

Cuban Leadership Overview, Apr 2009

Raul Castro has overhauled the leadership of top government bodies, especially those dealing with the economy, since he formally succeeded his brother Fidel as president of the Councils of State and Ministers on 24 February 2008. Since then, almost all of the Council of Ministers vice presidents have been replaced, and more than half of all current ministers have been appointed. The changes have been relatively low-key, but the recent ousting of two prominent figures generated a rare public acknowledgement of official misconduct. Fidel Castro retains the position of Communist Party first secretary, and the party leadership has undergone less turnover. This may change, however, as the Sixth Party Congress is scheduled to be held at the end of this year. Cuba's top military leadership also has experienced significant turnover since Raul -- the former defense minister -- became president. Names and photos of key officials are provided in the graphic below; the accompanying text gives details of the changes since February 2008 and current listings of government and party officeholders.



To view an enlarged, printable version of the chart, double-click on the following icon (.pdf):

This OSC product is based exclusively on the content and behavior of selected media and has not been coordinated with other US Government components.

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*This report is based on OSC's review of official Cuban websites, including those of the Cuban Government ([www.cubagob.cu](http://www.cubagob.cu)), the Communist Party ([www.pcc.cu](http://www.pcc.cu)), the National Assembly ([www.asanac.gov.cu](http://www.asanac.gov.cu)), and the Constitution ([www.cuba.cu/gobierno/cuba.htm](http://www.cuba.cu/gobierno/cuba.htm)). The information on leadership and other changes comes from reporting in authoritative state media outlets as well as from OSC-observed updates to government websites.*

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## **Councils of State, Ministers**

The Council of State is the executive body of the Cuban legislature, the National Assembly of the People's Government (ANPP), and acts on its behalf when it is not in session. The ANPP elects the Council of State from among its members at the beginning of each five-year legislative period; the last election was held on 24 February 2008, when Raul and others officially took office. According to the Constitution, the Council of State has 31 members: a president, a first vice president, five vice presidents, a secretary, and 23 other members. As of mid-April 2009, actual membership stood at 28, following the early March removal of a vice president and two members. The president of the Council of State also serves as president of the Council of Ministers.

The Council of Ministers is the state's top executive and administrative body. It consists of a president, a first vice president, an unspecified number of vice presidents, a secretary, and the heads of various ministries. All positions besides the president are nominated by him and approved by the ANPP. The Council of Ministers is directed by an executive committee including its president, first vice president, vice presidents, and additional members and advisers chosen by the president.<sup>1 2</sup>

### ***Recent Changes***

The ANPP on 24 February 2008 officially named Raul Castro president of the Councils of State and Ministers; Raul had been acting in that capacity since Fidel provisionally stepped down because of poor health on 31 July 2006.<sup>a</sup> Jose Ramon Machado Ventura replaced Raul as first vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers and Julio Casas Regueiro, who took over Raul's post as defense minister, became a vice president of the Council of State. The other four vice presidents of the Council of State were confirmed in their posts.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>a</sup> Fidel Castro on 31 July appointed his brother Raul as provisional head of the party, government, and Armed Forces and assigned other responsibilities to Jose Ramon Machado Ventura and Esteban Lazo Hernandez, Politburo members and vice presidents of the Council of State; Jose Ramon Balaguer Cabrera, Politburo member and health minister; Carlos Lage Davila, then Politburo member, vice president of the Council of State, and secretary of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers; Felipe Perez Roque, then foreign minister; and Francisco Soberon, president of the Central Bank. See LAP20060801380001 for the text of the 31 July proclamation.

Subsequent changes to both bodies have been announced as follows:<sup>b</sup>

- April 2008: Ena Elsa Velazquez Cobiella was named education minister.<sup>4</sup>
- October 2008: Government Minister Ricardo Cabrisas Ruiz was appointed vice president of the Council of Ministers in charge of foreign economic relations.<sup>5</sup>
- November 2008: Rodrigo Malmierca Diaz was named minister of foreign investment and economic cooperation; Division General Ulises Rosales del Toro was named minister of agriculture; and Luis Manuel Avila Gonzalez was named minister of the sugar industry.<sup>6 7 8</sup>
- February 2009: Agriculture Minister Rosales del Toro, Transportation Minister Jorge Luis Sierra Cruz, and Communications Minister Ramiro Valdes Menendez were named vice presidents of the Council of Ministers.<sup>9</sup>
- March 2009: The government on 2 March announced several high-level changes, including the dismissals of Jose Luis Rodriguez Garcia and Otto Rivero Torres as vice presidents of the Council of Ministers and the dismissal of Carlos Lage Davila as secretary of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers. The announcement also named then Domestic Trade Minister Marino Murillo Jorge as a vice president of the Council of Ministers and appointed new secretaries of the Councils of State and Ministers. The government additionally merged the Foreign Investment and Foreign Trade Ministries and the Food and Fishing Industry Ministries, and it replaced the ministers of foreign relations, finance and prices, labor and social security, economy and planning, domestic trade, steelworking, and science and technology.<sup>10</sup>
- March 2009: Party daily *Granma* on 5 March published letters dated 3 March signed by Lage and Foreign Minister Felipe Perez Roque announcing their resignation from all government and party posts following Lage's 2 March dismissal as secretary of the Council of Ministers executive committee and Perez Roque's 2 March replacement as foreign minister.<sup>11 12</sup> Their resignations left the Council of State with four vice presidents and 22 total members.
- March 2009: A 6 March report in the official gazette listed the changes announced on 2 March but also said that Pedro Miret Prieto and Osmany Cienfuegos Gorriaran had been removed as Council of Ministers vice presidents.<sup>13</sup> Fidel Castro in a 25 March

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<sup>b</sup> For more information on state media coverage of the recent leadership changes and rumors in non-state media sources surrounding the dismissal of key officials, see the 13 March OSC Report, **Cuban Government Closemouthed on Leadership Changes** (LAP20090313380002). For information on Raul Castro's media profile since taking office, see the 9 January OSC Analysis, **Raul Castro Uses State Media To Cement Image as Cuba's Top Leader** (LAF20090109420001). For details on the media profiles of top leaders since July 2006 during Raul Castro's provisional and officials presidencies, see the 24 February OSC Analysis, **Cuban Leaders' Media Profiles Change From Provisional Period** (LAF20090224471001).

