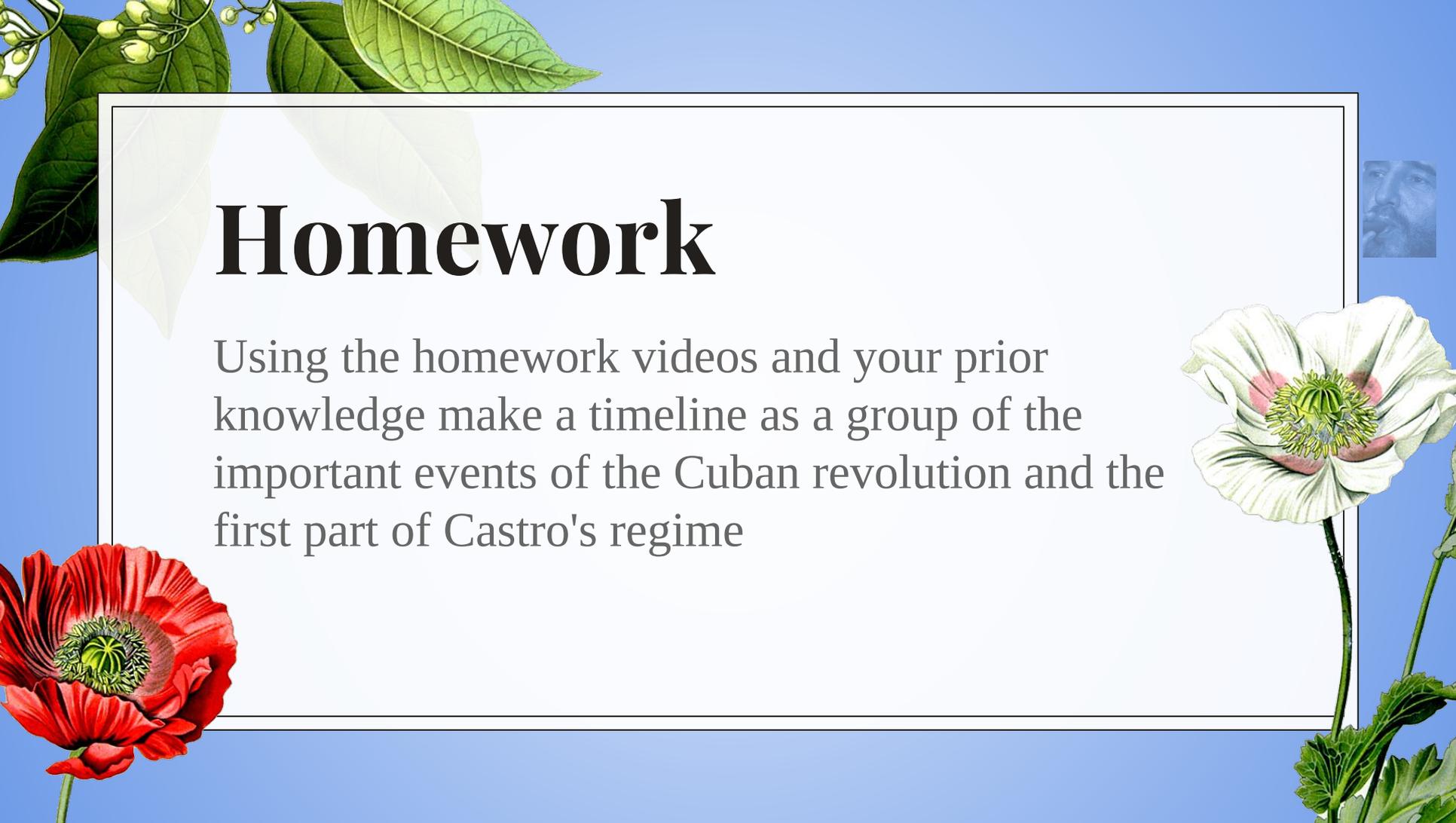


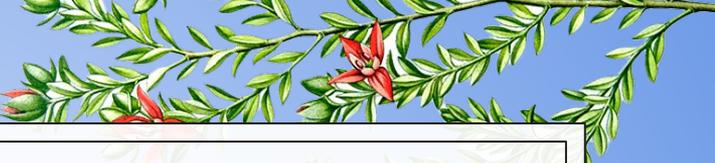
A detailed botanical illustration background featuring various plants and flowers. On the left, there is a large yellow hibiscus flower with a dark red center, a pink flower, and a yellow flower. On the right, there are white flowers and a yellow fruit with a portrait of Fidel Castro inside it. The background is a light blue color with green leaves and stems.

Fidel Castro (Group I)



Homework

Using the homework videos and your prior knowledge make a timeline as a group of the important events of the Cuban revolution and the first part of Castro's regime



Timeline of Fidel Castro

-
Born **August 19, 1926**

-
July 26, 1953 Castro leads failed uprising at Moncada Barracks against Fulgencio Batista

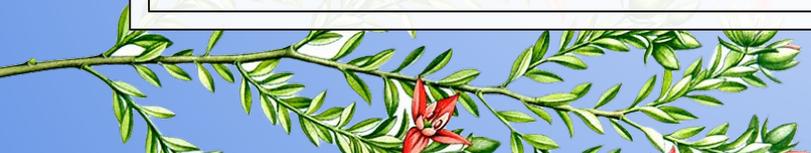
-
In May, 1955 after a year in prison, Castro is exiled to Mexico

-
December 2, 1956 Castro and 81 revolutionaries land the yacht “Granma” and begin a new revolution; initially a failure

