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ELECTRICAL RELEASE
10 Apr 61
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SOVIET MERCHANT SHIP NIKOLAJ BURDENKO DELIVERS MILITARY CARGO TO CUBA

1. The Soviet passenger cargo ship NIKOLAJ BURDENKO (UPVY, 5840GT) possibly arrived at a Cuban port late evening 7 April or early morning 8 April with an unspecified amount of YaSTREBOV's^a cargo.

2. The NIKOLAJ BURDENKO was in port Nikolaev 15 March and was scheduled to load YaSTREBOV's cargo. The ship probably departed from Nikolaev on 21 March and passed Istanbul on the 22nd. At 251500Z the ship was at 37-26N 06-03E. Since then the ship's position has not been revealed in her daily reports. On 7 April limited D/F placed the BURDENKO near the Windward Passage.

3. This is the third noted instance of a Soviet ship loading cargo specifically described as "YaSTREBOV's" for Cuba.

a. An official of the Chief Engineering Directorate of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations involved in the export of Soviet military equipment from Nikolaev.

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