

SPORTS MEET BEGINS IN HAVANA: Fidel Castro, the Cuban leader, presiding Tuesday over the opening of the Caribbean and Central American Games. At left is Humberto Ortega Saavedra, Nicaragua's Defense Minister.

# Spadolini Tries to Form New Cabinet

### By JOHN TAGLIABUE

Special to The New York Times

ROME, Aug. 11 - Giovanni Spadolini, the leader of the tiny Republican Party whose Cabinet fell last week over a dispute about measures to help Italy's failing economy, began efforts today to avoid an early national election by piecing together a new coalition.

He appears to face enormous odds. His 13-month old Government, Italy's 41st since World War II, collapsed last Saturday when seven Socialist members quit after the Chamber of Deputies, Italy's lower house, threw out a bill ing Italy's problems, which include seeking to eliminate many tax privil urban terrorism, a faltering economy leges and increasing the tax bill of Italy's oil industry.

Nino Formica, the Socialist Finance Minister who fought for the bill, on Tuesday described a possible new government under Mr. Spadolini as "warmed-over soup," underlining the Socialist demand for a new election rather than a shuffling of the Government's five-party coalition.

### Man of Great Ambition

The Socialists, under 48-year-old Bettino Craxi, form Italy's third most powerful group after the Christian Democrats and Communists. But they have assumed the role of kingmaker in recent governments because of their crucial function in providing parliamentary majorities without having to seek the aid of the Communists.

Mr. Craxi, widely described as a man of great ambition, has been encouraged recently by Socialist election victories in France and Greece, and the new strength of Spain's Socialists.

a victory for the party's moderate left Agency, an official newspaper reported wing, Mr. de Mita is caught up in efforts today. to gather all the party's forces behind

## Tackled Problems With Success

Italy's Communist Party, the biggest in Western Europe, was deeply shaken Monday, the newspaper Barricada reby the crackdown in Poland, leading to ported. a deep split with Moscow.

time guardian. There have been unconfirmed rumors that forces are gathering to try to unseat the party's present chairman, Enrico Berlinguer.

A Western diplomat who is intimately acquainted with the party asked, "If Russia is no longer your friend, and the United States is still the enemy, well,

just where do you stand anyway?"

Mr. Spadolini, the first postwar

Prime Minister who was not a Christian Democrat, achieved success in masterand the need to reach new positions on international issues, including Italy's role in the Common Market and NATO.

President Sandro Pertini, himself a Socialist, was reported to have been pleased with the approach of the last Government and until last week fought successfully to keep it in office. Several times this week he described the pros pect of a new election as "traumatic."

Because of Italy's worsening econ omy, pressure is strong on the key political parties to end their posturing and infighting. Unemployment, at 8.6 percent in the first quarter, has been rising, and inflation has leveled off at a

rate of 16 percent.
Italy's three major trade unions warned this week that the recession and unemployment were destined to get political crisis still seemed remote.

disoriented, with many members disillusioned but torn by feelings of loyalty association, Vittorio Merloni, said on to the Soviet Union, the party's longlead to a slump in production and more unemployment in the fall.

#### **Warning by Two Leaders**

If, because of their widely recognized penchant for pessimism, the unions and Mr. Merloni were taken less seriously, political leaders listened more attentively to warning voices this week by two of the country's most respected in-dustrial leaders. They said that Italy must end the political crisis and concentrate on its economic problems, which are serious.

Gianni Agnelli, chairman of Fiat, the powerful automaker that is Italy's biggest private company, called for a caretaker government to tackle the most pressing economic problems and then a national election in the spring. And Carlo de Benedetti, managing director of Olivetti, warned that the country was "heading for financial collapse" without a viable government.

With all Italy on vacation this month, making an autumn election difficult to organize, a viable solution would be to form an interim government now and hold a national election in the spring of

Today, the first day of Mr. Spadolini's efforts to rebuild his cabinet, the pros-

# Sects Under Attack in Nicaragua

But the Socialists are also encouraged by the relative disarray of Italy's (UPI) — Government-backed groups mons and Adventists," one Defense two biggest parties. Three months ago have stepped up attacks on Jehovah's the Christian Democrats, who control Witnesses, Mormons and Seventh-day about 38 percent of the vote, elected Adventists, accusing the sects of having Ciriaco de Mita as their new chairman, direct links to the Central Intelligence

> Sandinist Defense Committees, which are organized on every block in Managua, have seized some 20 buildings used by the Protestant sects since

"Concretely, those actions in defense Those who know the party "y it is of the revolution are against three

Committee leader told Barricada, the official organ of the leftist Sandinist re-

He said the three church groups "are those which have direct relations with the C.I.A. and conduct counterrevolutionary labor inside the country."

