained, 60 grams less than the first seven months of 1979.

Another efficiency index is the average weight of chicken, 1.37 kilograms, which is 50 grams more than in the same period last year.

These figures augur well for this year's plan being met. The plan sets the total production of poultry (live weight) at 88 277 tons.

ALMOST 1 300 MILLION EGGS

IN SEVEN MONTHS

(4189)

During the first seven months of the year, egg production for home consumption rose to the figure of 1 297.3 million. This is eight percent over and above the plan and 213.8 million eggs more than in the same last year's period.

Poultry workers have set themselves the target of 2 000 million eggs this year to salute the 2nd Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba to be held in December.

During this initial period, the average was 148.3 eggs per bird (10.7 more than last year) and feed consumption per dozen eggs was 1.54 kilograms (130 grams less than last year).

This has meant an intake of 9 900 tons less feed than planned (16 100 tons less than in 1979), and this in turn has signified a notable savings in foreign exchange on importing products used in preparing the feed.

the Marianao cold storage plant, wharves in Havana docks, and the antibiotics plant to the east of Havana that will be producing various types of semisynthetic penicillin.

11 HOTELS AND MOTELS GOING UP FOR 40 MILLION PESOS (4200)

Various Ministry of Construction enterprises are at work on 11 hotels and motels in nine of Cuba's provinces, at a total cost of some 40 million pesos and to be run by Cuba's National Institute of Tourism.

They are all situated either on fine sandy beaches or on likesides or other natural beauty spots.

The new installations given over to national and international tourism are going up in four provinces of City of Havana, Matanzas (Varadero), Las Villas, Sancti Spiritus, Cienfuegos, Holguin, Granma, Las Tunas and Santiago de Cuba. They have all the modern comforts demanded by the hotel industry for rest and recreation, and vary in size from 72 to 225 rooms.

Havana's President Hotel is also being renovated, and the Leonistico and Siboney buildings in Varadero are being turned into hotels.

CUBAN CONSTRUCTION WORKERS TO COMPLETE 60 BUILDINGS IN ANGOLA THIS YEAR (4201)

To salute the 2nd Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba and the 1st Special Congress of the MPLA-Party of Labor of Angola, internationalist Cuban construction workers there have committed themselves to finishing this year 60 apartment buildings, three urban complexes, comprising 25 units, and extension work on the Kifandongo water treatment unit, all in Luanda and the surrounding area.

The Cuban Construction Enterprise has 2 400 workers who do not stay in the country for a set period of time but as work dictates. Thus, 1 185 workers needed for October and November when the finishing touches are to be put on these projects did not have to be there in the interim period. Four brigades are working on

these 60 buildings. One already completed the 12 assigned to it and has returned to Cuba. Another 12 will be ready for October 8, the day on which Cuba commemorates the fall of Che Guevara, the Heroic Guerrilla; and the rest will be ready for December 5, Construction Worker's Day.

LIBYA-CUBA CONSTRUCTION TALKS (4202)

A Libyan delegation visited our country in late August headed by Abdullah Muktar Ismail, secretary of the People's Committee of Tobruk. Eight days of talks ensued with Levi Farah, Cuba's minister of government in charge of construction work abroad. The talks came to an end on the 28th.

As Minister Levi Farah pointed out that, where there was not one Cuban construction worker a few months back, there are now 2 300; in Tobruk alone, there are 1 300 working. Moreover, numbers were expected to increase over coming years.

The talks were held in the Caribe Construction Enterprise Union (UNECA), with the participation of UNECA general manager Enrique Comendeiro.

INDUSTRY

6 MILLION PESO INVESTMENT IN CIENFUEGOS SUGAR MILLS (4203)

Despite the fact that Cienfuegos is a province that can be proud of what it has achieved in sugar production, its workers have set themselves the task of upping industrial indexes even more. To this effect a series of investments have been planned that together amount to almost six million pesos.

This figure is over half a million pesos more than investments made last year and consist largely in the installation of new equipment and machinery in the Espartaco, Mal Tiempo and Primero

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AGRICULTURE

GRAPEFRUIT HARVEST OF SOME

3 500 TONS ON ISLE OF YOUTH (4212)

It was announced in early September that the grapefruit harvest on the Isle of Youth was 3 497 tons as of that date.

Up until the first week of September, a total of 2 506 tons of the fruit had been processed in the André Voisin plant and in packing units of this modern agro-industrial combine. The quality was reported to be excellent.

Great emphasis is being laid in this harvest on rigorous quality control and on marketing the export plan for free currency markets on time. These exports are calculated to be some 3 000 tons.

822 700 TONS OF VEGETABLES

SOLD TO STATE

(4213)

In the first seven months of the year, sales to the state of root and other vegetables reached the figure of 822 727 tons, which is 154 545 more than in the same period last year.

In that period root vegetable sales amounted to 463 636 tons, that is, 54 545 tons over the period in the previous year.

Sales to the state of the remaining vegetables was, then, 359 090 tons, 36 percent more than the year before, which is to say, almost 95 500 tons more.

According to the analysis made by the Crops Ent. Ministry of Agriculture, in a report given by its amo Triana, for the next harvest a total of 14 771 are to be planted to potatoes and some 30 000 potatoes. It was also reported that tomatoes in the coming harvest.

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CONSTRUCTION

CUBA AND ANGOLA SIGN COOPERATION AGREEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION (4217)

On September 1, a cooperation agreement was reached in Havana on construction work between Cuba and Angola. The signatories to the document were Manuel Manguerra, Angolan Minister of Construction, and Levi Farah, minister of the Government of Cuba for construction work abroad.

Minister Manguerra thanked Cuba of its support for his country right from the most difficult times, and in particular for the work Cuban construction workers have done there.

For his part, Minister Farah draw attention to how this agreement expressed the desire of both peoples to continue working to build socialism and tighten the ties of cooperation in the construction field.

RESERVOIR OF 66 MILLION CUBIC METERS IN VIÑALES (4218)

In Viñales municipality, Pinar del Río province, a reservoir was opened on September 9 with a capacity for holding 66 million cubic meters of water. It was named El Salto and is largely to irrigate the rice fields in the south of the province.

The reservoir covers 13 square kilometers and has a dam wall of 582 meters. It cost 1 283 200 pesos to build, and some 95 000 cubic meters of concrete were used in its construction.

This brings the number of large reservoirs in Pinar del Río province up to 11. In all, the 11 have a holding capacity of 514 million cubic meters for an agricultural land expanse of 44 500 hectares.

OVER 165 PROJECTS COMPLETED OVER FIVE YEARS IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA

(4219)

During the 1976-80 five-year period, over 165 projects have been completed in the province of Santiago de Cuba, including 25 industrial works and 5558 housing units. Another 54 projects will be completed in what remains of the year, in salute to the 2nd Party Congress.

According to a Ministry of Construction release in the province, over 700 million pesos have been invested in these projects, as part of the overall developmental plan for this important region of the country.

Among the finished industrial works are seven plaster factories for the manufacture of handbags for plaster casts, two yarn factories, one asbestos cement piping factory, a pasteurizing plant and another for candy, soda pop and liquid feed, a foam rubber factory, and another for the manufacture of prefabricated housing sections. Extension work has also been carried out on the Antonio Maceo and Héctor Pavón thermoelectric power plants; a new bottling line has been installed in the Hatuey brewery, and a stone crushing plant has been built.

ECONOMY

DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN TRADE BANK OF MEXICO VISITS CUBA

(4220)

At the invitation of the minister-president of the National Bank of Cuba, Raúl León Torras, the director general of the National Foreign Trade Bank of Mexico, Adrián Lajous, arrived in Cuba on September 9. He was accompanied by the director for the financial and international affairs of the bank, Drohojowski.

During their talks, the two bank directors broadened relations between the two institutions.

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AGRICULTURE

OVER 14 000 HECTARES OF LAND UNDER IRRIGATION IN HAVANA

(4235)

Over 14 000 hectares of land planted to root and other vegetables
in the province of Havana will have been brought under irrigation
by the end of 1980. This will mean practically 50 percent of the
land area given over to these crops.

This advance of agricultural technology can be seen to be more
significant in comparison with the year 1975, when only 336 hec-
tares of land were mechanically irrigated by aspersion, using
three sprinklers. Today the province has 126 DDA-100 MA ma-
chines, 54 sprinklers, 21 Fregats and 19 Volzhanas over the
various crops enterprises.

Mechanized irrigation represents a savings of almost 2 000 men
and results in higher yields and better crops.

It is calculated that this year a total of some 13 million gallons
of water and 720 000 gallons of fuel can be economized under the
new method.

NEW CITRUS PROCESSING PLANT

IN NICETO PEREZ

(4236)

In Niceto Pérez municipality, Guantánamo province, a cit-
rus processing plant was opened in mid-October for select-
ing, spraying with parafin and packing 30 ton
an eight-hour day.

A total of 82 workers will be employed at
the citrus fruit grown on over 6 700 hecta-
res plus that grown in the municipalities of
Yateras; the possibility is also being
exploited to process citrus fruit of

In Niceto Pérez

c ANOTHER 62-KILOMETER STRETCH OF
 h NATIONAL HIGHWAY COMPLETED

(4248)

A new 62-kilometer stretch of the National Highway has been finished. The stretch in question runs from Havana to Soroca and was completed at the end of September.