-
January 1, 1959 Batista flees to the Dominican Republic

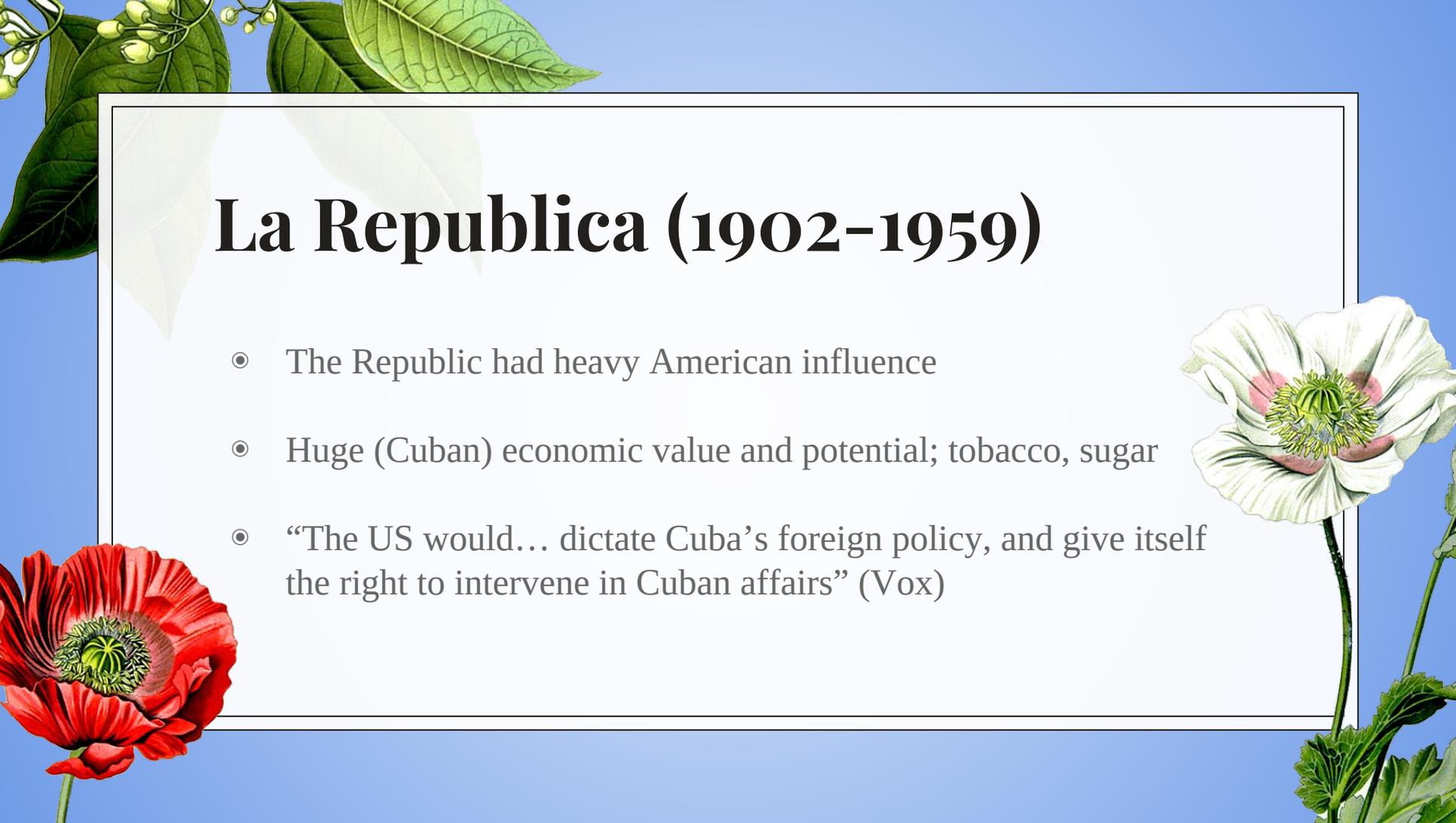
-
January 8, 1959 Castro enters Havana after revolutionary journey across Cuba

-
Feb 13, 1959 Castro named prime minister



A detailed botanical illustration background featuring various plants and flowers. In the top left, there are pink and purple flowers with green leaves. In the top right, there are white flowers with green leaves. In the bottom left, there is a large yellow flower with a dark center and green leaves. In the bottom right, there is a yellow lemon with green leaves and a small white flower. The background is a light blue color. A white rectangular box with a thin black border is centered in the image, containing the text.

Background (Pre-Revolution)



La Republica (1902–1959)

- ◉ The Republic had heavy American influence
- ◉ Huge (Cuban) economic value and potential; tobacco, sugar
- ◉ “The US would... dictate Cuba’s foreign policy, and give itself the right to intervene in Cuban affairs” (Vox)

A detailed botanical illustration background featuring various plants and flowers. In the top left, there are pink and purple flowers with green leaves. In the top right, there are white flowers with green leaves. In the bottom left, there is a large yellow flower with a dark red center and green leaves. In the bottom right, there is a yellow lemon with green leaves and a small white flower. The background is a solid light blue color.

Conditions for Revolution



Government

1902–1940:

Unitary presidential
republic

1940–1952:

Semi-presidential
republic

1952–1959: Military
dictatorship





**Fulgencio
Batista**





Batista Era (1952-1959)

- ◉ Fulgencio Batista; President of Cuba (1940-1944)
- ◉ Military coup in 1952, sore loser
- ◉ Recognized by the United States
 - ◎ Viewed as an American puppet

Hey, Not Everything is Horrible (Economy)

- ◉ Equal GDP per Capita to Italy (1950s)
- ◉ About 15-20% of the labor force was unemployed
- ◉ Top 8 average **industrial** salaries (1958)
- ◉ Only one-third of Cuban homes had running water
- ◉ European-level **agricultural** salaries
- ◉ Large wealth disparity



Economy- Continued

- ◉ Dependant on American tourism and cash crop exports
- ◉ 25% of the good land owned by Americans
- ◉ American interventionism (government and private) strongly influenced economic lawmaking.





