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Cuba: Pinar del Río Held Main Celebration for the National Rebellion Day

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With the presence of Army General Raul Castro Ruz, First Secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba (PCC) and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, it was held in the western city of Pinar del Río, the main event for the 64th anniversary of the attacks on the Moncada and Carlos Manuel de Céspedes barracks.

In the provisional Revolution Square, a representation of the new generation of Pinar del Rio citizens, it was made the review of the fallen in the historical attack of 26 of July of 1953.

The first few minutes were dedicated to remembering the undefeated Commander in Chief Fidel Castro (1926-2016) with the projection of some images of him that make him vital in the various occasions he visited the territory, giving instructions and dealing with all sectors of the population in which he sowed his example and consecration.

The young people addressing the audience highlighted the legacy of the historic leader of the Revolution and pledged to keep the flags of Socialism high, while emphasizing: "We will defend the sovereignty of the country, under any

circumstances."

The First Secretary of the Communist Party in Pinar del Río, Gladys Martínez Verdecia expressed the efforts of her compatriots to continue the work that Fidel forged and promoted in order to give Cubans a worthy life, as promised in his plea *La historia me absolverá* (History will Absolve me).

José Ramón Machado Ventura, second secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and Vice-President of the Councils of State and Ministers addressed the people of Pinar del Río.

He referred to the difficult battle we fight for the national economy and spoke commendably of the daily work of this land's children in which many patriots stood out in the emancipatory struggles against Spanish colonialism in the nineteenth century.

He ratified our people's unyielding position in the face of the foolishness of the enemies of the Revolution and the struggle to put an end to the economic, commercial and financial blockade that the United States has imposed on us for more than 55 years.

Machado Ventura also showed his support for the Bolivarian Revolution and the constitutional president of Venezuela, Nicolás Maduro, in the face of violent and destabilizing actions by the opposition in the sister nation of South America.

Such a memorable event was attended by thousands of people of Pinar de Río, together with the main leaders of the country and national and foreign guests, Moncada combatants, Granma yacht expeditionists, participants in the clandestine struggle and the people.

Avenues, plazas, parks, state entities and homes of the former Cuba's Cinderella are adorned with the national flag, the flag of July 26, and other multicolored objects.

Pinar del Río shows remarkable advances in agriculture, education, public health, and mining, which place it among the country's most prominent territories.

For these achievements, Miguel Díaz-Canel, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Cuba, first vice-president of the Councils of State and Ministers, congratulated Pinar del Río residents during his visit to the territory.

This is the third time that Pinar del Río becomes the venue of the main event for the anniversary of the attacks on the Moncada and Carlos Manuel de Céspedes barracks.

The provincial capital will celebrate in September the 150 years of having been

granted the title of city.

Translation: Ilia Charon

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