"Reflection" column stated that Miret and Cienfuegos were not "dismissed" but had been gradually relieved of their duties for health reasons.<sup>14</sup>

Official media have not discussed the status of Carlos Valenciaga Diaz, member of the Council of State and Fidel Castro's former private secretary, whom Miami-based websites claim was dismissed in late 2008.<sup>15 16</sup> His name, photograph, and biography are no longer posted on the ANPP website's Council of State members list, which was updated after the 2 March changes.<sup>17</sup>

<b>COUNCIL OF STATE</b> <sup>18</sup>	
<b>Leadership</b>	
President of the Council of State	Raul Castro Ruz, <i>Army General</i>
First Vice President of the Council of State	Jose Ramon Machado Ventura
Vice President of the Council of State	Juan Almeida Bosque, <i>Commander of the Revolution</i>
Vice President of the Council of State	Julio Casas Regueiro, <i>Corps General</i>
Vice President of the Council of State	Abelardo Colome Ibarra, <i>Corps General</i>
Vice President of the Council of State	Juan Esteban Lazo Hernandez
Secretary of the Council of State	Homero Acosta Alvarez <sup>c</sup>
<b>Members</b>	
Jose Ramon Balaguer Cabrera Pedro Saez Montejo Roberto Fernandez Retamar Leopoldo Cintra Frias Orlando Lugo Fonte Ramiro Valdes Menendez Tania Leon Silveira Alvaro Lopez Miera Francisco Soberon Valdes Julio Martinez Ramirez Ines Maria Chapman Waugh	Iris Betancourt Tellez Guillermo Garcia Frias Luis Saturnino Herrera Martinez Maria Yolanda Ferrer Gomez Regla Dayami Armenteros Mesa Dignora Montano Perdomo Salvador Antonio Valdes Mesa Maria del Carmen Concepcion Gonzalez Juan Jose Rabilero Fonseca Surina Acosta Brook (Members' names are in the order listed on the ANPP website.)
<sup>c</sup> Homero Acosta Alvarez was provisionally appointed to this post on 2 March 2009 and is to be confirmed at the next session of the National Assembly. <sup>19</sup>	

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## COUNCIL OF MINISTERS <sup>20 21</sup>

Title	Name	Date Appointed
President of the Council of Ministers	Raul Castro Ruz, <i>Army General</i>	24 Feb 08 <sup>22</sup>
First Vice Pres. of the Council of Ministers	Jose Ramon Machado Ventura	24 Feb 08 <sup>23</sup>
Vice Pres. of the Council of Ministers	Ricardo Cabrisas Ruiz	13 Oct 08 <sup>24</sup>
Vice Pres. of the Council of Ministers	Jose Ramon Fernandez Alvarez	1978 <sup>25</sup>
Vice Pres. of the Council of Ministers	Marino Alberto Murillo Jorge	2 Mar 09 <sup>26</sup>
Vice Pres. of the Council of Ministers	Ulises Rosales del Toro, <i>Division General</i>	19 Feb 09 <sup>27</sup>
Vice Pres. of the Council of Ministers	Jorge Luis Sierra Cruz	19 Feb 09 <sup>28</sup>
Vice Pres. of the Council of Ministers	Ramiro Valdes Menendez, <i>Commander of the Revolution</i>	19 Feb 09 <sup>29</sup>
Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers	Jose Amado Ricardo Guerra, <i>Brigade General</i>	2 Mar 09 <sup>30</sup>
Minister of Agriculture	Ulises Rosales del Toro, <i>Division General</i>	25 Nov 08 <sup>31</sup>
Minister of Auditing and Control	Gladys Maria Bejerano Portela	24 May 06 <sup>32</sup>
Minister of Basic Industries	Yadira Garcia Vera	14 Oct 04 <sup>33</sup>
Minister of Information Science and Communication	Ramiro Valdes Menendez, <i>Commander of the Revolution</i>	31 Aug 06 <sup>34</sup>
Minister of Construction	Fidel Fernando Figueroa de la Paz	9 Dec 02 <sup>35</sup>
Minister of Culture	Abel Enrique Prieto Jimenez	11 Feb 97 <sup>36</sup>
Minister of Domestic Trade	Jacinto Angulo Pardo	2 Mar 09 <sup>37</sup>
Minister of Economy and Planning	Marino Alberto Murillo Jorge	2 Mar 09 <sup>38</sup>
Minister of Education	Ena Elsa Velazquez Cobiella	22 Apr 08 <sup>39</sup>
Minister of Finance and Prices	Lina Olinda Pedraza Rodriguez	2 Mar 09 <sup>40</sup>
Minister of the Food Industry	Maria del Carmen Concepcion Gonzalez	2 Mar 09 <sup>41</sup>
Minister of Foreign Relations	Bruno Eduardo Rodriguez Parrilla	2 Mar 09 <sup>42</sup>
Minister of Foreign Trade and Investment	Rodrigo Malmierca Diaz <sup>d</sup>	12 Nov 08 <sup>43</sup>
Minister of Higher Education	Juan Vela Valdes	12 Jun 06 <sup>44</sup>
Minister of Interior	Abelardo Colome Ibarra, <i>Corps General</i>	29 Jun 89 <sup>45</sup>