The distance along this new road from Havana to Pinar del Río, measured from the crossroad of Midday Highway, will be only 158 kilometers, along a broad, comfortable, express highway. The highway network throughout the country will cover a total of 1 023 kilometers when completed.

Work is at present going ahead on building the bridges over the Rivers Hondo and Guaná, while other stretches are being laid ready for paving.

Work has begun on the highway in 1968, and its overall cost will be approximately 94 million pesos, of which 31 million have been invested to date.

There are two lanes in each direction to this stretch of the highway, each 3.75 meters wide. This means that traffic of up to 7 000 cars a day can go on the road, at speeds of up to 120 kilometers an hour.

c WORK BEGINS ON 220-KV POWER LINE
 h BETWEEN MARIEL AND PINAR DEL RÍO

(4249)

In early October construction began on a 220-kilovolt power line between Mariel, where the Máximo Gómez thermoelectric power plant stands, and the city of Pinar del Río. The cost is estimated to be in the order of 17 million pesos.

This major power line will go to complete the interconnecting 220-kilovolt national grid, its final phase being the San Vicente-Nuevitas stretch, in Ciego de Ávila province.

The Mariel-Pinar del Río line will be 134 kilometers long and will be accompanied by two substations, one in Artemisa and another in Pinar del Río itself. The power line will mean an enormous improvement in the transmission and distribution of electricity in Pinar del Río province, and when work is at its peak will require over 200 workers.

c OVER 1 000 CUBAN CONSTRUCTION
 h WORKERS TO LEAVE FOR ANGOLA

(4250)

In the last quarter of this year, over 1 000 Cuban construction workers will arrive in Angola, to work, along with those already there, in various construction plans for the country, reported Levi Farah, Cuba's minister of government for construction work abroad, on October 4, in Luanda.

Speaking before some 2 000 workers of the Cuban Construction Enterprise in Angola, the construction minister in that country, Manuel Mangueiro, praised the quality of the work of Cuban builders and the rate at which buildings and other projects were going up.

For his part, Minister Farah announced that part of the Cuban personnel who were to work on the collaboration program with the Angolan Ministry of Construction were already beginning to arrive; in all, some 700 specialists are scheduled to travel to Angola.

c 8 000 CUBAN CONSTRUCTION
 h WORKERS WORKING ABROAD

(4251)

Levi Farah, Cuban minister of government for construction work abroad, announced in late October that some 8 000 construction workers are currently working in one or another country abroad.

He made this statement in Santiago de Cuba, at a meeting held there to undertake an analysis of the workers in the sector in that province who are currently working abroad, or will be so presently. At that date, 509 workers from the province were working in Angola, Ethiopia, Iraq and Libya, and the figure will rise to 542. It was also proposed at the meeting that blue cards be drawn up that will be acceptable in other countries.

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AGRICULTURE

BIG TOBACCO HARVEST

IN PINAR DEL RIO

(4377)

By the end of April, tobacco workers in Pinar del Rio province had strung over 50 million withes. (In Cuba a withe takes 20-25 lb of tobacco leaves.) It is estimated that some 3 million more remain to be harvested and will determine whether this is to be a record year. The old-time record is 51.4 million withes.

Of the total number of withes strung by the end of March—36 million withes—the Hermanos Señz Tobacco Enterprise strung 2953000, thereby surpassing its production plan by 27 percent and breaking the previous record of 2 453 000, set in 1975-76. By the end of this year's harvest, the Hermanos Señz Enterprise hopes to have strung a total of 3.3 million withes.

FIRST NATIONAL CONGRESS ON CITRUS AND OTHER FRUITS HELD

(4378)

The 1st National Congress on Citrus and other Fruits was held in the Palace of Conventions, in Havana, from April 13 to 15.

A total of 220 papers were discussed by some 400 delegates in nine work commissions concerned with genetics and propagation, physiology and ecology, cultivation techniques, blights, caring for fruit trees after harvest, mechanization, processing and by-products, economics, and organizing production.

Minister of Agriculture Arnaldo Milán gave the closing speech at the Congress in which he pointed out that the basic task for the next few years was to develop the scientific and technological bases of the citrus fruit sector. He also referred to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro's citrus fruit development program whose strategy involves large-scale, specialized production; the use of advanced technology; scientific and technological bases; and well-trained leadership cadres.

FOREIGN TRADE

CUBAN-SOVIET TRADE

DOCUMENTS SIGNED

(4387)

Cuban Minister of Foreign Trade Ricardo Cabrisas and his Soviet counterpart, Nikolai S. Patolichev, signed a number of documents that outline the trade agreements between the countries for 1981. Other protocols regulating important aspects of trade for the 1981-85 period were signed at the same time, on April 3, in Moscow. Trade between the two countries will amount to over 4 500 million rubles this year.

Minister Cabrisas remarked that the documents consolidated the existing mutually advantageous relations and that, amidst the deep crisis in the world economy and the tightening of the blockade and the heightening attacks of various kinds against Cuba, trade with the USSR was developing steadily.

A cooperation agreement was also signed in Moscow, on April 7, between the two countries pertaining to education, culture and science for the 1981-85 period. The agreement was signed by Georgi Kornienko, Soviet deputy minister of foreign affairs, and Severo Aguirre del Cristo, Cuban ambassador to the USSR.

UN ECONOMIC COMMISSION

FOR AFRICA VISITS CUBA

(4388)

A delegation from the UN Economic Commission for Africa arrived in Havana on April 6 to explore the possibilities of trade with Cuba. During its stay in Cuba, the delegation was received by Ricardo Cabrisas, minister of foreign trade; Héctor Rodríguez Liompert, minister-president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation; and José M. Díaz Mirabal, president of the Chamber of Commerce. The delegation visited the permanent representatives in Cuba of the Economic Commission for Africa.

Political Bureau of the Com-

munist Party and vice-president of the Councils of State and of Ministers, met with the African government officials, among them, the coordinator of the group, Mr. Ahmed I. Hassounah, Abdel Hamid Djenas, Mohamed Al Ramly, Tude Abelaje and Namadou Ndiaye.

CONSTRUCTION

CUBA AND LIBIA SIGN

PROTOCOL ON CONSTRUCTION

(4389)

The Cuban minister for construction work abroad, Levi Farah, and the Libyan housing secretary, Mohamed Ahmed Mangoush, signed a protocol in Tripoli designed to increase bilateral cooperation in this sector.

The document analyzes the work done in Libya by the Caribe Union of Construction Enterprises (UNECA). The Libyan side expressed its satisfaction over the Cuban builders' work in its country.

VILLA CLARA ENTERPRISE CHOSEN

BEST FOR FIVE-YEAR PERIOD

(4390)

The Villa Clara Construction and Assembly Enterprise received a banner for being chosen the best of its kind during the 1976-80 period.

The most important work done by the enterprise in the five years included rebuilding four sugarcane enterprises; expanding and renovating the "9 de Abril" repair shops, the diesel locomotives repair shop and the molasses shipping terminal in Isabela de Sagua; building and mounting the weighing station, mill train, machine and steam generator in the sugar mill going up in Rodas, Ciego de Ávila province; and building and installing the equipment in the factory about to open in Sagua la Grande, Villa Clara province.

It was announced that productivity in the enterprise increased from 3 623 pesos to 5 576 and that the total investment decreased from 88 cents in 1976 to 82 in

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AGRICULTURE

RECORD PRODUCTION OF VEGETABLES

(4401)

The agricultural workers of the two Havana provinces harvested a record 227 273 tons of root and leafy vegetables in salute to the 3rd Congress of the Agriculture and Forestry Workers Trade Union, held at the end of May.

What's more, the production plan of potatoes for export was fulfilled, and it is expected that the yield will increase to 18,62 tons per hectare in the next harvest. Meanwhile, 20 000 tons of tomatoes were delivered to the processing plants.

In the first 26 days of April, the workers harvested 144 227 tons of root and leafy vegetables, a figure well above that produced in March 1980 (102 454 tons). As for other garden vegetables, the figure will be over 136 300 tons, which will break the all-time record, established in 1976, by about 9100 tons.

NEW TECHNOLOGY FOR RAPID SOIL CONDITIONING

(4402)

The results of experiments with a new technology for rapid soil conditioning and the equipment used in the first stage of the project will be exhibited in Havana.

The project is based on the principle of minimum tillage in soil conditioning and will result in the improvement and preservation of the soil's hydrophysical properties plus higher yields in different crops. The new technology, which was tested for three years and has been in use for six months, will reduce the operations which at present number six in leafy vegetables, nine to twelve in root and garden vegetables and over seventeen in tobacco.

According to the general results obtained so far, the new technique, which breaks away from traditional operations, is based on the chemical control of weeds and facilitates the work of the machines. There are two plans to produce equipment to facilitate processing the results of the research work. This makes it possible a two- or threefold increase in the present level of exploitation.

ments, is producing 26 000 units during two work shifts.

The union leaders also visited sites of economic, social and historical interest, as well as tourist spots in the provinces of Matanzas and Santiago de Cuba. In City of Havana province they were taken to see the residential district of Alamar where they observed how this suburb is expanding. They also visited a day-care center built there by Finnish builders.

Before they left Cuba, they drew up an agreement with the Cuban construction union to patronize the day-care center.