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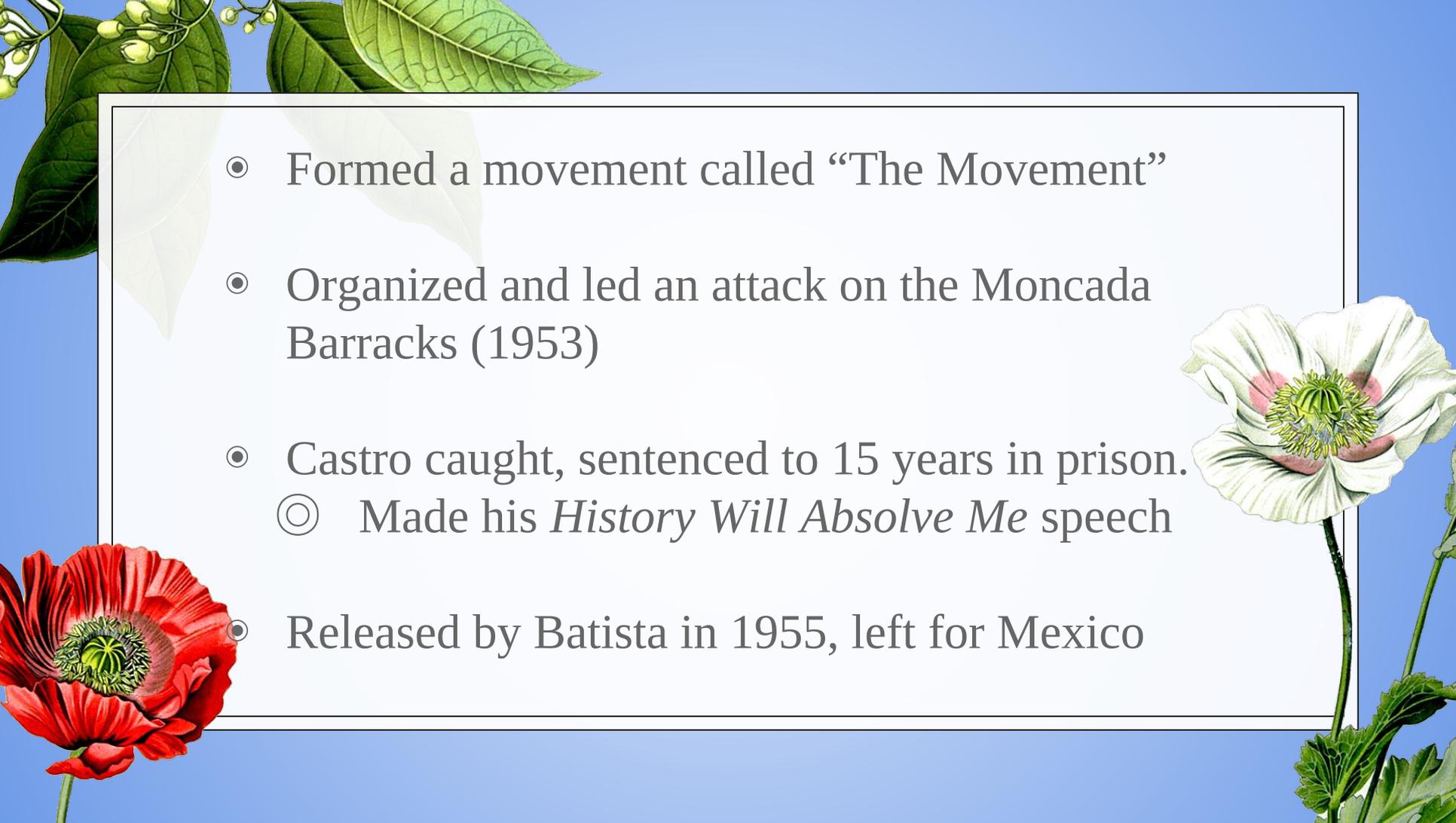




Castro (1926-2016)

- ◉ Son of a wealthy farmer. Studied law at the University of Havana
- ◉ Became greatly involved in Socialism, anti-imperialism, and Cuban nationalism
- ◉ Strongly opposed Batista



- 
- ◉ Formed a movement called “The Movement”
 - ◉ Organized and led an attack on the Moncada Barracks (1953)
 - ◉ Castro caught, sentenced to 15 years in prison.
 - ◎ Made his *History Will Absolve Me* speech
 - ◉ Released by Batista in 1955, left for Mexico