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Minister of Justice	Maria Esther Reus Gonzalez	23 Mar 07 <sup>46</sup>
Minister of Labor and Social Security	Margarita Marlene Gonzalez Fernandez	2 Mar 09 <sup>47</sup>
Minister of Light Industry	Jose Silvano Hernandez Bernardez	27 May 06 <sup>48</sup>
Minister of Public Health	Jose Ramon Balaguer Cabrera	27 May 04 <sup>49</sup>
Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces	Julio Casas Regueiro, <i>Corps General</i>	24 Feb 08 <sup>50</sup>
Minister of Science, Technology, and Environment	Jose Miguel Miyar Barrueco	2 Mar 09 <sup>51</sup>
Minister of the Steelworking Industry	Salvador Pardo Cruz, <i>Brigade General</i>	2 Mar 09 <sup>52</sup>
Minister of Sugar Industry	Luis Manuel Avila Gonzalez	25 Nov 08 <sup>53</sup>
Minister of Tourism	Manuel Marrero Cruz	11 Feb 04 <sup>54</sup>
Minister of Transportation	Jorge Luis Sierra Cruz	20 Oct 06 <sup>55</sup>
President of Central Bank of Cuba	Francisco Soberon Valdes	14 Jun 97 <sup>56</sup>
President of Civil Aeronautics Institute of Cuba (IACC)	Rogelio Acevedo Gonzalez, <i>Division General</i>	6 Jul 89 <sup>57</sup>
President of Cuban Radio and Television Institute (ICRT)	Ernesto Lopez Dominguez	23 Mar 99 <sup>58</sup>
President of National Institute for Sports, Physical Education, and Recreation (INDER)	Julio Christian Jimenez Molina	3 Oct 05 <sup>59</sup>
<p><sup>d</sup> The Ministry of Foreign Investment and Economic Cooperation was consolidated with the Ministry of Foreign Trade on 2 March 2009. Malmierca Diaz was appointed minister of investment and economic cooperation on 12 November 2008 and remained minister after the 2 March consolidation.<sup>60 61</sup></p>		

## Communist Party of Cuba (PCC)

Fidel Castro retained his post as first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba (PCC), the sole legal party; Raul Castro is second secretary.<sup>62 63</sup> The party congress is the highest decisionmaking body in the PCC and elects the members of the Central Committee. The congress is supposed to meet every 5 years, but there have only been five congresses since the PCC was founded in 1965, with the most recent in October 1997.<sup>64</sup>

The Central Committee, which currently has about 150 members, leads the PCC between congresses. It holds plenary meetings at least once a year, and more often if convened by the Council of State. It elects the members of the Politburo and the first and second secretaries.<sup>65 66</sup>

The Politburo serves as the PCC's executive arm and the leading decisionmaking body between the Central Committee's plenary meetings.<sup>67</sup> The Secretariat is charged with assisting the Politburo, ensuring that its decisions are implemented, and overseeing the "correct application

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of cadre policy," according to Communist Party daily *Granma* (4 July 2006).<sup>68</sup> The Secretariat was disbanded in 1991, but Fidel Castro reestablished it during the July 2006 plenary meeting of the Central Committee.<sup>69</sup>

### ***Recent Changes***

The Fifth Party Congress, held 8-10 October 1997, confirmed 18 Politburo members and elected six new ones.<sup>70</sup> There has since been turnover when one member died,<sup>71</sup> three others were removed,<sup>72 73 74</sup> and one was added.<sup>75</sup> Over the past year, the PCC announced the approximate date for the Sixth Party Congress and made some changes to its Politburo and Secretariat.

- April 2008: Raul Castro announced at the sixth plenary meeting of the Central Committee that the Sixth Party Congress will be held "at the end of the second half of next year."<sup>76</sup>
- April 2008: Ramiro Valdes Menendez, Salvador Valdes Mesa, and Alvaro Lopez Miera were elected to the Politburo, returning to the party congress-approved total membership of 24.<sup>77</sup>
- May 2008: Roberto Morales Ojeda was promoted to the Secretariat, adding to the 12 members elected at the 1 July 2006 fifth plenary meeting of the Central Committee.<sup>78 79</sup>
- March 2009: Lage's resignation in March reduced the Politburo membership to 23.<sup>80</sup> Maria del Carmen Concepcion Gonzalez and Lina Pedraza Rodriguez were relieved of their Secretariat duties when they were appointed heads of the Food and the Finance and Prices Ministries as part of the March changes, leaving 11 Secretariat members.<sup>81</sup>
- April 2009: Misael Enamorado Dager, already a member of the Politburo and outgoing first secretary of the Provincial Committee of the Party in Santiago de Cuba Province, was appointed to the Secretariat.<sup>82</sup>

<b>POLITBURO</b> <sup>83</sup>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>
<b>Fidel Castro Ruz</b>	First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party (PCC)
<b>Raul Castro Ruz, <i>Army General</i></b>	Second Secretary of the PCC Central Committee, President of the Councils of State and Ministers
<b>Ricardo Alarcon de Quesada</b>	President of the National Assembly of the People's Government (ANPP)
<b>Juan Almeida Bosque, <i>Commander of the Revolution</i></b>	Vice President of the Council of State
<b>Jose Ramon Balaguer Cabrera</b>	Member of the Council of State, Minister of Public Health