FOREIGN TRADE

16TH MEETING OF CMEA

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DIRECTORS (4407)

The 16th meeting of international relations directors of the Chambers of Commerce of the countries that belong to the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance was held in Havana, May 20-21. There were exchanges of experience related to the work done since the previous meeting, held in Bulgaria in 1980. The meeting ended with the signing of a protocol.

José M. Diaz Mirabal, president of the Chamber of Commerce of the Republic of Cuba, gave the opening speech.

The delegates to the meeting, which was held in preparation for the conference of presidents scheduled for later this year in Poland, examined the work done so far and made proposals for the next event.

CUBA AND ROMANIA SIGN

TRADE DOCUMENTS (4408)

With the signature of 12 trade documents, Cuba and Romania signed a protocol of mutual economic cooperation, which will be valid for five years. The documents were signed by the Cuban Minister of Foreign Trade, José de la Fuente, and the Romanian Ambassador to Cuba, N. Moraru, and the other members of the two delegations.

CONSTRUCTION

CUBAN ENTERPRISE WILL BUILD

2140 DWELLINGS IN ANGOLA

(4409)

By virtue of two contracts signed at the headquarters of the Caribe Union of Construction Enterprises in Havana, the Cuban Construction Enterprise will build a total of 2140 dwellings in Angola.

The contracts were signed by Augusto Mateus Lope-Rosas, a leading official in the Ministry of Construction of Angola, and Sabino Castañeda, director of the Cuban Construction Enterprise in Luanda.

The Angolan deputy minister of construction, Fonseca Santo, announced that Cuban internationalists would build 140 dwellings in Luanda and 2000 in the provinces of Benguela, Huambo, Cuanza Sul, Bie, Moxico and Lunda Sul. Work is scheduled to start in October this year, and the project will consist of five-story apartment buildings using the E-15 technology.

What's more, the two governments have approved the constitution of the Joint Angolan-Cuban Techno-Girón Enterprise, which will begin work before the year ends.

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AGRICULTURE		
1981: BEST YEAR FOR CUBAN AGRICULTURE (4640)		
The main report analized during the National Plenary Meeting of the Agricultural and Forestry Workers' Trade Union described 1981 as "the year in which Cuban agriculture has achieved its best results". "From the economic point of view," the report went on to say, "the considerable attainments reached were proof of the awareness and organizational levels of the Cuban population."		
The Plenary Meeting was held in early March and among the most significant achievements analyzed we find milk production, which surpassed 1980's production by 34 million liters; 100 000 tons of poultry meat (live weight) and 2.3 billion eggs; 36 360 tons of potatoes more than in 1980 and the record harvest of 122 700 tons of tomatoes.		
In the closing speech, Julián Rizo, member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, pointed out that though the levels attained in agricultural production are higher than those of most Latin American countries, they still do not meet the needs of the population.		
COOPERATIVES EXPAND BY 163 800 HECTARES (4641)		
In 1981, the peasant agricultural cooperatives in Cuba expanded by 163 800 hectares, and by the end of December a total of 383 373 hectares were being farmed under this form of agricultural production.		
In the 1981 sugar harvest, the small farmers cut over 47 million tons of cane, for an increase of almost six million tons over 1980. Sugarcane yield reached 235 tons per hectare, that is, 34 tons more than in 1980.		
As far as tobacco is concerned, the cooperatives produced yields higher than in the 1975-76 harvest, which was one of the best in the last 15 years. Their production of root and garden vegetables totalled almost 630 000 tons.		
State loans to the small farmers amounted to 140 million pesos, the highest figure ever for one year, which represented a 55-per-		
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This ship is similar to the Tania la Guerrillera, already delivered, and two more under construction which are scheduled to be finished this year.

MERCHANT MARINE INNOVATORS' WORK EXPECTED TO BE WORTH 16 MILLION PESOS (4662)

By manufacturing and recovering spare parts and turning out items that had to be imported, the work of the innovators and rationalizers of production affiliated to the National Trade Union of Merchant Marine, Port and Fishing Workers is expected to be valued at some 16 million pesos this year.

Last year, the work of the members of the National Association of Innovators and Rationalizers (ANIR) in this sector was valued at close to 15 million pesos. They carried out 268 projects, manufactured spherical bearings which used to be imported and built a prototype of a hydraulic jack to be used for cranes at sea.

Another important achievement was automating the visual control system at bulk sugar shipping terminals, which allows for cutting down on the work force and speeds up loading and unloading operations.

FISHING

CUBAN FISHING FLEET

CONTINUES TO FORGE AHEAD

(4663)

One of the first tasks the Cuban Revolutionary Government set itself was to create modern fishing fleets for both coastal fishing and the high seas. Today the country possesses dozens of big fishing vessels, including refrigerated cargo ships 163 meters long with large-capacity holds.

The Cuban Fishing Fleet has trawlers over 100 meters long, while the Tuna Fleet uses long lines, and both are able to operate anywhere and with a long range.

The Fleet also has steel vessels using the most up-to-date technology, among them over 20 factory ships that fish and then process the catch and that also produce fish meal. There are

fast refrigerated ships that are considered among the most modern in the world.

The Cuban Fishing Fleet's catch today is ten times what it was before the triumph of the Revolution, and the Tuna Fleet alone catches a yearly average of over 7000 tons.

CUBA DONATES 4 FERROCEMENT FISHING BOATS TO GRENADA

(4664)

In the first days of March, Cuba donated to Grenada 4 fishing boats, equipped with very modern equipment, thus increasing to 10 the number of vessels given to this Island.

The ferrocement vessels are 16 meters long and 4.20 wide, having a general cargo capacity of 14 to 16 tons. They have fishing wells and refrigerated units that can be adapted to different kinds of fish, among them, sharks, tuna fish and lobster.

Cuba trains the Grenadian personnel to operate these vessels and has also cooperated in the establishment of a fishing school in Grenada.

John Pearson, director of Grenada's National Fishing Corporation explained that Cubans have supplied "a very substantial quantity of spare parts and fishing equipment."

FISHING FLEET'S CATCH

OVER 164 000 TONS IN 1981

(4665)

In 1981 the Cuban Fishing Fleet drew a catch of 164 141 tons, the biggest ever, for an increase of almost 6000 tons over 1980. In terms of marketed fish, the figure represented a growth of three percent.

Commodity production in the fishing industry amounted to 250.6 million pesos. The most important export item was lobster (56 percent of the total), followed by shrimp (26 percent) and tuna fish (10 percent). The catch of freshwater fish was 8700 tons.

Last year, seven Cuban shipyards completed 621 boats, of which 10 were made of steel, 77 of ferrocement and 534 of fiberglass. Eighteen percent more repairs than planned were done, that is, over double the figure for 1980.

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AGRICULTURE

LARGEST CITRUS INDUSTRIAL

COMBINE INAUGURATED (4929)

The largest citrus industrial combine in the country, built at a cost of 35 million pesos, was inaugurated in Jagüey Grande, Matanzas province, on April 19, Day of Victory. It was named the Héroes de Girón.

The ceremony was presided over by Jorge Risquet, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party; Esteban Lazo, First Secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba in the province; Pedro Guelmes, Minister of Communications; and Alejandro Roca, Minister of the Food Industry.

The combine will produce juice; concentrates; pasteurized and frozen products; marmelade; essential oils; dehydrated skin for obtaining pectin; and feed for cattle, horses, mules and oxen. Functioning at full capacity, it will produce 35 million pesos' of articles a year, though it will be working at just 40-percent capacity during this first stage.

MILK PRODUCTION PLAN

SURPASSED (4930)

Cuba's milk production was 187.2 million quarts —6-percent more than planned— in the first quarter of the year, and 5600 more cows than planned were milked, with increased yield of 0.2 quarts.

The climatic conditions during this period contributed to this achievement, for the abundant rainfall was good for the pastures.

Havana and City of Havana Provinces were responsible for 37 percent of the plan for the quarter, while Matanzas Province, a big milk-producer, could not surpass its plan for the quarter, due to difficulties at two of its enterprises, caused by the heavy rainfall.

SCIENTIFIC FORUM INAUGURATED
IN THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

(4935)

The 6th Scientific Forum of the Academy of Sciences was inaugurated on May 23. Its purpose is to increase the effectiveness of scientific and technical research work and to stimulate the application of its results in social practice.

Rafael López Valdés, member of the Organizing Committee, noted that Cuba had almost no scientific potential prior to the Revolution, yet a small group of researchers made definite scientific advances.

In the course of the three-day Forum, around 300 delegates and guests from 18 national agencies analyzed 136 papers in the biological and chemical sciences, agricultural sciences, social sciences, earth and space sciences and physical-technical and mathematical sciences.

COOPERATION

COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN

THE GDR AND CUBA

(4936)

An agreement of cooperation in the field of light industry was signed in Berlin on May 11 by Werner Buschmann, Minister of Light Industry of the German Democratic Republic, and Manuel Miyares Rodríguez, Minister of Light Industry of Cuba.

The document, which was included in the plans for scientific-technical cooperation between the two countries, will be in effect in 1984 and 1985 and concerns the industrial branch of the production of underwear and work clothes.

Minister Miyares Rodríguez visited the GDR May 9-11 to discuss aspects related to the development of light industry in Cuba with Minister Werner Buschmann and to sign the agreement.

