

Cuban Forces' Birthday Held Under State of Alert

HAVANA (Reuter-Kyodo) — The Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces celebrated their 25th anniversary Wednesday without fanfare but in a state of alert.

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The army, navy and air force were put on alert last month when President Fidel Castro said threats from United States officials might have been a signal that aggression on Cuba was imminent. JAPAN TIMES

Since then, according to informed sources here, more than 100,000 military reservists have been called up for varying periods of active duty.

The "territorial militia" of

approximately half a million men and women has also increased training with modern weapons, the sources said.

A Soviet military delegation headed by Marshal Alexander Koldunov, the chief of Soviet Air Defenses, arrived here on Sunday.

Since 1961, two years after the Cuban Revolution, Cuba's armed forces have used Soviet weapons and been trained by Soviet military advisers and the rag-tag guerrilla army which brought Castro to power has become a modern military force with battlefield experience in Angola and Ethiopia.