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<b>Concepcion Campa Huergo</b>	President and Director General of the Center for Investigation and Production of Vaccines and Serums, Carlos Juan Finlay Institute
<b>Julio Casas Regueiro</b> , <i>Corps General</i>	Vice President of the Council of State, Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR)
<b>Leopoldo Cintra Frias</b> , <i>Corps General</i>	Member of the Council of State, First Vice Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR)
<b>Abelardo Colome Ibarra</b> , <i>Corps General</i>	Vice President of the Council of State, Minister of the Interior
<b>Miguel Mario Diaz-Canel Bermudez</b>	Outgoing First Party Secretary in Holguin Province <sup>e</sup>
<b>Misael Enamorado Dager</b>	Outgoing First Party Secretary in Santiago de Cuba Province <sup>f</sup>
<b>Ramon Espinosa Martin</b> , <i>Corps General</i>	Vice Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR)
<b>Yadira Garcia Vera</b>	Minister of Basic Industry
<b>Juan Esteban Lazo Hernandez</b>	Vice President of the Council of State
<b>Alvaro Lopez Miera</b> , <i>Corps General</i>	Member of the Council of State, Vice Minister and Chief of General Staff of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR)
<b>Jose Ramon Machado Ventura</b>	First Vice President of the Councils of State and Ministers
<b>Abel Enrique Prieto Jimenez</b>	Minister of Culture
<b>Ulises Rosales del Toro</b> , <i>Division General</i>	Vice President of the Council of Ministers, Minister of Agriculture
<b>Pedro Ross Leal</b>	Cuban Ambassador to Angola
<b>Pedro Saez Montejo</b>	Member of the Council of State, First Party Secretary in Havana City
<b>Jorge Luis Sierra Cruz</b>	Vice President of the Council of Ministers, Minister of Transportation
<b>Ramiro Valdes Menendez</b> , <i>Commander of the Revolution</i>	Vice President of the Council of Ministers, Member of the Council of State, Minister of Information Science and Communication
<b>Salvador Antonio Valdes Mesa</b>	Member of the Council of State, Secretary General of the Cuban Workers' Federation (CTC)
<p><sup>e</sup> A 9 April announcement in party daily <i>Granma</i> stated that Miguel Diaz-Canel Bermudez will be replaced as first secretary of the Provincial Committee of the Party in Holguin Province and "will be given responsibilities at the national level at the conclusion of his current post."</p> <p><sup>f</sup> The 9 April announcement in <i>Granma</i> also stated that Misael Enamorado Dager will be replaced as first secretary of the Provincial Committee of the Party in Santiago de Cuba Province and will join the Secretariat of the Central Committee. <sup>84</sup></p>	

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## SECRETARIAT OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE <sup>85</sup>

Name	Title
<b>Fidel Castro Ruz</b>	First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party (PCC)
<b>Raul Castro Ruz</b> , <i>Army General</i>	Second Secretary of the PCC Central Committee, President of the Councils of State and Ministers
<b>Ricardo Alarcon de Quesada</b>	President of the National Assembly of the People's Government (ANPP)
<b>Jose Ramon Machado Ventura</b>	First Vice President of the Councils of State and Ministers
<b>Juan Esteban Lazo Hernandez</b>	Vice President of the Council of State
<b>Jorge Luis Sierra Cruz</b>	Vice President of the Council of Ministers, Minister of Transportation
<b>Abelardo Alvarez Gil</b>	Director of the Central Committee Cadre Policy Affairs Department
<b>Mercedes Lopez Acea</b>	Current portfolio unknown
<b>Fernando Ramirez de Estenoz Barciela</b>	Former Director of the Central Committee Foreign Relations Department (this post is presently held by Jorge Marti Martinez)
<b>Roberto Lopez Hernandez</b>	Current portfolio unknown
<b>Victor Gaute Lopez</b>	Current portfolio unknown
<b>Roberto Tomas Morales Ojeda</b>	Director of the Central Committee Public Health Department
<b>Misael Enamorado Dager</b>	Outgoing First Party Secretary in Santiago de Cuba Province <sup>9</sup>

<sup>9</sup> A 9 April announcement in party daily *Granma* stated that Misael Enamorado Dager will be replaced as first secretary of the Provincial Committee of the Party in Santiago de Cuba Province and will join the Secretariat of the Central Committee.<sup>86</sup>

### Top Military Leadership

#### *Recent Changes*

Julio Casas Rugeiro replaced Raul Castro as minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR) when Castro assumed the Presidency. All three regional Army chiefs have since been appointed to vice ministerial positions and replaced with new regional commanders.<sup>87 88 89 h</sup>

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## TOP MILITARY LEADERSHIP

<b>Raul Castro Ruz</b> , <i>Army General</i>	Commander in Chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR)
<b>Julio Casas Regueiro</b> , <i>Corps General</i>	Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR)
<b>Leopoldo Cintra Frias</b> , <i>Corps General</i>	First Vice Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR)
<b>Ramon Espinosa Martin</b> , <i>Corps General</i>	Vice Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR)
<b>Joaquin Quintas Sola</b> , <i>Corps General</i>	Vice Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR)
<b>Alvaro Lopez Miera</b> , <i>Corps General</i>	Vice Minister and Chief of General Staff of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR)
<b>Lucio Morales Abad</b> , <i>Division General</i>	Chief of the Western Army
<b>Onelio Aguilera Bermudez</b> , <i>Division General</i>	Chief of the Eastern Army
<b>Raul Rodriguez Lobaina</b> , <i>Division General</i>	Chief of the Central Army
<b>Pedro Perez Betancourt</b> , <i>Vice Admiral</i>	Chief of the Revolutionary Navy
<b>Pedro J. Mendiando Gomez</b> , <i>Division General</i>	Chief of the Anti-Aircraft Defense and Revolutionary Air Force
<b>Ramon Pardo Guerra</b> , <i>Division General</i>	Chief of Staff of National Civil Defense
<b>Abelardo Colome Ibarra</b> , <i>Corps General</i>	Interior Minister (Intelligence and Security Forces)

<sup>h</sup> For more information about changes in military leadership over the past year, see the 11 February OSC Report, **Cuban Military Leadership Undergoes Changes Over Past Year** (LAP20090211467001).