COOPERATION AGREEMENTS BETWEEN
ANGOLA AND CUBA

(4937)

Two agreements for cooperation between Angola and Cuba in the agricultural and forestry sectors were signed in Luanda on May 19.

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Julio César Balmaseda, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Cuba, and Graciano Mandé, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Angola, signed an agreement on lumbering near Mayombe, Cabinda Province, in the northernmost part of the country.

Julio Morais, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Angola, signed the other agreement with Deputy Minister Balmaseda. This agreement concerned increasing Cuba's cooperation in agricultural and avicultural production.

USE OF MATERIAL RESOURCES (4938)

The 15th Meeting of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance's Permanent Work Group for the Rational and Economic Use of Raw Materials wound up in Havana on May 26 with the signing of the protocol of the agreements, which include a long-term work plan of interest to Cuba.

Irma Sánchez, Minister-Chairman of the State Committee for Technical and Material Supply, and Rodrigo García, Jorge Guíérrez, Nicasio Rodríguez and Evelio González, all Deputy Chairmen of the agency, attended the signing of the document.

The conference was presided over by G. Zaitzev, head of the CMEA's Department of Technical and Material Supply.

COOPERATION IN 20 FIELDS

BETWEEN SPAIN AND CUBA

(4939)

On April 21, with the signing of the aide memoire of the talks held in Havana between the Exploratory Mission on the Extension of Technical Cooperation of Spain and representatives of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation of Cuba, cooperation was established in 20 branches of the economies of the two countries.

The items of interest included public health, agriculture—cattle raising, citrus fruits, animal health, etc.—, fishing, the food industry, statistics, railroad transportation, work and social security.

This cooperation will mainly be expressed in exchanges of experts and the development of joint research and studies. The document was signed by Enrique Larroque, Ambassador of Spain, and José Fernández de Cossío, Deputy Chairman of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation.

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AGRICULTURE

234,070 MT OF VEGETABLES PRODUCED

IN HAVANA AND CITY OF HAVANA PROVINCES

Havana and City of Havana provinces produced 234,070 metric tons of vegetables, in spite of severe climatic conditions in the first few months of the year that adversely affected more than 4000 hectares planted to crops.

Potatoes accounted for 111,294 tons of the total and other root vegetables, 58,160 tons.

Even though the farmers in these two provinces made tremendous efforts, they met only 80 percent of their goal—mainly due to the fact that the plan for the first half of the year was put badly out of kilter by the bad weather.

NEARLY 200,000 TONS OF FEED PRODUCED

The workers in the Feed Producing Enterprise in City of Havana Province produced 198,985 tons of more than 59 varieties of feed in the first eight months of the year, going 1 percent over their plan for the period.

The production of the Enterprise's five units was largely responsible for the achievement of a million liters of milk a day, which the province's cattle raisers maintained for several weeks. Changes that were introduced to increase the protein value of the feed also contributed to this attainment.

This production figure was 9 percent greater than the one for the same period last year. Pilar Almeida González, Director of the Enterprise, praised the efforts made by the more than 600 feed workers, both in production and in savings.

AGRICULTURE UP 4.2 PERCENT

IN THE 1975-81 PERIOD

While other countries' agricultural economies are stagnating, Cuba's grew by 4.2 percent between 1975 and 1981.

2075 CUBAN MEDICAL STUDENTS

GRADUATED IN AUGUST

(5053)

A total of 2075 Cuban students of medicine received their diplomas. This figure — the largest number of such students ever graduated in a single year in Cuba's history — includes 201 students who did their last year of studies in Nicaragua. In addition, 432 Cubans were graduated as dentists, and 45 obtained a B.S. in nursing.

Seventy-six medical students from 26 other countries in Latin America, the Caribbean, Asia, Africa and Europe were graduated at the same time in Cuba.

This graduating class is in sharp contrast to the ones prior to 1959, when less than 300 doctors—the vast majority of whom came from a single School of Medicine and practiced in the main cities—were graduated each year. Now, all the provinces (with the sole exception of Havana Province) have their own schools of medicine.

A plan of rural internships was begun in 1982, and this year 274 members of the first Piti Fajardo Rural Medical Detachment were graduated. They are included in the total given above.

FORESTRY

MORE THAN 100 MILLION

TIMBER TREES PLANTED

(5054)

As of September 22, Cuban forestry workers had planted 100 million timber trees in this year's national reforestation campaign. The goal is to plant 132 million by the end of the year.

The 74 brigades of workers in the "millionaire movement" (with more than a million seedlings each) hope to have 110 million seedlings planted by October 3 in salute to Agricultural Workers' Day.

This year's plan seeks to meet the economic objectives in forestal exploitation and to improve the ecological conditions as a means of restoring the country's silvicultural wealth, which was exploited intensively, without any planning, for more than four centuries.

TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION ENTERPRISE MAKES

PROFIT OF OVER 4 MILLION PESOS

(5055)

The National Production and Shops Enterprise of the Ministry of Transportation made a profit of more than 4 million pesos in the first half of the year.

The total value of work done was 462.4 million pesos—over two million pesos more than planned for the period.

In addition, the workers in the enterprise managed to reduce the planned cost by 14 centavos per peso's worth of production, proof of the efficiency of this entity of the Ministry of Transportation.

CONFERENCES AND OTHER EVENTS TO BE HELD AT HAVANA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTER DURING 1984

3rd. National Congress on Anesthesiology and Vivification

March 21-24

3rd. Conference of Non-Aligned Countries Broadcasting Organizations

March

3rd. Meeting of the Food CODEX for Latin America and the Caribbean Coordinating Committee

March 27-April 2

7th Congress of Obstetrics and Gynecology

May 9 - 12

2nd. National Meeting on Stomatologic Prostheses

May 23-25

2nd. Congress of the Cuban Nursing Society

June 25 - 30

National Congress of Angiology

September 12 - 15

8th International Symposium on Handling and Sea Transportation of Hazardous Goods and other Complementary Means

September 24-27

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CONSTRUCTION

NINE HOSPITALS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

(5237)

Nine hospitals are being built in the country at present. Seven of them will have space for 630 beds and the remaining two for 320 beds. This is part of an overall program to improve health service to the population.

The hospitals closest to completion are those in Morón, Villa Clara, Sancti Spíritus and Pinar del Río. Their outpatient service will begin this year, with the exception of the Sancti Spíritus one which will be completely finished in September 1985. The other three 630-bed hospitals are planned for the provinces of Santiago de Cuba, Holguín and Matanzas.

The two smaller hospitals are going up in the municipalities of Nuevitas and Contramaestre. Other health centers are being expanded, notably, the Children's hospital of Holguín, the Frank País Hospital in Havana and the Héroes de Baire Hospital on the Isle of Youth.

CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENTS FOR PROJECTS IN ANGOLA

(5238)

On July 11 several agreements were signed with the Angolan Ministry of Construction in Luanda. They stipulate that the Ca-ribe Union of Construction Enterprises (UNECA) will build a number of projects in Angola.

On this occasion official talks were held on Cuban cooperation in construction, on UNECA and on the Cuban-Angolan enterprise called Tecno-Girón.

The documents were signed by Levi Farah, Cuban minister of government, who met with Minister of Industry Henrique Santos and Augusto Matos, governor of the National Bank of Angola.

Minister Farah also met with the Cuban builders and other cooperation personnel who threw back the attack on Sumbe in March and the Cuban internationalists who maintained a worthy stand when a bomb planted by UNITA caused the death of dozens of Cuban and Angolan civilian workers in Huambo in April.

280 HOUSING UNITS FINISHED

IN SANTA CRUZ DEL NORTE

(5239)

As part of a construction program in the municipality of Santa Cruz del Norte consisting of 1200 apartments, 280 were turned over on July 23 at a ceremony presided over by Elida Valie, member of the Central Committee of the Party.

The finished housing units are part of the community being established for the work force (technicians, management personnel and skilled workers) in the basic work places which are part of a development program recommended by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro in June 1982 following the floods in the municipality.

The Revolutionary Government is carrying out a broad agricultural and industrial program in the Santa Cruz del Norte area, which includes two major projects: the card and cardboard factory and the East Havana thermoelectric power plant.

ECONOMIC NEWS

CUBA SIGNS FOREIGN DEBT AGREEMENT IN PARIS

(5240)

Raúl León Torres, minister-president of the National Bank of Cuba, signed an agreement in Paris on June 20 which covers the renegotiation of the country's hard currency debt for 1984.

The agreement was signed with the government of Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. Present were observers from the Federal Republic of Germany and Finland, the UNCTAD Secretariat and the OECD.

The agreement provides for refinancing the entire debt within a five-year grace period and four more after that. The debt amounts to over 181 million dollars. The government representatives expressed their great appreciation for the way in which Cuba fulfilled its 1983 economic program and the outlook for 1984.

The first round of negotiations between Cuba and the coordinating committee of creditor banks ended on July 23. The committee was headed by the French Bank Crédit Lyonnais and the Cuban

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CUBA AND USSR SIGN MEMORANDUM
FOR 1985 - 90 PERIOD

(5316)

With President Fidel Castro looking on, the memorandum of the 2nd Meeting to Coordinate Socioeconomic Development Plans of Cuba and the Soviet Union for the 1986-90 period was signed on November 2 in Havana.

Signing for Cuba was Humberto Pérez, vice-president of the Council of Ministers and minister-president of the Central Planning Board, and Nikolai Bainakov, vice-president of the Council of Ministers and president of GOSPLAN, for the Soviet Union.

