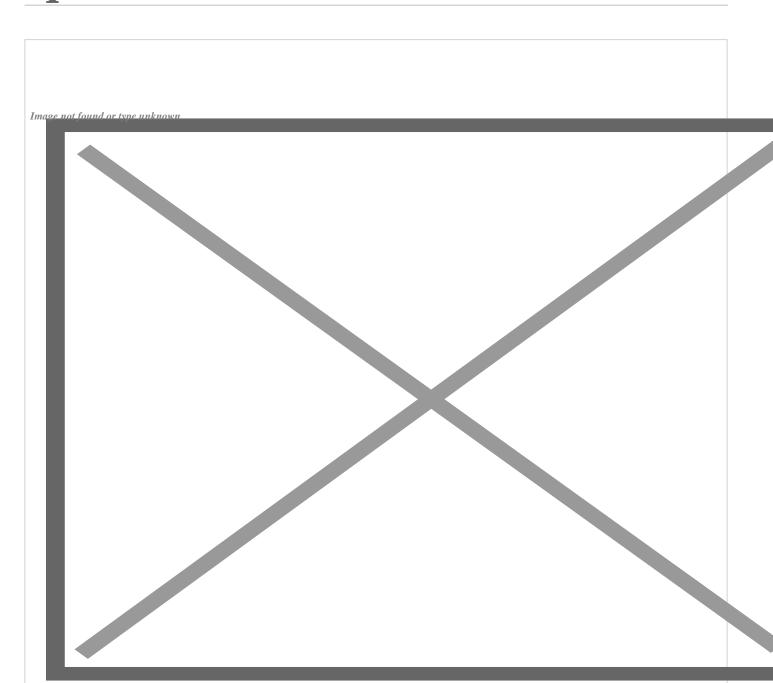
Cuban Vice President Salvador Valdés Mesa addresses rally at July 26th celebrations in Sancti Spiritus



Sancti Spiritus, July 26 (RHC)-- The Plaza de la Revolución Mayor General Serafín Sánchez Valdivia was the setting for the commemoration of the 71st anniversary of the assault on the Moncada and Carlos Manuel de Céspedes barracks and a place where the Hero of the Three Wars of Independence of the 19th century is honored.

Salvador Valdés Mesa, member of the Political Bureau of the Party and Cuban Vice President, who was in charge of the central speeches, underlined the consequences of the intensified economic, commercial and financial blockade of the United States government against Cuba.

He praised the economic and social results of the people of Sancti Spiritus, and said that "like all our people, they have known how to be, once again, at the height of their glorious history, which treasures an admirable legacy of tradition of struggle from the colonial period to the present."

Later, the Cuban vice president specified that "Sancti Spíritus has a prominent place in the war of liberation and in the dedication of its children to the Homeland and to the construction of the new society, anticipated by Fidel in the Moncada program."

Deivy Pérez, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and first secretary in the province, highlighted the effort of the people and pointed out that Sancti Spíritus is the land of mambises who will follow the March, as Serafín, who was mortally wounded, said.

"Today we come here to evoke the bravery of our ancestors and to reaffirm in the present the commitment to the principles that have guided our heroes and martyrs, like those brave young people who took history by storm," he pointed out.

He also recalled the three valuable sons of this land who participated in the feat of July 26, 1953, where Reemberto Abad Alemán lost his life, while Antonio Darío López and Ricardo Santana survived the action.

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