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<sup>1</sup> [Open Source (Not OSC) | 12 July 1992 | Constitution of the Republic of Cuba (Proclaimed 24 February 1976, amended 10-12 July 1992) | (U) | <http://www.cuba.cu/gobierno/cuba.htm>]

<sup>2</sup> [Open Source (Not OSC) | Website of the Government of the Republic of Cuba | November 2008 | "The Council of Ministers" | (U) | Official website of the Cuban Government in Spanish; Internet: [http://www.cubagob.cu/gobierno/con\\_min.htm](http://www.cubagob.cu/gobierno/con_min.htm)]

<sup>3</sup> [OSC | LAP20080225380004 | 25 February 2008 | Cuba: Granma Publishes Tally of Council of State Votes | (U) | Havana Granma (Internet Version-WWW) in Spanish -- Official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. Internet: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>4</sup> [OSC | LAP20080422380001 | 22 April 2008 | Cuba: Luis Ignacio Gomez Relieved of Education Minister Post | (U) | Havana Radio Rebelde in Spanish -- Leading government radio station; Cuba's preeminent domestic radio network]

<sup>5</sup> [OSC | LAP20081014361003 | 14 October 2008 | Cuba: Ricardo Cabrisas Appointed to Council of Ministers Vice Presidency | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>6</sup> [OSC | LAP20081113361002 | 13 November 2008 | CUBA: FOREIGN INVESTMENT MINISTER LOMAS DISMISSED, REPLACED BY RODRIGO MALMIERCA | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>7</sup> [OSC | LAP20081126361002 | 26 November 2008 | Cuba: Official Note Reports Sugar, Agriculture Ministers Appointment | (U) | Havana Cubavision Internacional WWW-Text in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station. Internet: <http://www.cubavision-tv.cu/>]

<sup>8</sup> [OSC | LAP20081126361002 | 26 November 2008 | Cuba: Official Note Reports Sugar, Agriculture Ministers Appointment | (U) | Havana Cubavision Internacional WWW-Text in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station. Internet: <http://www.cubavision-tv.cu/>]

<sup>9</sup> [OSC | LAP20090220361002 | 20 February 2009 | CUBA: POLITBURO MEMBERS VALDEZ, ROSALES, SIERRA PROMOTED TO VICE PRESIDENT RANK | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>10</sup> [OSC | LAP20090302361001 | 2 March 2009 | CUBAN STATE COUNCIL ANNOUNCES MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS, DISMISSALS, RESTRUCTURINGS | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>11</sup> [OSC | LAP20090305391004 | 5 March 2009 | Cuba: Granma Carries Resignation Letter Tendered by Carlos Lage Davila | (U) | Havana Granma Online in Spanish -- Website of the official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba; URL: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>12</sup> [OSC | LAP20090305391003 | 5 March 2009 | Cuba: Granma Carries Resignation Letter Tendered by Felipe Perez Roque | (U) | Havana Granma Online in Spanish -- Website of the official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba; URL: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>13</sup> [OSC | LAP20090325380002 | 6 March 2009 | Cuba: Pedro Miret, Osmany Cienfuegos Removed From Council of Ministers | (U) | Havana Gaceta Oficial Online in Spanish -- Online version of the Cuban Official Gazette; maintained by the Ministry of Justice; URL: <http://www.gacetaoficial.cu/>]

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<sup>14</sup> [OSC | LAP20090326499007 | 25 March 2009 | Cuba: Fidel Castro Says Miret, Cienfuegos Released For Health Issues | (U) | Havana Juventud Rebelde.cu in Spanish -- Website of daily published by the Union of Young Communists, UJC; URL: <http://www.juventudrebelde.cu/>]

<sup>15</sup> [OSC | LAP20081016001003 | 15 October 2008 | Cuba: Dismissal of Former Fidel Castro's Secretary Valenciaga Rumored | (U) | Coral Gables CubaNet News in Spanish -- Miami-based, US-funded news organization that posts reports provided clandestinely by independent journalists in Cuba--URL: <http://www.cubanet.org>]

<sup>16</sup> [OSC | LAP20081227001003 | 23 December 2008 | Cuba: Carlos Valenciaga Reportedly Working at National Library | (U) | Coral Gables CubaNet News in Spanish -- Miami-based, US-funded news organization that posts reports provided clandestinely by independent journalists in Cuba--URL: <http://www.cubanet.org>]

<sup>17</sup> [Open Source (Not OSC) | Accessed 1 April 2009 | Asamblea Nacional del Poder Popular: Miembros del Consejo de Estado | (U) | Official website of the National Assembly of the People's Government. Internet: <http://www.asanac.gov.cu/>]

<sup>18</sup> [Open Source (Not OSC) | Accessed 1 April 2009 | Asamblea Nacional del Poder Popular: Miembros del Consejo de Estado | (U) | Official website of the National Assembly of the People's Government. Internet: <http://www.asanac.gov.cu/>]