Earlier this year, the Government expelled about a dozen Protestants, including several Americans, on charges they were working for the C.I.A. to unsettle the Sandinists, who have governed Nicaragua since they overthrew President Anastasio Somoza Debayle in

## Senate Votes to Limit Cuban Influence

#### By DAVID SHRIBMAN Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11 - The Senate voted today to prevent by any means, "including the use of arms," the extension of Cuban influence in the Western Hemisphere.

The action, which had the support of the Reagan Administration, came as an amendment to a \$9 billion supplemental appropriation bill. Later, the Senate voted that its approval of the amend-ment did not constitute its approval of a long-term military involvement. The War Powers Act requires Senate approval of such involvement.

The amendment, offered by Senator Steven D. Symms, Republican of Idaho, affirmed the Monroe Doctrine and pledged "to prevent in Cuba the creation or use of an externally supported

military capability endangering the se-curity of the United States."

"That is the only language the Com-munists know," said Senator Strom Thurmond, Republican of South Carolina and a supporter of the amendment. 'It is the only language the Soviets know, and it seems to me we ought to take a firm stand here, not equivocate, not offer some weaker resolution which does not carry any strength to it and any firmness.

The Senate Tuesday evening refused to remove \$355 million for President Reagan's Caribbean basin initiative, which is designed in part to counter Cuban-sponsored leftist movements by helping governments in Latin America and the Caribbean economically.

#### Percy Amendment Is Rejected

The Senate refused, by a vote of 52 to 47, to accept an amendment offered by Senator Charles H. Percy, the Illinois Republican who heads the Foreign Relations Committee, that did not include the words "the use of arms."

The action in the Senate came a day after the House voted 250 to 134 to authorize a new United States radio station, known as Radio Martí, for broadcasts to Cuba.

The Symms amendment, which the Senate approved by 68 to 28, is not included in the House version of the supplemental appropriation bill and thus must survive a House-Senate conference if it is to be included in the final version. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Democrat of New York, received the Senate's consent early this evening to change his vote, which had been for the Symms amendment, to a vote against it.

The amendment also pledges the United States to work with the Organi zation of American States and with "freedom-loving Cubans" to support self-determination for Cuba.

The Symms amendment was in tended to reaffirm a 1962 law authorizing the President to use force against Cuban subversive activities and to prevent the use of Cuba as a base for Soviet offensive weapons. The Senate tabled the proposal when Mr. Symms made it in early spring.

### 'Caribbean Tonkin Gulf' Feared

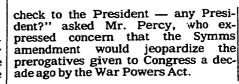
Critics of the amendment, who were defeated on two bids to sidetrack it or weaken its language, described the amendment as a "Caribbean Tonkin Gulf," a reference to the 1964 measure that formed the legal basis for the conduct of the Vietnam conflict.

"We're all a lot of weak-kneed folks around here, talking in an election year about how tough we are," Senator Joseph R. Biden Jr., Democrat of Delaware, said.
Mr. Biden suggested mockingly that

supporters of the amendment direct it at the Soviet Union. "We want to get tough?" he asked. "Let's get tough with the big guys."

The debate was marked by strident remarks on both sides, with supporters of the amendment calling for a strenuous response to the "Marxist Castro regime in Cuba" and with opponents voicing the fear that the amendment would provide a "blank check" for military action.

"Would anyone want to give a blank



Senator Jesse Helms, Republican o North Carolina, dismissed charges that the amendment was inflammatory. "This does not rattle any saber," he said. "It has America acting like America again.'



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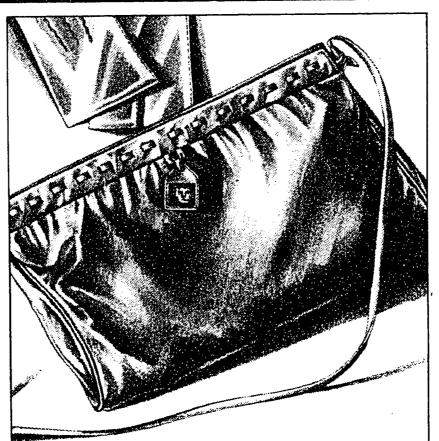
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