The memorandum summarizes the talks which comprised main issues in Cuban-Soviet relations and agreements adopted to broaden and strengthen bilateral cooperation, with emphasis on diversifying the Cuban economy and its exports.

FOREIGN TRADE

TRADE WITH GDR WORTH

500 MILLION RUBLES

(5317)

A 1985 trade protocol between Cuba and the German Democratic Republic worth approximately 500 million rubles was signed in Havana on December 6 by Foreign Trade Deputy Ministers José de la Fuente and Dietrich Lemke, for Cuba and the GDR, respectively.

The protocol will mean a seven-percent increase in trade over 1984, and stipulates that Cuba will supply the GDR with raw and refined sugar, nickel, fresh and processed citrus fruit, torula yeast, honey, coffee, leaf tobacco and medicines, and will receive from the GDR machinery and equipment, fabric, fertilizers and chemical products, food, toys and other consumer goods, medicines and other products.

Present at the ceremony to sign the protocol were Ricardo Cabras, Cuban minister of Foreign Trade; officials from the Central Planning Board and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and GDR officials in Cuba.

CUBA AND ANGOLA SIGN
TRADE AGREEMENTS

(5318)

During the International Fair in Luanda, held in mid-November, Cuba and Angola signed several trade agreements, one of them being the supply to Angola of 150 000 tons of refined sugar for local consumption starting on January 1, 1986 and extending to 1988.

Another agreement involves the sale to Angola of 140 000 dolls and 35 000 educational toys. Cuba's trade office in Luanda announced that agreements on the export of Cuban rum and tuna-fish are expected to be signed shortly.

GREATER TIES BETWEEN
CUBA AND HUNGARY

(5319)

On October 23 a bilateral trade protocol was signed and a week of sales of over 500 Cuban products began in Budapest.

The document was signed by the ministers of domestic trade of Hungary and Cuba, Zoltan Juhar and Manuel Vila Sosa, respectively. It regulates trade and scientific and technical cooperation between the two ministries for 1985. The value of the exchange of merchandise is set at 1.5 million rubles for both countries.

The two ministers also opened a week of sales of Cuban products in Florian department store. Among the items sold were women's apparel, handicrafts and records. Moreover, an exhibit of Cuban goods was mounted in the city of Györ, some 180 kilometers from the capital, as part of the week given over to trade with Cuba.

CONGRESSES

FIDEL CLOSES 1ST NATIONAL
FORUM ON ENERGY

(5320)

Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and of Ministers, closed the 1st National Forum on Energy on December 4 in Karl Marx Theater, where he emphasized the need to economize as much as possible on energy sources, most of which are imported.

The firm specializes in electric, radioelectric, optical-mechanical and communications technology. Its ties with Cuba began in 1960 when it supplied the first lots of clocks and radios to our country. Lately it has supplied half a million electricity meters and over 300 000 telephones and radar equipment used in weather stations and airports.

At the opening of the exhibition, José M. Díaz Mirabal, president of the Chamber of Commerce of Cuba, pointed out that the Soviet firm was one of the first to lend a helping hand to Cuban when the U.S. economic blockade cut off all technical supplies.

OVER 150 000 VISITORS TO
CAMEXPO'84 EXHIBITION (5326)

The exhibition called CAMEXPO'84, held in Sports Palace in Mexico City, was visited by over 150 000 people in the first five days, making it one of the most attended events in the capital of the sister country.

On display at CAMEXPO were examples of the major achievements of seven member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA): Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Cuba, Hungary, Poland, the German Democratic Republic and the Soviet Union.

Sixteen Cuban enterprises showed their goods or services, including tourist offers, and scale models of a sugar mill and a sugarcane conditioning center were on display.

Five of the Cuban enterprises supplied detailed information on the export of food processing plants, building materials plants, metallurgy and metals, and construction of industrial projects.

In an interview with Prensa Latina, Joaquín Argüelles, in charge of fairs and exhibitions at the Chamber of Commerce of Cuba, said that his country's exhibiting enterprises were very pleased with how CAMEXPO was received by both the Mexican people and authorities.

2ND ARGENTINE INDUSTRIAL
EXHIBITION HELD IN HAVANA (5327)

Some 150 firms displayed their goods in the Cuba Pavilion, the N Pavilion and three halls in the Habana Libre Hotel during the Second Argentine Industrial Exhibition held in Havana December 4-12.

The Exhibition was opened by Mr. Ernesto Weinschelbaum, under Secretary of industry of the Argentine Republic, on behalf of President Raúl Alfonsín. At the ceremony were Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas and Minister

of Government Levi Farah; Luis Raúl Clarassó de la Vega, Argentine ambassador to Cuba; and Elías Guitelman, head of the Exhibition.

Alberto Betancourt Rodó, deputy minister of foreign trade of Cuba, gave a speech in which he pointed out that Argentina was one of Cuba's first business partners in the hard currency area, adding that in the last three years trade between the two countries had increased ten-fold. He also said that a 600 million-dollar credit line and a recent agreement on transportation by sea were two factors guaranteeing the broadening of economic and trade relations.

CUBAN PAVILION IN LUANDA
AWARDED GOLD MEDAL (5328)

The Cuban pavilion at the International Fair in Luanda, Angola, was granted a gold medal for the presentation of its products. Some 10 000 people visited the pavilion in as many days and showed interest in the wares displayed.

Cuba exhibited 50 different kinds of items including musical instruments, medical products and several lines of industrial goods, not to mention traditional exports such as Havana Club rum and cigars.

INDUSTRY

ANOTHER OIL WELL REACHES
5500-METER MARK (5329)

Another oil well in the Mantua area, Pinar del Río province, had reached a depth of 5500 meters and will begin experimental trials soon. A few months ago an oil well reached a depth of over five kilometers for the first time in our country, in the same area.

Both wells are basic steps in research to learn about the gas and oil resources in the northwestern zone of Pinar del Río province.

José Luis Cabrera, director of the Pinar del Río Oil Prospecting and Extraction enterprise, reported that operations were proceeding satisfactorily and according to plan.

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ANNUAL TOBACCO SALES AND PLANTING GROW DURING THE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD

(5517)

During the present five-year period (1981-1985) tobacco planting averaged 61 428.8 hectares and sales to the State 42 545.4 tons a year, respectively, in the State and private sectors. The above figures show an average increase of 6 083.7 hectares in planting area and 8 818.1 tons in sales to the State by both sectors, when compared to the 1976-1980 period. In the 1984-85 tobacco harvest, laths of tobacco leaves were collected - 31 372 000 by farmers and the rest by State enterprises. This harvest yielded 0.7 tons per hectare in both sectors, a figure very similar to the record set in the 1980-81 harvest.

COOPERATION

BROAD PROSPECTS FOR CUBAN-BULGARIAN COOPERATION

(5518)

"Cooperation between Cuba and Bulgaria in the spheres of machine construction and electronics will continue to broaden," stated Pedro Mirat, Vice President of the Council of Ministers and member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, during a visit to the Cuban stand at the 41st International Autumn Fair in Plovdiv.

The Cuban leader travelled to Bulgaria to attend the meeting on machine construction sponsored by the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance held in Sofia.

On his visit to the fair, the Cuban leader was accompanied by Andrei Lukanov, candidate to membership in the Political Bureau of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Vice President of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Bulgarian party in the Cuban-Bulgarian Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation.

A NEW STEP IN CUBAN-ANGOLAN COOPERATION

(5519)

The Protocol of the 6th Session of the Joint Intergovernmental Committee for Cuba-Angola Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation was signed in Havana, at the Sierra Maestra Hotel, on October 18, 1985.

The document was subscribed by Lopo do Nascimento, member of the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party and Angolan Minister of Planning, and Hector Rodriguez Llompart, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and Minister-President of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation.

The Joint Committee examined the agreements of the 5th Session held in Luanda in 1983, and the joint tasks that had been carried out since then. The protocol signed by both parties comprises cooperation between the two countries, mainly in the spheres of health, construction, education, transportation, communications, power generation, sugar, domestic trade and forestry.

It also includes global branches such as economy, planning, statistics and others, in the areas of technical assistance, training, exchange of missions and grants.

Economic, scientific and technological cooperation between the two countries embraces all modalities, particularly in regard to technical assistance, with the sending of Cuban experts and technicians to the fraternal African country.

Lopo do Nascimento noted that bilateral cooperation dated back to July 1976, and asserted that the present protocol further strengthened relations between the two countries. Llompart observed that the 6th Session had arrived at extremely useful and practical conclusions for both Angola and Cuba.

FOREIGN TRADE

CARLOS RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ MEETS WITH CMEA EXPERTS

(5520)

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Vice President of the Council of State and the Council of Ministers, met with the heads of delegations attending the 26th Economic Conference of Representatives of

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AGRICULTURE

OVER 143 MILLION TREES PLANTED

(5553)

The country's reforestation has become consolidated in the past few years. In this period, yearly planting areas have considerably increased.

The National Department of Forestry reported that planting targets were surpassed in 1985: 143 million 56 thousand trees were planted, while plan targets contemplated only 142 million 720 thousand 300 trees. The tens of millions of seedlings belong to 70 timber-yielding species; in 1986, these species will total 80. Among other forestry-related activities, mention should be made of the opening of the modern lumber complex built with Soviet assistance in Pons, Pinar del Río province. The sawmill's installed capacity accounts for 41 percent of the lumber to be produced in the country every year from the various timber-yielding species.