<sup>19</sup> [OSC | LAP20090302361001 | 2 March 2009 | CUBAN STATE COUNCIL ANNOUNCES MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS, DISMISSALS, RESTRUCTURINGS | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>20</sup> [Open Source (Not OSC) | Website of the Government of the Republic of Cuba | November 2008 | "Members of the Council of Ministers" | (U) | Official website of the Cuban Government in Spanish; Internet: [http://www.cubagob.cu/gobierno/cur\\_min.htm](http://www.cubagob.cu/gobierno/cur_min.htm)]

<sup>21</sup> [OSC | LAP20090302361001 | 2 March 2009 | CUBAN STATE COUNCIL ANNOUNCES MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS, DISMISSALS, RESTRUCTURINGS | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>22</sup> [OSC | LAP20080225380004 | 25 February 2008 | Cuba: Granma Publishes Tally of Council of State Votes | (U) | Havana Granma (Internet Version-WWW) in Spanish -- Official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. Internet: <http://www.gramma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>23</sup> [OSC | LAP20080225499001 | 24 February 2008 | FYI -- Cubavision Carries Highlights of National Assembly Proceedings | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>24</sup> [OSC | LAP20081014361003 | 14 October 2008 | Cuba: Ricardo Cabrisas Appointed to Council of Ministers Vice Presidency | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>25</sup> [Open Source (Not OSC) | Short biography of Jose Ramon Fernandez Alvarez | (U) | Havana Granma (Internet Version-WWW) in Spanish -- Official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. Internet: <http://www.gramma.cubaweb.cu/secciones/raul/fernandez.html>]

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<sup>26</sup> [OSC | LAP20090302361001 | 2 March 2009 | CUBAN STATE COUNCIL ANNOUNCES MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS, DISMISSALS, RESTRUCTURINGS | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>27</sup> [OSC | LAP20090220361002 | 20 February 2009 | CUBA: POLITBURO MEMBERS VALDEZ, ROSALES, SIERRA PROMOTED TO VICE PRESIDENT RANK | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>28</sup> [OSC | LAP20090220361002 | 20 February 2009 | CUBA: POLITBURO MEMBERS VALDEZ, ROSALES, SIERRA PROMOTED TO VICE PRESIDENT RANK | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>29</sup> [OSC | LAP20090220361002 | 20 February 2009 | CUBA: POLITBURO MEMBERS VALDEZ, ROSALES, SIERRA PROMOTED TO VICE PRESIDENT RANK | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>30</sup> [OSC | LAP20090302361001 | 2 March 2009 | CUBAN STATE COUNCIL ANNOUNCES MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS, DISMISSALS, RESTRUCTURINGS | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>31</sup> [OSC | LAP20081126361002 | 26 November 2008 | Cuba: Official Note Reports Sugar, Agriculture Ministers Appointment | (U) | Havana Cubavision Internacional WWW-Text in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station. Internet: <http://www.cubavision-tv.cu/>]

<sup>32</sup> [OSC | LAP20060524366001 | 24 May 2006 | Cuba: Politburo Replaces Auditing and Control Minister Lina Pedraza | (U) | Havana Radio Rebelde in Spanish -- Leading government radio station; Cuba's preeminent domestic radio network]

<sup>33</sup> [OSC | LAP20041014000038 | 14 October 2004 | Cuba: Portal Leon Dismissed as Basic Industry Minister | (U) | Havana Granma (Internet Version-WWW) in Spanish -- Official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. Internet: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>34</sup> [OSC | LAP20060831366001 | 31 August 2006 | Cuba: Information Science Minister Replaced by Military Leader | (U) | Havana Granma Internacional (Internet Version-WWW) in Spanish -- Weekly publication with daily updates written primarily for the overseas audience; carries advertisements for Cuban products and services; focuses on major political events in Cuba, overseas demonstrations of opposition to the US trade embargo and support for the Castro regime]

<sup>35</sup> [OSC | LAP20021209000091 | 9 December 2002 | State Council Dismisses Construction Minister Junco, Appoints Figueroa | (U) | Havana Radio Rebelde in Spanish -- Leading government radio station; Cuba's preeminent domestic radio network]

<sup>36</sup> [OSC | FTS19970211000800 | 11 February 1997 | Council of State Replaces Culture Minister Armando Hart | (U) | Havana Radio Rebelde in Spanish -- Leading government radio station; Cuba's preeminent domestic radio network]

<sup>37</sup> [OSC | LAP20090302361001 | 2 March 2009 | CUBAN STATE COUNCIL ANNOUNCES MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS, DISMISSALS, RESTRUCTURINGS | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

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<sup>38</sup> [OSC | LAP20090302361001 | 2 March 2009 | CUBAN STATE COUNCIL ANNOUNCES MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS, DISMISSALS, RESTRUCTURINGS | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>39</sup> [OSC | LAP20080422380001 | 22 April 2008 | Cuba: Luis Ignacio Gomez Relieved of Education Minister Post | (U) | Havana Radio Rebelde in Spanish -- Leading government radio station; Cuba's preeminent domestic radio network]