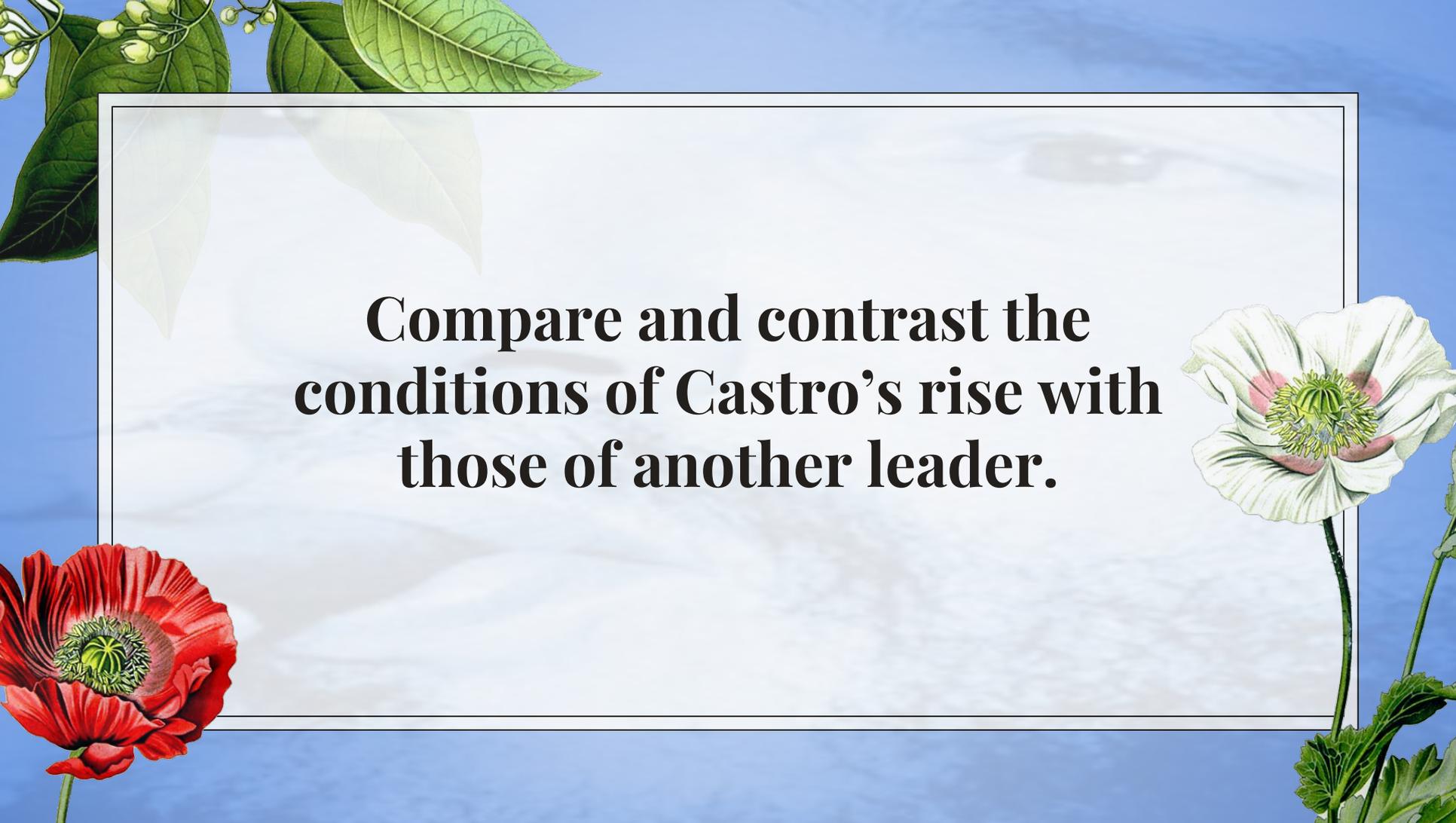
To be continued...



Crucial Elements

- ◉ The heavy hand of the US in Cuban affairs
- ◉ Rise of Batista (and support from the US)
- ◉ Economic disparity (despite wealth)
- ◉ Dictatorial governing by Batista