Next to the complex, a plant will be set up in the 1986-90 five-year period for producing wooden pallets. The plant will have a yearly capacity of 90 thousand tons.

The new industrial facilities will make for an annual pinewood extraction volume of 120 thousand square meters.

In addition, the economic impact of the innovations applied by the members of the Association of Innovators and Rationalizers of the Agricultural and Forestry Trade Union was of 9 million 314 thousand pesos in the first nine months —84.6 percent of the 1985 targets.

CIENFUEGOS SISAL WORKERS ATTAIN HIGH EXPORT PRODUCTION

(5554)

By the middle of November, the province of Cienfuegos had attained the highest sisal export production — grade A fiber — since the establishment of the new political-administrative division in 1976.

This valuable product is raised and harvested mainly in the red

**CUBAN PARTICIPATION AT
THE LUANDA FAIR**

(5575)

Cuba participated in the second Luanda International Fair (FILDA'85) where firms from 14 countries exhibited their export products. The 135-m² Cuban stand at FILDA'85 exhibited products from 16 enterprises: Cubaexport, Maprinter, Cubazbar, Uneca, Egem, Cubafertas, Medicuba, Cubaindustria, Consimimport, Ediciones Cubanias, Cubatex, Cubatabaco, Caribex, Suchel, CEATM and Decuba.

From November 8 to 17, Cuban enterprises signed contracts for the delivery of tuna, sugar, rum, liqueurs and alcoholic beverages, pharmaceuticals, medical instruments, dolls and other articles to Angola in 1986.

INDUSTRY

**FOOD INDUSTRY MAKES
IMPORTANT ACHIEVEMENTS**

(5576)

From 1959 to date, the output of the Cuban Food Industry increased 2.7 fold. This was made known during the central activity to commemorate the 20th anniversary of MINAL held in Havana City on October 25.

As José Linares, General Secretary of the National Food Industry Workers Union, pointed out from 1966 to date investments in this field have totalled 900 million pesos, representing approximately 8% of the total amount invested in the industrial sector during this period. Forty-five percent of total investments have been made in the milk, flour and milling industries.

On the other hand, annual per capita milk and dairy products output has doubled, fresh milk has tripled, ice cream has increased seven fold and cheese has increased thirteen fold.

During the last twenty years too annual production of grains has tripled: flour production is 3.5 times greater and rice production is 5 times greater than in 1965. Bread production has increased 14%. Fruit and vegetable preserves have increased at an

average annual rate of 3.7%, and during the last twelve years, pork and pork products have increased four fold.

Other important achievements have been attained in the production of oils and fats as well as in beer and malts, which in 1985 increased to 297 million liters, 2.6 times more than the amount produced in 1965.

METAL MECHANICAL INDUSTRY OUTPUT

VALUED AT OVER \$549 MILLION

(5577)

Up to the month of September, mercantile production in the iron and steel mechanical industry factories amounted to \$49 million pesos. This represents an eleven percent increase over the previous year.

During this year, the iron and steel mechanical industry has produced 183 new types of spare parts and is developing another 265. Likewise, by September 449 sugar cane combines had been produced or had undergone technical overhauling.

On the other hand, steel production at Antillana de Acero increased 4.4 fold over 1959 and laminates, 2 fold. In 1959 this plant's installed capacity was 80,000 tons of steel and about 150 thousand tons of laminates.

RECYCLING OF RAW MATERIALS

INCREASED 17 FOLD IN 20 YEARS

(5578)

The recycling of raw materials in the country increased more than seventeen fold in little over 20 years. While during the 1962-1975 period raw materials worth 14.5 million pesos were recycled, during the last five years, the national economy received 250.9 million pesos from this activity.

Irma Sánchez, Minister-President of the State Committee for Technical and Material Supplies also stated that the present recycling is six times greater than during the first four years following the establishment of this branch, and that in products such as ferrous metals scrap it is more than 16 times greater. She also pointed out that during 1986-1990, increase from this

from Bulgaria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland, GDR and Cuba attended the meeting.

Out-patient health services is one of the most active ways in which the medical sector manages its actions aimed at successfully combining prevention and treatment services in a given group of the population.

Dr. Abelardo Ramírez, Deputy Minister of Public Health of Cuba, pointed out that out-patient health services increased in Cuba after the implementation of a recent and revolutionary model of primary health care: the Family Doctor.

He indicated that results achieved up to this moment have proved to be highly useful and beneficial both in health care practice and in global health actions.

The work sessions held at the Camilo Cienfuegos hall at the Ministry of Public Health concluded with the signing of a Protocol comprising the main topics discussed during the event.

CUBAN MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

EXHIBITED AT VENEZUELAN FAIR

(5587)

During November 25-30 a special exhibition took place in Caracas, capital city of Venezuela. Cuba was represented by 29 samples of medical equipment manufactured at the medical equipment factory of Santiago de Cuba province —under the trade mark of IEC—Industria Electrónica Cubana (Cuban Electronics Industry)— and 9 additional samples of equipment manufactured by the Havana Enterprise Union for the Manufacture of Medical Equipment. The exhibition was organized under the auspices of Medicuba and Ampiven enterprises.

The exhibit sent by the Santiago de Cuba facility comprised 82 prototypes manufactured in this recently established factory, including artificial kidneys, thermal food wagoons, anesthesia equipment, aerotor dental drills and others. In 1985 the factory produced 24 different types of equipment valued at 960 thousand pesos after an initial investment of only 245 thousand in convertible currency. If this equipment had been purchased abroad the cost would have been over 1 million dollars.

Investments are being made at the factory to provide new and specialized facilities where 111 different types of equipment will be manufactured in 12 production lines. The cost of the new

facilities will amount to 14,3 million pesos —5,6 of which will be used for equipment—and it will begin production by the end of 1987.

CUBAN DOCTORS CONTRIBUTE TO THE REDUCTION OF MORTALITY IN ANGOLA (5588)

Cuban health care for the people living in Namibe province, Republic of Angola, has contributed to a reduction in perinatal mortality in hospitals located at Namibe, the capital city, where over 50% of the mothers receive medical attention during delivery. According to Dr. Carlos del Rosario Zayas Bazán, head of the Cuban medical brigade stationed in this desert region bordering on Namibia, results achieved in the field of preventive medicine, as opposed to traditional practices, have been highly positive.

Delivery in hospitals has likewise become widespread to a high degree and the greater part of the population living at the capital go to clinical and surgical hospitals and to N'gola Quimbanda general hospital.

Up to this moment Cuban doctors are in charge of the following specialties in these hospitals: ear, nose and throat, clinical, general surgery, anesthesia and surgical instruments. There is also a technician working at the provincial medicine warehouse.

TRANSPORT

USSR DELIVERED NEW CONTAINER

SHIP TO CUBA

(5589)

A new merchant ship has just been delivered to Cuba by the Soviet shipyards in Jersón. The Otto Pärssilä container ship, with a dead weight of 14,900 tons, immediately joined the growing Cuban merchant fleet which already has more than 1 million tons of dead weight.

The modern ship is more than 162 meters long and its cruising speed is 18 knots. It can carry 485 large containers.

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CUBA

economic news



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AGRICULTURE

GRAPEFRUIT HARVEST OF SOME

3 500 TONS ON ISLE OF YOUTH (4212)

It was announced in early September that the grapefruit harvest on the Isle of Youth was 3 497 tons as of that date.

Up until the first week of September, a total of 2 506 tons of the fruit had been processed in the André Voisin plant and in packing units of this modern agro-industrial combine. The quality was reported to be excellent.

Great emphasis is being laid in this harvest on rigorous quality control and on marketing the export plan for free currency markets on time. These exports are calculated to be some 3 000 tons.

822 700 TONS OF VEGETABLES

SOLD TO STATE

(4213)

In the first seven months of the year, sales to the state of root and other vegetables reached the figure of 822 727 tons, which is 154 545 more than in the same period last year.

In that period root vegetable sales amounted to 463 636 tons, that is, 54 545 tons over the period in the previous year.

Sales to the state of the remaining vegetables was, then, 359 090 tons, 36 percent more than the year before, which is to say, almost 95 500 tons more.

According to the analysis made by the Crops Enterprise of the Ministry of Agriculture, in a report given by its manager Guillermo Triana, for the next harvest a total of 14 773 hectares of land are to be planted to potatoes and some 30 000 hectares to sweet potatoes. It was also reported that tomatoes would be a key line in the coming harvest.

CONSTRUCTION

CUBA AND ANGOLA SIGN COOPERATION

AGREEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION

(4217)

On September 1, a cooperation agreement was reached in Havana on construction work between Cuba and Angola. The signatories to the document were Manuel Mangueira, Angolan Minister of Construction, and Levi Farah, minister of the Government of Cuba for construction work abroad.

Minister Mangueira thanked Cuba of its support for his country right from the most difficult times, and in particular for the work Cuban construction workers have done there.

For his part, Minister Farah draw attention to how this agreement expressed the desire of both peoples to continue working to build socialism and tighten the ties of cooperation in the construction field.