<sup>40</sup> [OSC | LAP20090302361001 | 2 March 2009 | CUBAN STATE COUNCIL ANNOUNCES MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS, DISMISSALS, RESTRUCTURINGS | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>41</sup> [OSC | LAP20090302361001 | 2 March 2009 | CUBAN STATE COUNCIL ANNOUNCES MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS, DISMISSALS, RESTRUCTURINGS | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>42</sup> [OSC | LAP20090302361001 | 2 March 2009 | CUBAN STATE COUNCIL ANNOUNCES MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS, DISMISSALS, RESTRUCTURINGS | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>43</sup> [OSC | LAP20081113361002 | 13 November 2008 | CUBA: FOREIGN INVESTMENT MINISTER LOMAS DISMISSED, REPLACED BY RODRIGO MALMIERCA | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>44</sup> [OSC | LAP20060612380001 | 12 June 2006 | Cuba: Higher Education Minister 'Relieved' of Duties by Council of State | (U) | Havana Granma (Internet Version-WWW) in Spanish -- Official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. Internet: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>45</sup> [Open Source (Not OSC) | 2008 | "Council of State of the Republic of Cuba: Abelardo Colome Ibarra Biography" | (U) | Havana Prensa Latina in Spanish -- Government news agency; broadly covers Cuban events daily; <http://www.prensa-latina.cu/Media/ConsejoEstado/BiografiaAbelardoColome.html>]

<sup>46</sup> [OSC | LAP20070324382001 | 24 March 2007 | FYI - Council of State Replaces Justice Minister, Water Resources Chief | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>47</sup> [OSC | LAP20090302361001 | 2 March 2009 | CUBAN STATE COUNCIL ANNOUNCES MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS, DISMISSALS, RESTRUCTURINGS | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>48</sup> [OSC | LAP20060527366001 | 27 May 2006 | Cuba Appoints New Basic Industry Minister | (U) | Havana Granma (Internet Version-WWW) in Spanish -- Official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. Internet: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>49</sup> [OSC | LAP20040527000028 | 27 May 2004 | Cuba: Politburo Member Balaguer Named Public Health Minister | (U) | Havana Granma (Internet Version-WWW) in Spanish -- Official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. Internet: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>50</sup> [OSC | LAP20080225499001 | 24 February 2008 | FYI -- Cubavision Carries Highlights of National Assembly Proceedings | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

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<sup>51</sup> [OSC | LAP20090302361001 | 2 March 2009 | CUBAN STATE COUNCIL ANNOUNCES MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS, DISMISSALS, RESTRUCTURINGS | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>52</sup> [OSC | LAP20090302361001 | 2 March 2009 | CUBAN STATE COUNCIL ANNOUNCES MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS, DISMISSALS, RESTRUCTURINGS | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>53</sup> [OSC | LAP20081126361002 | 26 November 2008 | Cuba: Official Note Reports Sugar, Agriculture Ministers Appointment | (U) | Havana Cubavision Internacional WWW-Text in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station. Internet: <http://www.cubavision-tv.cu/>]

<sup>54</sup> [OSC | LAP20040211000028 | 11 February 2004 | Cuba: Manel Marrero Replaces Ibrahim Ferradaz as Tourism Minister | (U) | Havana Granma (Internet Version-WWW) in Spanish -- Official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. Internet: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>55</sup> [OSC | LAP20061020380001 | 20 October 2006 | Cuba: Jorge Luis Sierra Cruz Appointed Transportation Minister | (U) | Havana Granma (Internet Version-WWW) in Spanish -- Official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. Internet: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>56</sup> [OSC | FTS19970616001110 | 14 June 1997 | Decree-Law To Create Cuban Central Bank Issued | (U) | Havana Radio Rebelde in Spanish -- Leading government radio station; Cuba's preeminent domestic radio network]

<sup>57</sup> [Open Source (Not OSC) | 12 December 2008 | "RESOLUCION No. /08" | page 1 | (U) | Civil Aeronautics Institute of Cuba (IACC) website. Internet: <http://www.iacc.gov.cu/Documentos/reglamentos/RESOLUCION%20CNS%20ATM.pdf>]

<sup>58</sup> [OSC | FTS19990324001020 | 23 March 1999 | Council of State Appoints New ICRT President | (U) | Havana Granma (Internet Version-WWW) in Spanish -- Official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. Internet: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>59</sup> [OSC | LAP20051003366002 | 3 October 2005 | Program Summary: Havana Radio Rebelde 1000 GMT 3 Oct 05 | (U) | Havana Radio Rebelde in Spanish -- leading government radio station; Cuba's preeminent domestic radio network]

<sup>60</sup> [OSC | LAP20081113361002 | 13 November 2008 | CUBA: FOREIGN INVESTMENT MINISTER LOMAS DISMISSED, REPLACED BY RODRIGO MALMIERCA | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>61</sup> [OSC | LAP20090302361001 | 2 March 2009 | CUBAN STATE COUNCIL ANNOUNCES MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS, DISMISSALS, RESTRUCTURINGS | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>62</sup> [Open Source (Not OSC) | 12 July 1992 | Constitution of the Republic of Cuba (Proclaimed 24 February 1976, amended 10-12 July 1992) | (U) | <http://www.cuba.cu/gobierno/cuba.htm>]

<sup>63</sup> [Open Source (Not OSC) | Accessed 1 April 2009 | Communist Party of Cuba website. Internet: <http://www.pcc.cu/>]



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<sup>64</sup> [Open Source (Not OSC) | Accessed 1 April 2009 | Communist Party of Cuba website. Internet: <http://www.pcc.cu/>]

<sup>65</sup> [Open Source (Not OSC) | Accessed 1 April 2009 | Communist Party of Cuba. Statutes. | Communist Party of Cuba website. Internet: <http://www.pcc.cu/>]

<sup>66</sup> [OSC | FTS19971010001211 | 10 October 1997 | Raul Castro: New Central Committee Reduced to 150 Members | (U) | Havana Prensa Latina in Spanish -- Government news agency; broadly covers Cuban events daily; <http://www.prensa-latina.cu/>]

<sup>67</sup> [Open Source (Not OSC) | Accessed 1 April 2009 | Communist Party of Cuba. Statutes. | Communist Party of Cuba website. Internet: <http://www.pcc.cu/>]