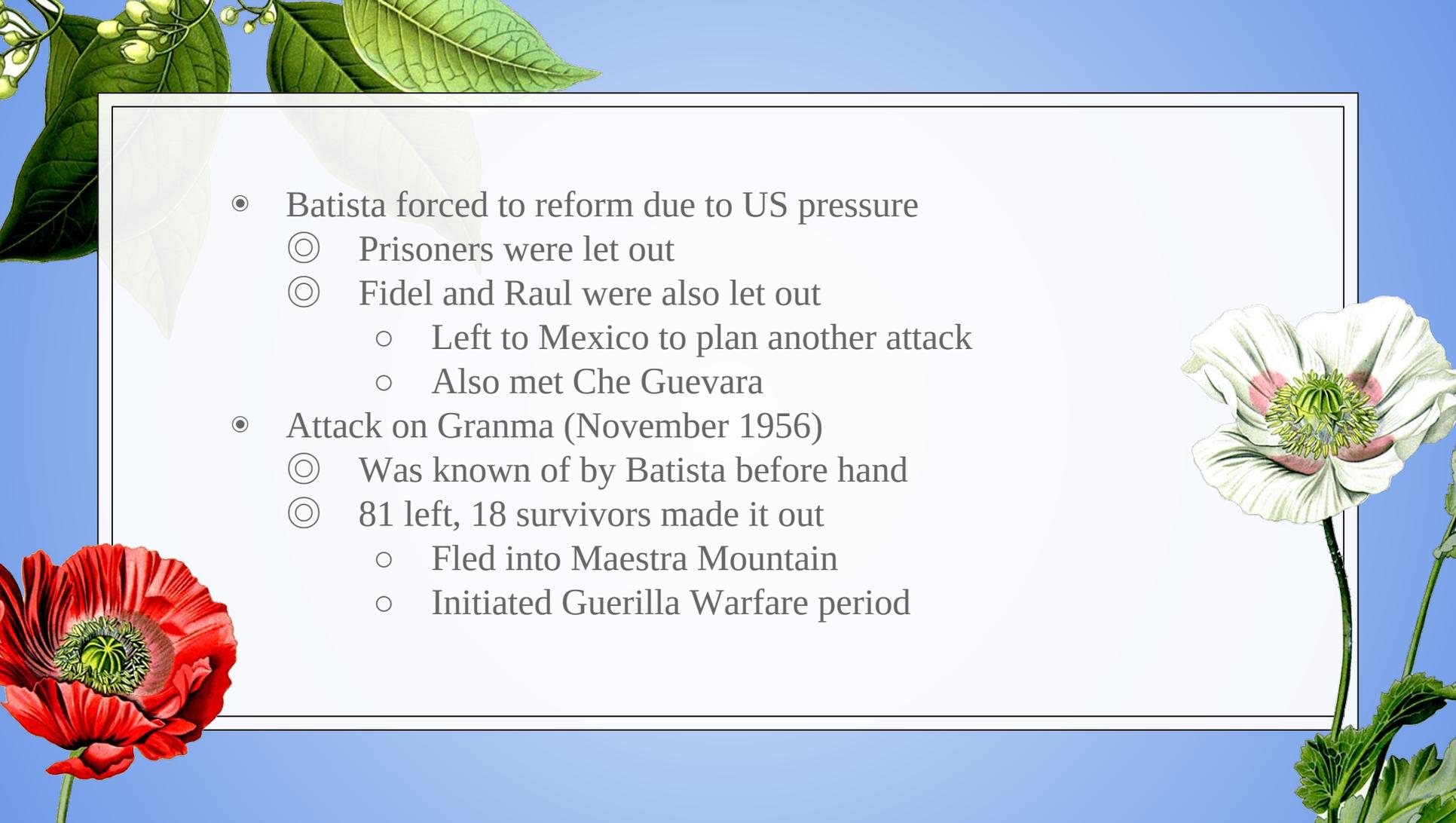




Compare and contrast the conditions of Castro's rise with those of another leader.

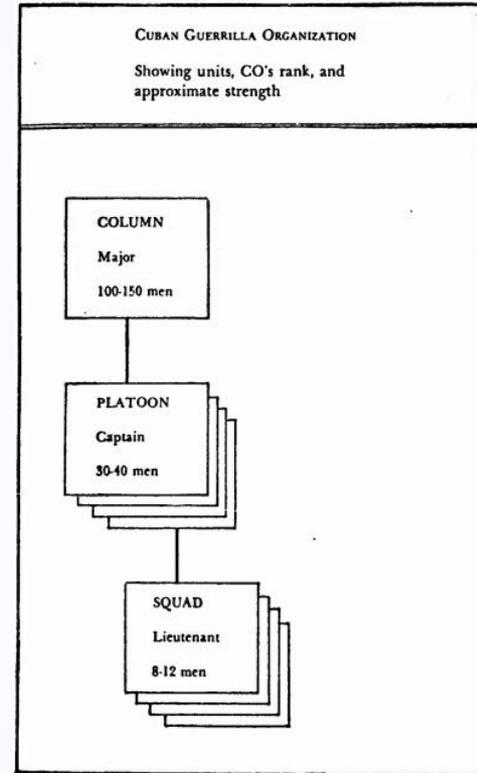
A detailed botanical illustration background featuring various plants and flowers. In the top left, there are pink and purple flowers with green leaves. In the top right, there are white flowers with green leaves. In the bottom left, there is a large yellow hibiscus flower. In the bottom right, there is a yellow lemon with a portrait of a man's face on it, and a white flower. The background is a solid blue color.

Cuban Revolution

- 
- Batista forced to reform due to US pressure
 - ◎ Prisoners were let out
 - ◎ Fidel and Raul were also let out
 - Left to Mexico to plan another attack
 - Also met Che Guevara
 - Attack on Granma (November 1956)
 - ◎ Was known of by Batista before hand
 - ◎ 81 left, 18 survivors made it out
 - Fled into Maestra Mountain
 - Initiated Guerilla Warfare period

Guerilla Warfare

- ◉ 3 stages
- ◉ Nomadic
 - ◎ 18 people from the remainder of the attacking force
 - ◎ Fought strategically through hiding
 - ◎ Were constantly on the move
 - No place of rest
 - Resulted in trying to find refuge
 - From the poor



- Semi-Nomadic

- ◎ El Uvero (2x)

- Ambush during the day
 - Nighttime

- ◎ Not as on the move

- ◎ “Base of operations”