RESERVOIR OF 66 MILLION

CUBIC METERS IN VIÑALES

(4218)

In Viñales municipality, Pinar del Río province, a reservoir was opened on September 9 with a capacity for holding 66 million cubic meters of water. It was named El Salto and is largely to irrigate the rice fields in the south of the province.

The reservoir covers 13 square kilometers and has a dam wall of 582 meters. It cost 1 283 200 pesos to build, and some 95 000 cubic meters of concrete were used in its construction.

This brings the number of large reservoirs in Pinar del Río province up to 11. In all, the 11 have a holding capacity of 514 million cubic meters for an agricultural land expanse of 44 500 hectares.

OVER 165 PROJECTS COMPLETED OVER

FIVE YEARS IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA

(4219)

During the 1976-80 five-year period, over 165 projects have been completed in the province of Santiago de Cuba, including 25 industrial works and 5 558 housing units. Another 54 projects will be completed in what remains of the year, in salute to the 2nd Party Congress.

According to a Ministry of Construction release in the province, over 700 million pesos have been invested in these projects, as part of the overall developmental plan for this important region of the country.

Among the finished industrial works are seven plaster factories for the manufacture of handbags for plaster casts, two yarn factories, one asbestos cement piping factory, a pasteurizing plant and another for candy, soda pop and liquid feed, a foam rubber factory, and another for the manufacture of prefabricated housing sections. Extension work has also been carried out on the Antonio Maceo and Héctor Pavón thermoelectric power plants; a new bottling line has been installed in the Hatuey brewery, and a stone crushing plant has been built.

ECONOMY

DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN TRADE BANK

OF MEXICO VISITS CUBA

(4220)

At the invitation of the minister-president of the National Bank of Cuba, Raúl León Torras, the director general of the National Foreign Trade Bank of Mexico, Adrián Lajous, arrived in Cuba on September 9. He was accompanied by the Bank's assistant director for the financial and international affairs, Francisco Drohojowski.

During their talks, the two bank directors analyzed ways of broadening relations between the two institutions and backing for

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ECONOMIC NEWS

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Ciudad de La Habana 4, Cuba.

En esta ocasión se puso de manifiesto una vez más, con el gesto solidario soviético, la inquebrantable unidad entre la patria de Lenin y el pueblo cubano.

TRANSPORTE

NUEVA RUTA DE CUBANA DE AVIACION A MOZAMBIQUE (4749)

La Empresa Cubana de Aviación inauguró a fines de junio una nueva ruta al continente africano, esta vez con destino a Maputo, capital del hermano pueblo de Mozambique, con una frecuencia de una vez al mes, con aviones soviéticos IL-62.

Las salidas son los martes para llegar el miércoles a Maputo, regresando los jueves en horas de la mañana para llegar en horas de la madrugada al aeropuerto internacional José Martí de Ciudad de La Habana. El itinerario es Habana-Sal-Luanda-Maputo y a la inversa.

Esta nueva ruta de Cubana de Aviación permitirá estrechar más aún los lazos de profunda amistad entre los pueblos de Mozambique y Cuba.

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CUBA

**FIRMAN ACTA DE COLABORACION
ECONOMICA CUBA Y ANGOLA**

(4803)

Un Acta que recoge los aspectos tratados entre Héctor Rodríguez Llompart, ministro-presidente del Comité Estatal de Colaboración Económica (CECE) y Alberto do Carmo Bento Ribeiro, ministro de Industrias de la República Popular de Angola fue suscrita en Ciudad de La Habana el 24 de noviembre de 1982.

El documento establece el interés de las partes en la ampliación de la colaboración económica en los sectores azucarero, metal-mecánico, construcción naval e industrias básicas.

Durante su estancia en Cuba, Bento Ribeiro sostuvo conversaciones con Joel Domenach, ministro de la Industria Básica, Diocles Torralba, titular del Ministerio de la Industria Azucarera, Levi Farah, ministro del Gobierno y Alejandro Roca, Ministro de la Industria Ligera.

COMERCIO EXTERIOR

**ASISTE CUBA A REUNION
DEL GATT EN GINEBRA**

(4804)

El ministro del Comercio Exterior de Cuba, Ricardo Cabrisas, asistió a las naciones capitalistas industrializadas de transferir al llamado Tercer Mundo todos los efectos devastadores de la recesión internacional.

Al intervenir en la XXXVIII Sesión del Acuerdo General sobre Aranceles y Comercio (GATT), celebrada del 24 al 27 de noviembre en Ginebra, Suiza, Cabrisas señaló que el déficit anual en la balanza de pagos de cuenta corriente de los países subdesarrollados promedió más de 33 000 millones de dólares entre 1970 y 1979, lo cual representa el origen de la fabulosa deuda externa de esas naciones, que pasará los 600 000 millones de dólares en 1983.

El titular cubano también se refirió a que en el momento actual de extrema necesidad para estas naciones, las potencias capitalistas han decidido contraer los préstamos comerciales, bajar hasta niveles prácticamente nulos la asistencia oficial al desarrollo y reducir los créditos del FMI, y para complicar más la situación, las tasas de interés, presionadas por las de Estados Unidos, se mantienen en niveles cada vez más altos, lo que hace que por cada 1% de aumento en las mismas, se incremente en 2 000 millones de dólares el servicio de la deuda de los países subdesarrollados.

Igualmente abordó el intercambio desigual que se mantiene entre ambos grupos de países, la caída de los precios de los productos básicos,

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cos, el empeoramiento de los términos de intercambio, etc., aspectos que, entre otros, han traído como consecuencia la agudización de la peor crisis experimentada por los países en desarrollo en toda su historia. Por estas y otras razones, el ministro cubano declaró que Cuba quedó insatisfecha con los resultados de la Reunión Ministerial del Gatt, sentimiento que es igualmente compartido por el resto de las naciones en desarrollo.

Los textos elaborados que recogían las aspiraciones fundamentales de estos países y que daban una respuesta a los intereses y posiciones justas de todas las partes contratantes sufrieron cambios en relación con el proteccionismo, comercio agrícola, procedimiento para la solución y diferencias y la referencia a los servicios.

Señaló Cabrisas que fue decepcionante comprobar cómo los países capitalistas industrializados reconocieron la grave situación económica de los países en desarrollo pero, sin embargo, no existió la voluntad política suficiente para traducir esos pronunciamientos en acciones concretas.

La declaración ministerial no contribuyó a resolver los apremiantes problemas del comercio mundial tales como: altos aranceles a la importación de productos de los países subdesarrollados, el proteccionismo, y la subvención gubernamental a los artículos de exportación de los países capitalistas industrializados. En lo que a Cuba se refiere, tampoco contribuyó a resolver los problemas más graves que presenta el país para el normal desenvolvimiento de su comercio exterior.

**CONSTITUIDA SECCION RFA ANEXA
A LA CAMARA DE COMERCIO**

(4805)

El día 16 de noviembre de 1982 quedó constituida la Sección RFA anexa a la Cámara de Comercio de la República de Cuba en un acto celebrado en el hotel Habana Libre de la capital habanera, lo cual, sin lugar a dudas es un importante paso de avance en el desarrollo de las relaciones comerciales entre Cuba y la República Federal de Alemania.

José M. Díaz Mirabal, presidente de la Cámara de Comercio cubana, expresó que la constitución de esta Sección es el resultado de convenciones sostenidas con personalidades de ambos países animados por el propósito de promover el intercambio económico y comercial mediante un comité de comercio Cuba-RFA. Estas conversaciones se materializaron en la Asociación Ibero-América Verein, que agrupa firmas industriales y comerciales de la RFA interesadas en desarrollar e intensificar las relaciones comerciales y económicas entre los dos países.

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AGRICULTURA	
PRODUCE 56 MILLONES AREA AGRICOLA MECANIZADA (4837)	
<p>El área mecánica de la agricultura produce valores superiores a los 56 millones de pesos en lo que se refiere a construcción de maquinarias agrícolas, fabricación y recuperación de piezas de repuesto, reparaciones capitales y mantenimiento a la industria.</p> <p>La fabricación y recuperación de piezas de repuesto ocupó un lugar fundamental, ya que en ella se alcanzaron más de 21 millones de pesos, para un crecimiento de un 70% son respecto a 1981 en esta línea de sustitución de importaciones. Se fabricaron y recuperaron piezas para combinadas de arroz, siilo-cosechadoras autopropulsadas, maquinaria para la preparación de tierras, piezas para las fumigadoras, accesorios y aspersores para el riego, chepeadoras, cosechadoras de tubérculos, etc. Además, durante 1982 se produjeron 196 siilocosechadoras, 200 pisadoras de forrajes, 50 cosechadoras de tubérculos, 70 fumigadoras integrales para cultivos varios y 60 sembradoras de papas, entre otras.</p> <p>En 1983 se dará comienzo a la producción de molinos de viento y se han planificado 500 para comenzar con lo cual se logrará un gran ahorro de energía. También se producirán 200 básculas de 1250 kg logramos para el pasaje de la masa animal en la ganadería.</p>	
PRODUCCION RECORD DE CITRICOS EN JAGUEY GRANDE (4838)	
<p>La cosecha de cítricos de Jagüey Grande, provincia de Matanzas, rebasó a finales de diciembre las 145 000 toneladas. Las 137 000 toneladas solo habían podido sobrepasarse en 1980, ocasión en la que se alcanzaron 141 000 toneladas.</p> <p>En lo que respecta a las exportaciones, el plan del año de esta empresa ascendía a 95 000 toneladas y ya en la fecha señalada había sobrepassado en 17 300 toneladas esta cifra. Tanto las 145 000 toneladas cosechadas en la Empresa Victoria de Giron como las cerca de 113 000 toneladas entregadas para la exportación, son los mayores volúmenes de frutas producidos en un año por una sola empresa cítrica del país.</p>	
PRODUCIDAS 10 MIL TONELADAS DE MIEL DE ABEJAS EN 1982 (4839)	
<p>Los trabajadores de la apicultura cerraron el año 1982 con un rotundo éxito económico: la producción de más de 10 000 toneladas de miel</p>	
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CUMPLEN CONSTRUCTORES PLANES DE PRODUCCIÓN DE 1982

(4855)

Los constructores de las provincias de Pinar del Río y Camagüey ejecutaron cerca de 103 millones de pesos durante 1982. Con la realización de unas 55,4 millones de pesos en edificaciones, los pinareños lograron cumplir al 105% su plan del año. También lograron un 103% en construcción y montaje, 110% en producción industrial y 101% en abastecimiento y transporte. Además de concluir el programa de salud pública, se construyeron 1360 viviendas, se brindaron grandes apoyos a la agricultura y se recuperaron los puentes y vías destruidos por el huracán Alberto.