<sup>68</sup> [OSC | LAP20060704380001 | 4 July 2006 | Cuba: Granma Publishes Brief Profiles of New Secretariat Members | (U) | Havana Granma (Internet Version-WWW) in Spanish -- Official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. Internet: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>69</sup> [OSC | LAP20060704382003 | 4 July 2006 | Cuba: New Members of Central Committee, Secretariat Appointed | (U) | Havana Granma (Internet Version-WWW) in English -- Official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. Internet: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>70</sup> [OSC | FTS19971010001498 | 11 October 1997 | Names of 24 PCC Politburo Members | (U) | Havana Prensa Latina in Spanish -- Government news agency; broadly covers Cuban events daily; <http://www.prensa-latina.cu/>]

<sup>71</sup> [OSC | LAP20050921061008 | 21 September 2005 | Cuban Agriculture Minister Alfredo Jordan Morales Dies at Age 55 | (U) | Panama City ACAN-EFE in Spanish -- Independent Central American press agency that is a joint concern of Panama City ACAN (Agencia Centroamericana de Noticias) and Madrid EFE]

<sup>72</sup> [OSC | LAP20060428380002 | 28 April 2006 | Cuba: Politburo Member Dismissed; Central Committee Secretariat Reestablished | (U) | Havana Granma (Internet Version-WWW) in Spanish -- Official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. Internet: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>73</sup> [OSC | LAP20060704382003 | 4 July 2006 | Cuba: New Members of Central Committee, Secretariat Appointed | (U) | Havana Granma (Internet Version-WWW) in English -- Official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. Internet: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>74</sup> [OSC | LAP20020731000057 | 31 July 2002 | Cuba: Former Foreign Minister Robaina Expelled From Cuban Communist Party | (U) | Paris AFP in Spanish -- Latin American service of the independent French press agency Agence France Presse]

<sup>75</sup> [OSC | LAP20030716000023 | 16 July 2003 | Cuba's Castro Attends PCC Special Session, Diaz-Canel Promoted to Politburo -- Photo | (U) | Havana Granma (Internet Version-WWW) in Spanish -- Official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. Internet: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>76</sup> [OSC | LAP20080429380001 | 29 April 2008 | FYI -- Raul Castro Announces Sixth Party Congress, Central Committee Decisions | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>77</sup> [OSC | LAP20080429380002 | 29 April 2008 | Cuba: Text of Cubavision Report on Central Committee Meeting | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

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<sup>78</sup> [OSC | LAP20080504391001 | 3 May 2008 | Cuba: Cienfuegos Party Secretary Promoted to Central Committee Secretariat | (U) | Havana Juventud Rebelde (Internet Version-WWW) in Spanish -- Published by the Union of Young Communists, UJC; <http://www.jrebelde.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>79</sup> [OSC | LAP20060704382003 | 4 July 2006 | Cuba: New Members of Central Committee, Secretariat Appointed | (U) | Havana Granma (Internet Version-WWW) in English -- Official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. Internet: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>80</sup> [OSC | LAP20090305391004 | 5 March 2009 | Cuba: Granma Carries Resignation Letter Tendered by Carlos Lage Davila | (U) | Havana Granma Online in Spanish -- Website of the official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba; URL: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>81</sup> [OSC | LAP20090302361001 | 2 March 2009 | CUBAN STATE COUNCIL ANNOUNCES MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS, DISMISSALS, RESTRUCTURINGS | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station]

<sup>82</sup> [OSC | LAP20090409499004 | 9 April 2009 | Cuba: New Provincial Party Leaders Appointed in Eastern Provinces | (U) | Havana Granma Online in Spanish -- Website of the official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba; URL: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>83</sup> [Open Source (Not OSC) | 28 April 2008 | Buro Politico del Partido Comunista de Cuba Electo en el V. Congreso (Efectuado en octubre de 1997) y Ampliado en el VI Pleno del Comité Central del Partido (abril 28 del 2008) | (U) | Communist Party of Cuba website. Internet: <http://www.pcc.cu/>]

<sup>84</sup> [OSC | LAP20090409499004 | 9 April 2009 | Cuba: New Provincial Party Leaders Appointed in Eastern Provinces | (U) | Havana Granma Online in Spanish -- Website of the official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba; URL: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>85</sup> [Open Source (Not OSC) | Integrantes de Secretariado del Comité Central | (U) | Communist Party of Cuba website. Internet: <http://www.pcc.cu/>]

<sup>86</sup> [OSC | LAP20090409499004 | 9 April 2009 | Cuba: New Provincial Party Leaders Appointed in Eastern Provinces | (U) | Havana Granma Online in Spanish -- Website of the official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba; URL: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>87</sup> [OSC | LAP20080524380002 | 24 May 2008 | FYI -- General Joaquin Quintas Appointed Cuban Armed Forces Vice Minister | (U) | Havana Cubavision in Spanish -- Government owned, government-controlled television station] Average Product Rating]

<sup>88</sup> [OSC | LAP20081004361003 | 4 October 2008 | Cuba: Army Corps General Leopoldo Cintra Frias Appointed FAR First Vice Minister | (U) | Havana Granma (Internet Version-WWW) in Spanish -- Official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. Internet: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]

<sup>89</sup> [OSC | LAP20090107361001 | 7 January 2009 | Cuba: Corps General Ramon Espinosa Appointed Vice FAR Minister, Bestowed Award | (U) | Havana Granma (Internet Version-WWW) in Spanish -- Official daily of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. Internet: <http://www.granma.cubaweb.cu/>]