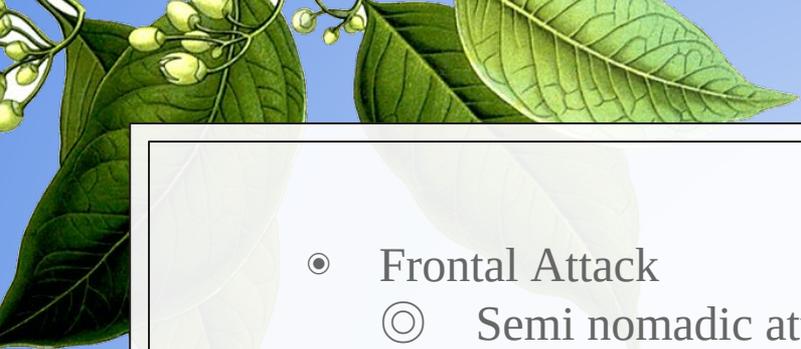
- hospital, industries

- ◎ “Big Brother” feel

- ◎ Minor attacks

- Military outposts
 - Military patrols





- Frontal Attack

- ◎ Semi nomadic attacks

- Large fighting force

- ◎ Transition to regular warfare

- ◎ Batista's clapback - Operation Verano

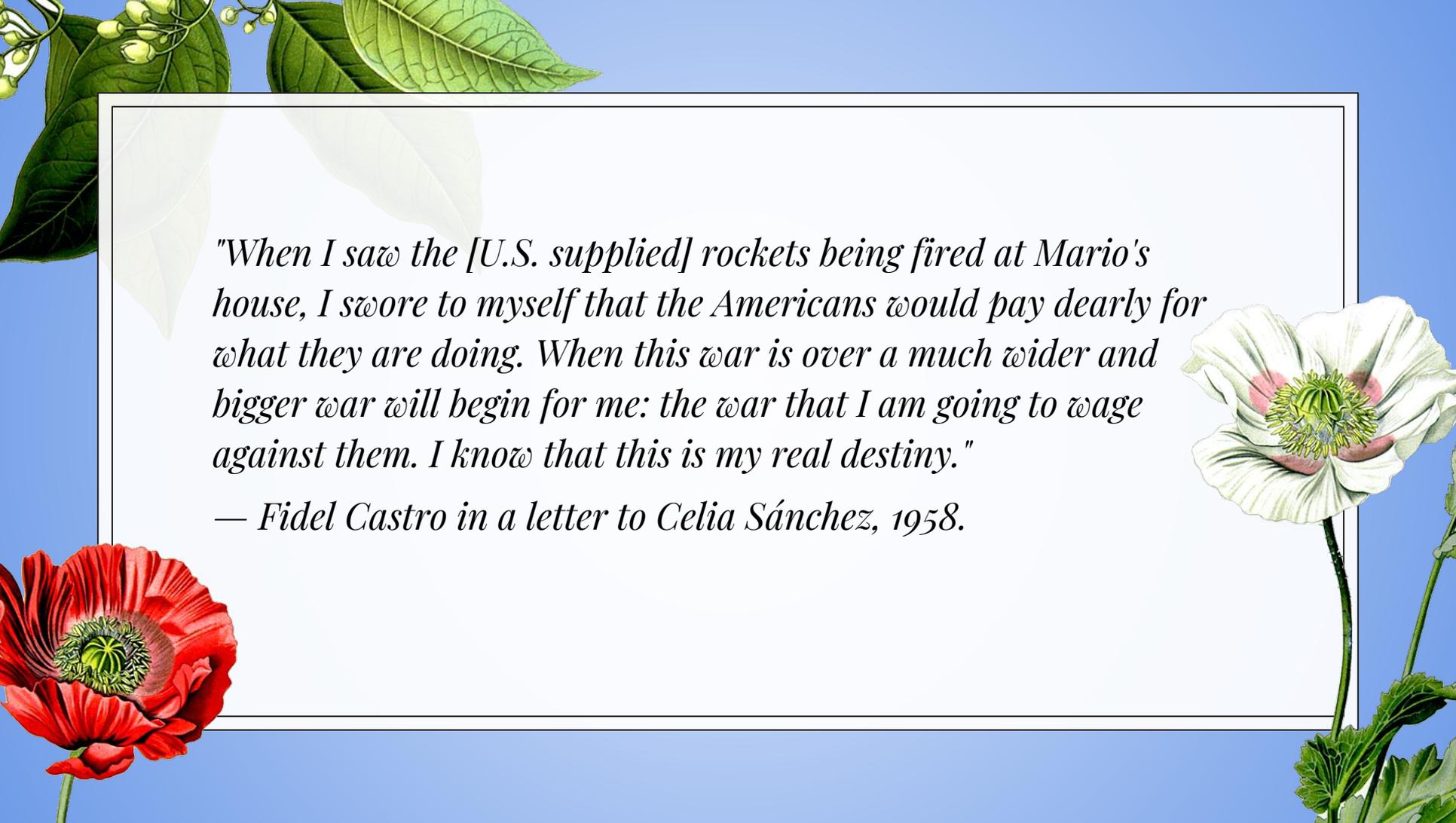
- Batista's full force attack against Castro
 - Bombed mountain area
 - Were not able to fight against guerrilla warfare

