UU GMW BRJ
MIS FEA:FARMERS MARKETS 4HAVANA
THE CHALLENGE FOR THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT NOW IS TO FILL THE VACCUM LEFT BY THE ELIMINATION OF THE FREE FARMERS'S MARKET WHICH SOLD SOME 70 MILLON PESOS WORTH OF PRODUCE TO THE PUBLIC YEARLY.
CASTRO IS CONVINCED THAT WITHOUT PREJUDICING THE SMALL PRIVATE FARMERS, THE STATE COULD ACT AS MIDDLEMAN AND RETAILER FOR THE SURPLUS AND SIDELINE PRODUCTS PRODUCED OVER AND ABOVE THOSE BOUGHT BY THE STATE THROUGH ROUTINE CHANNELS. THE IDEA IS TO GIVE THE FARMER A PREFERENTIAL PRICE FOR THE SURPLUS PRODUCE AND TO SELL IT TO THE PUBLIC AT HIGHER PRICES./.
THE CUBAN LEADER'S BATTLE AGAINST IDEOLOGICAL AND MATERIAL CORRUPTION COMES AT A TIME WHEN THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT HAS A DEFINED POLOCY OF OFFERING MORE IN WAGES AND MATERIAL INCENTIVES TO THOSE WHO PRODUCE MORE. BUT IT IS EVIDENT, ACCORDING TO MANY CUBAN OFFICIALS, THAT THE EMHASIS ON MATERIAL INCENTIVES HAS DAMAGED THE REVOLUTION IDEOLOGICALLY. IT IS COMMON KNOWLEDGE THAT PAL-ISM (SOCIOLISMO), PILFERING FROM THE STATE AND OTHER TYPES OF CORRUPTION ARE WIDESPREAD. ON MAY 22, ONLY A FEW DAYS AFTER CASTRO SPOKE TO THE COOP FARMERS, A MEETING OF THE POLITBUREAU OF CUBA'S COMMUNIST PARTY EXAMINED THE QUESTION OF THE RISE IN DELINQUENCY AND CRIME IN HAVANA.
IN HIS SPEECH TO THE FARMERS CASTRO SAID: +IF WE HAVE A WORKING CLASS THAT IS INTERESTED IN NOTHING ELSE BUT MONEY, THAT BEGINS TO BE DEGRADED BY MONEY AND THAT ACTS ONLY FOR MONEY, THAN WE ARE IN TROUBLE BECAUSE THE BEST DEFENDERS OF THE REVOLUTION DO NOT COME FROM THAT KIND OF PERSON.+
==RTR/LEM
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UU GMN BRJ
MIS FEA:FARMERS MARKETS JHAVANA
FROM THE BEGINNING. HOWEVER. THE FREE FARMERS' MARKETS WERE THE TARGETS OF COMPLAINTS ABOUT PRICE GOUGING. HAVANANS BEGAN TO CALL THEOSE WHO SOLD AT THE MARKETS +THE BANDITS OF RIO FRIO (COLD RIVER). THE TITLE OF A POPULAR MEXICAN TV SERIAL.
IN 1982 GOVERNMENT INSPECTORS SWOOPED DOWN ON SEVERAL HAVANA FARMERS' MARKETS AND ARRESTED OVER 165 PERSONS FOR +IRREGULARITIES+. AMONG THE IRREGULARITIES WERE THE SALE OF PRODUCTS BY MIDDEMEN AND THE SALE OF PRODUCE THAT WAS STOLEN FROM THE GOVERNMENT.
THE ELIMINATION OF THE FREE FARMERS'S MARKET IS PART OF A DECLARATION O WAR BY FIDEL CASTRO AGAINST CORRUPTION AND AVARICE.. IN HIS SPEECH CASTRO SCATHINGLY ATTACKED GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHO USE THEIR POSITION TO GUARANTEE THEMSELVES PERKS AND OTHER ADVANTAGES. HE CALLED THOSE WHO PROFITEERED AT THE FREE MARKETS +ANTI-SOCIAL ANDLUMPEN+ AND SAID THAT THOSE WHO ENRICH THEMSELVES BY PRICE GOUGING WERE A DEMORALISING EXAMLE FOR HONEST FARMERS AND A +NOXIOUS AND NEGATIVE+ INFLUENCE ON THE BURGEONING FARM COOP MOVEMENT.
CASTRO SAID THAT FROM THE FIRST HE OPPOSE THE PARTICIPATION OF THE COOPERATIVES AT THE FREE FARMERS' MARKETS. +IT WAS A MORAL QUESTION, ONEOF PRINCIPLE AND DIGNITY NOT TO ENTER INTO THAT COMMERCIALISM AND THAT SPECULATION.+ HE TOLD THE COOP FARMERS.
THE CUBAN LEADER CALLED FOR A +GRAND CRUZADE+ AGAINST VICE AND CORRUPTION. (UNA GRAN CRUZADA POR EL SEANEAMIENTO, CONTRA LOS VICIOS). +WE HAVE PASSED THROUGH THIS EXPERIENCE AND I BELIEVE WE HAVE ALSO ENRICHED OUR KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT WE SHOULD AND SHOULD NOT DO TO CARRY FORWARD OUR REVOLUTIONARY PROCESS.+ CASTRO TOLD THE FAMRERS.
MORE/LEM
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