Por su parte los constructores de Camagüey crearon más de 16,5 millones, cifra que supera en más de un millón de pesos su plan de 1982, lográndose un 4% de crecimiento con respecto a 1981. Durante el año se concluyeron varios contratos de escopio de 200 000 metros cúbicos anuales, un frigorífico agropecuario para 7000 toneladas de cítricos y se realizó la ampliación de la termoeléctrica de Nuevitas.

ELOGIA ANGOLA EL TRABAJO REALIZADO POR LA UNECA

(4856)

Angola manifestó su satisfacción por el trabajo realizado por la Unión de Empresas Constructoras Caribe (UNECA) y reconoció el esfuerzo realizado para cumplir los compromisos contraídos. Lo anterior se dio a conocer en el Protocolo firmado el día 31 de enero en Luanda, capital de Angola, por el ministro de la construcción de Angola, M. Manguerra y el Ministro del Gobierno cubano Leivi Farah.

"La colaboración de Cuba se está efectuando sobre la base del respeto mutuo y de fraternas relaciones de trabajo y amistad que caracterizan las relaciones entre ambos pueblos y gobiernos", destaca el documento. De acuerdo con el Protocolo un total de 276 colaboradores cubanos de la esfera de la construcción trabajarán en Angola durante 1983. El documento también prevé la posibilidad de ejecución de obras por la UNECA en Angola, conjuntamente con empresas de países socialistas aprobadas por la parte angolana.

EN CONSTRUCCIÓN ATRAQUES DE PUERTOS EN CIENFUEGOS

(4857)

Inversiones por casi 100 millones de pesos se ejecutan en el plan de desarrollo portuario de la ciudad de Cienfuegos, que incluye 23 nuevos atraques en la zona de O'Bourke en la parte norte de la bahía.

Estas obras garantizarán el grueso de las operaciones de carga y descarga de buques, fundamentalmente el servicio de la zona central del país. El puerto de Cienfuegos actualmente es uno de los más importantes del país donde se embarcan grandes volúmenes de azúcar,

cítricos, cemento y otros productos y se reciben valiosos cargamentos destinados a las obras de inversión en la localidad y carga general para la economía interna.

Además de los 23 atraques, las obras contemplan el dragado general de toda la zona (aproximadamente 0,5 millón de metros cúbicos de fondo rocoso por atraque, para lo cual ha sido destinada la dregla Realmisión, el mayor equipo de su tipo en el país). Además se incluyen almacenes portuarios, accesos por carreteras y ferrocarril y la instalación de numerosas grúas portuarias de procedencia húngara.

ECONOMIA

APROBADO PRESUPUESTO DEL ESTADO PARA 1983

(4858)

Durante las sesiones del Tercer Período Ordinario de la Asamblea Nacional del Poder Popular realizado durante los últimos días del mes de diciembre, quedó aprobado el Presupuesto del Estado Cubano para 1983.

El presupuesto prevé un total de ingresos ascendente a 10 496,4 millones de pesos. Estos ingresos provienen mayormente de los deportes y demás contribuciones del sector estatal de la economía, los impuestos y derechos a la población y en tercer lugar los impuestos y demás contribuciones del sector no estatal de la economía.

Los gastos previstos ascienden a 10 299,9 millones de pesos, donde el mayor peso lo ocupan, en orden descendente, la financiación de la esfera productiva, la financiación de la educación y de la salud pública, la de las demás actividades socio-culturales y científicas y la financiación de la defensa y el orden interior del país. El presupuesto tiene previsto un superávit de 196,5 mil pesos.

GRAN AHORRO DE COMBUSTIBLE POR LOS QUÍMICO-MINERO-ENERGÉTICOS

(4859)

Más de 55 000 toneladas de petróleo, valoradas en cerca de 13 millones de pesos en divisas, fue el saldo del ahorro alcanzado por los trabajadores químico-minero-energéticos en el período enero-octubre de 1982.

Jáime Crombet, miembro del Comité Central del Partido Comunista y su Primer Secretario en la provincia de Pinar del Río, resaltó la importancia que tiene para la economía del país la actividad que desarrollan estos trabajadores en el ahorro y en la fabricación y recuperación de piezas de repuesto, donde se espera arribar a los 21 millones de pesos en valores a finales de 1982.

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Cuba

Dr. Carlos Rafael Rodríguez, Vice President of the Council of State and of the Council of Ministers; Ministers of the Cuban Government; the Argentine Ambassador to Cuba; and the Cuban Ambassador to Argentina attended a reception that Minister Cabrisas gave for the visiting Argentine delegation.

SATISFACTORY RELATIONS BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND CUBA

(5155)

Fred Sinowatz, Federal Chancellor of Austria, expressed his satisfaction over the development of his country's relations with Cuba and over the fact that the 3rd Intergovernmental Mixed Meeting will be held soon in Havana. The Austrian Chancellor made these comments on March 14, when Gustavo Mazzoni, Cuba's new Ambassador to Austria, presented his credentials. Chancellor Sinowatz praised Fidel Castro's political stature, saying that the Austrian people sincerely admired him. He also said that the Austrian delegation to the 3rd Intergovernmental Meeting would be headed by Dr. Erich Schmidt, Secretary of State for Foreign Trade, and he expressed understanding of Cuba's interest in improving the level of the balance of trade, which is unfavorable to Cuba at present. He emphasized that former Federal Chancellor Bruno Kreisky had played a key role in increasing Austrian-Cuban relations.

ANGLO-CUBAN TRADE COMMITTEE MEETS

(5156)

The first bilateral meeting of the Anglo-Cuban Trade Committee opened in the conference hall of the Institute of Foreign Trade, in Havana. Its participants discussed industrial development, imports, exports and relations with third markets.

José M. Díaz Mirabal, President of the Chamber of Commerce and head of the Cuban delegation, stated that the meeting was the result of joint efforts by British and Cuban trade and industrial organizations, supported by official entities, to promote, develop and strengthen the economic relations between the two countries.

Lord Thomas Taylor of Gryfe, President of the Morgan Grenfell Bank (Scotland) and head of the British delegation, stated that the talks wouldn't be limited to the signing of contracts, for the members of the delegation he presided wanted to establish ties of friendship based on mutual respect.

He said that Cuba's balance of trade with the United Kingdom had been unfavorable to Cuba for the last four years and that his delegation was ready to work to correct this imbalance.

Accompanied by Robin Fearn, Ambassador of the United Kingdom to Cuba, and other high-ranking officials of the British delegation, Lord Taylor of Gryfe met with Ricardo Cabrisas, Minister of Foreign Trade of Cuba, and with Dr. Carlos Rafael Rodríguez, Vice President of the Councils of State and of Ministers of Cuba.

CHINA AND CUBA SIGN

TRADE PROTOCOL

(5157)

Wang Pingqiang, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade of the People's Republic of China and José de la Fuente, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade of Cuba, signed a trade protocol on March 28.

Ricardo Cabrisas, Minister of Foreign Trade of Cuba; Deputy Minister Miguel A. Castillo; Wang Jin, Chinese Ambassador to Cuba; and other officials of the two nations witnessed the ceremony.

Prior to the signing, Minister Cabrisas met with the members of the Chinese governmental delegation. Criteria on the development of the Chinese-Cuban trade agreement were exchanged during that meeting.

CUBAN REPRESENTATIVE

ATTENDS ECLA MEETING

(5158)

Ricardo Cabrisas, Minister of Foreign Trade of Cuba, stated in the ECLA meeting that was held in Lima, Peru, in early April that the socioeconomic crisis which is hitting the Latin-American countries is mainly the product of the unequal international relations imposed by the developed capitalist countries.

He also criticized the adjustment policies imposed by the International Monetary Fund on most of the countries in the region. "A new international monetary order is required," he said, "and we need to increase the Latin-American countries' interest in mutual defense."

After setting forth the main effects that the world crisis has in the developing countries, Minister Cabrisas said that Cuba had an economic growth rate of 5 percent in 1983 but has also felt the effects of the economic crisis, aggravated by the blockade that the United States has maintained for the past 23 years.