- ◎ Ceasefire was called - Castro was double crossed

- ◎ Batista fled the country

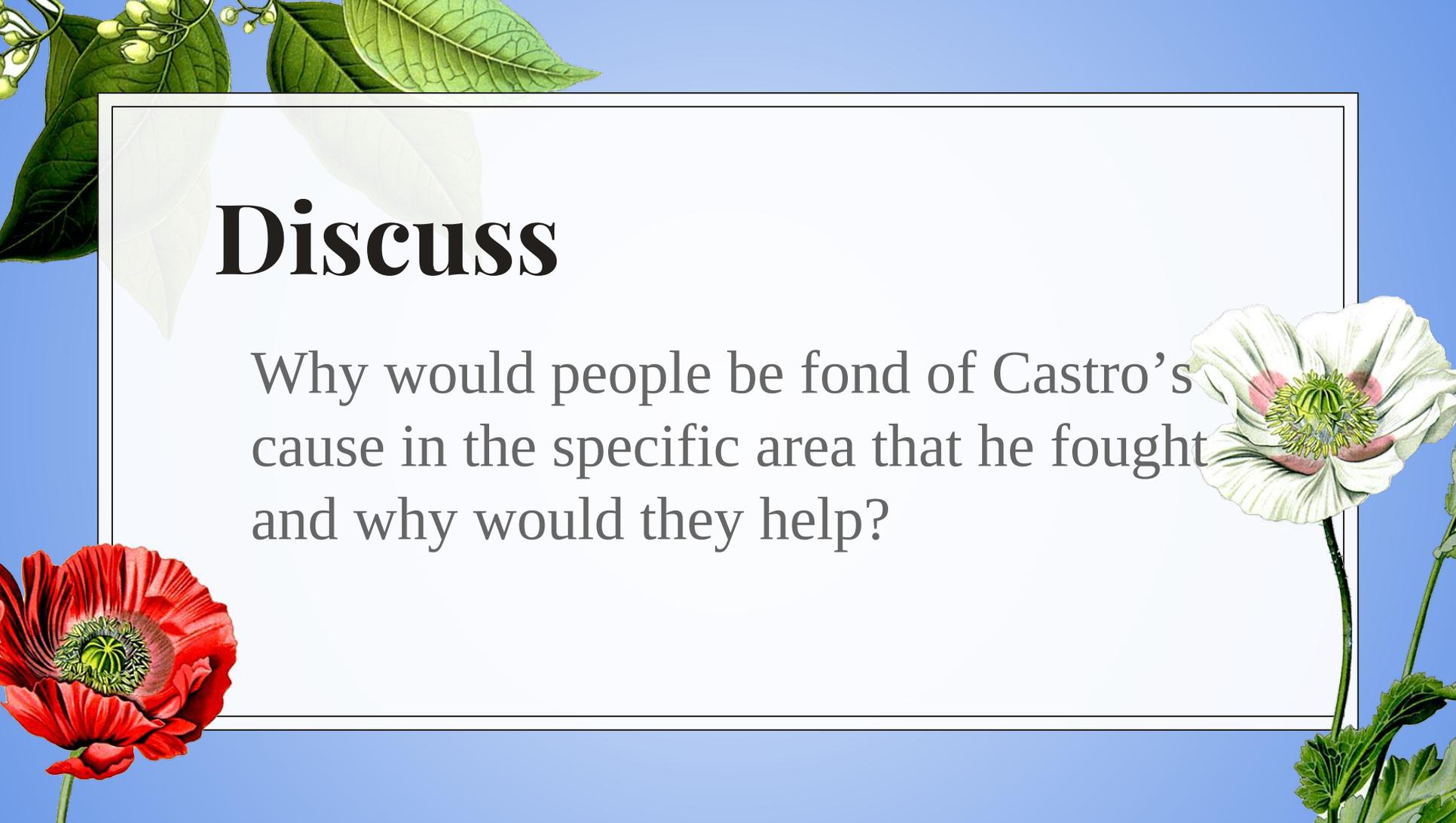
- ◎ Castro attacked military barracks and garrisons





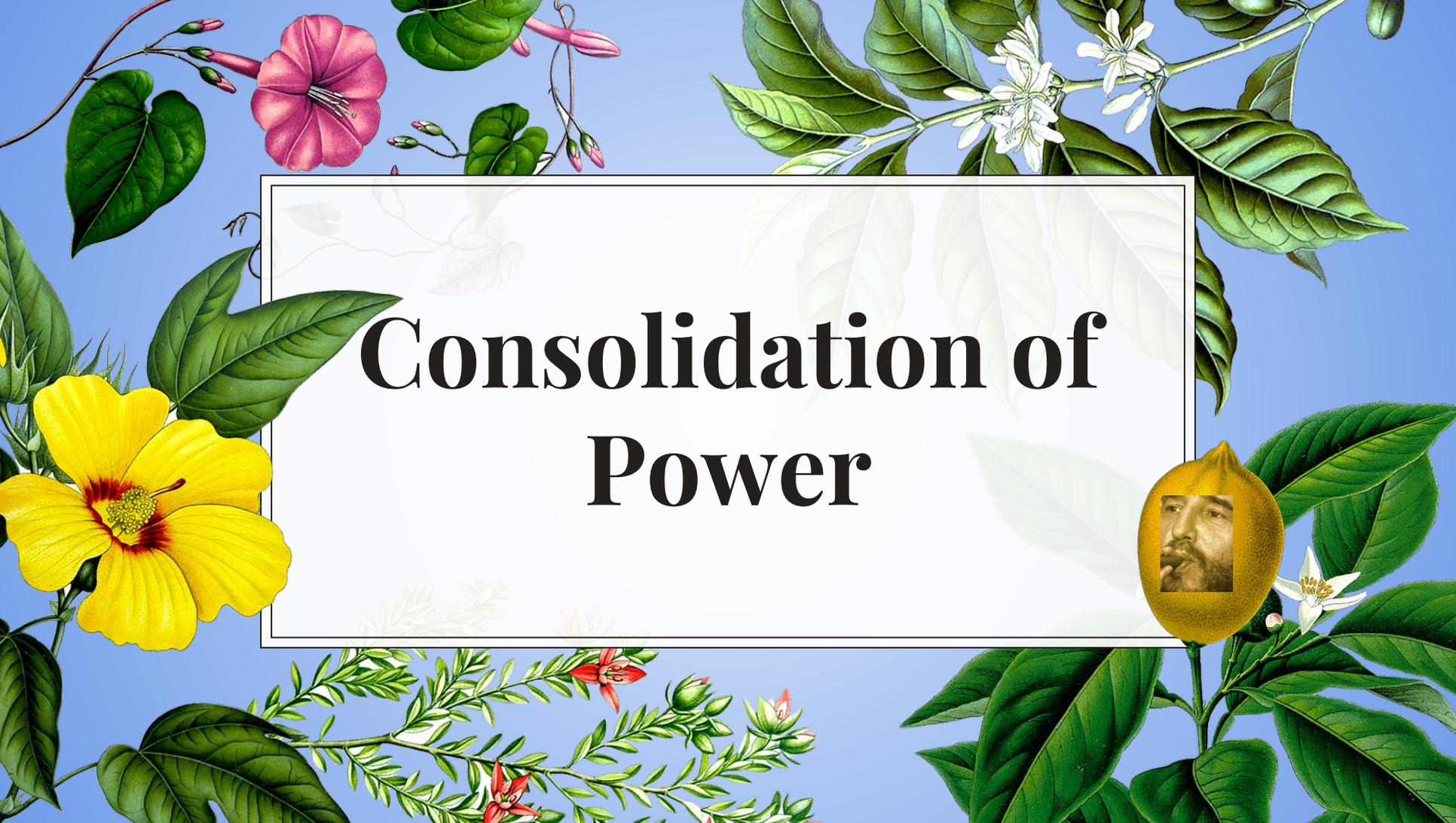
"When I saw the [U.S. supplied] rockets being fired at Mario's house, I swore to myself that the Americans would pay dearly for what they are doing. When this war is over a much wider and bigger war will begin for me: the war that I am going to wage against them. I know that this is my real destiny."

— Fidel Castro in a letter to Celia Sánchez, 1958.



Discuss

Why would people be fond of Castro's cause in the specific area that he fought and why would they help?

A detailed botanical illustration background featuring various plants and flowers. On the left, there is a large yellow hibiscus flower with a dark red center, a pink morning glory flower, and a yellow flower. On the right, there are white flowers and a yellow lemon. The background is a solid light blue color.

Consolidation of Power





In power from 1959-2008

Prime Minister:
1959-1976

President:
1976-2008

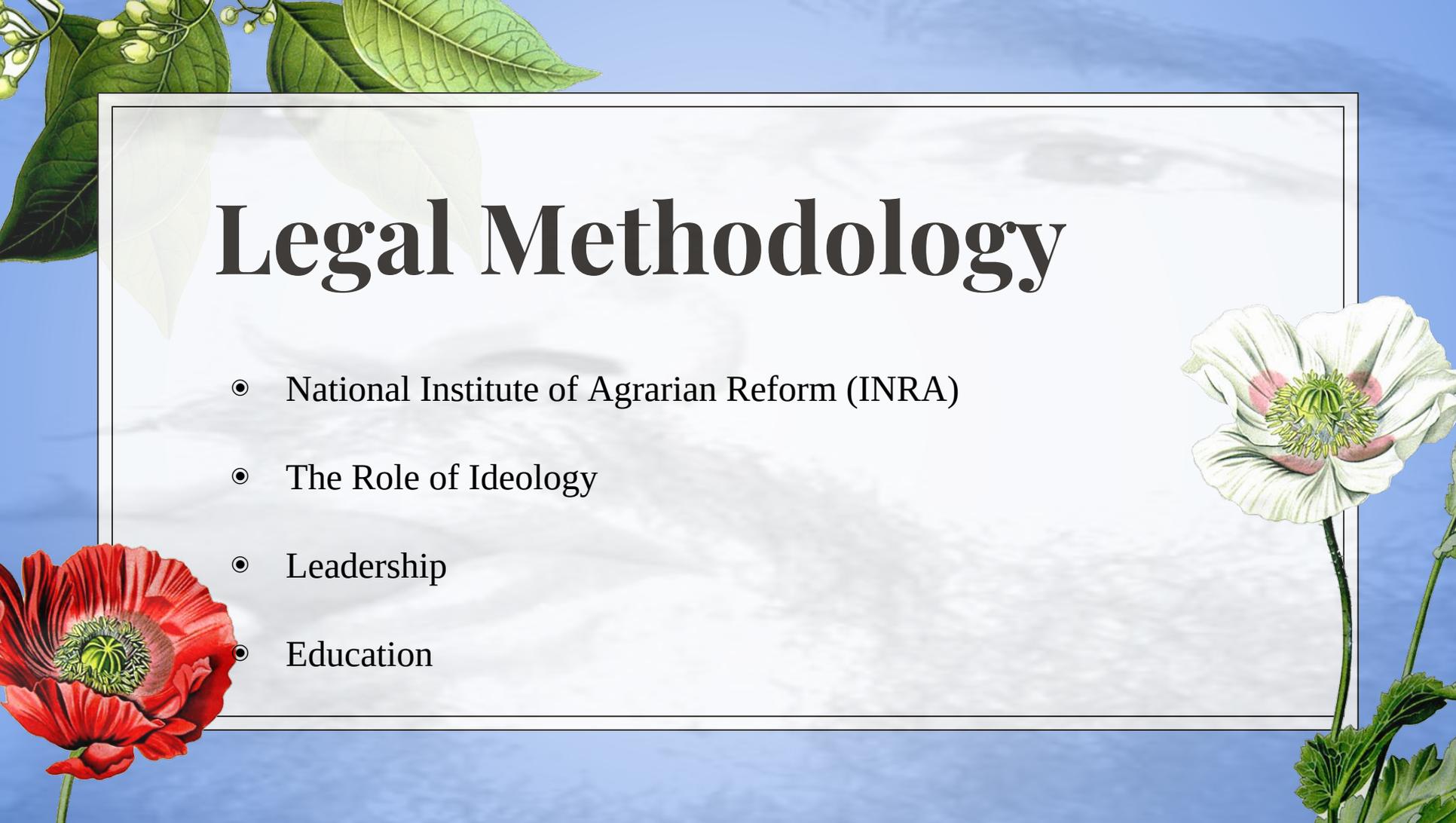


A detailed botanical illustration background featuring various plants and flowers. In the top left, there are green leaves and a small white flower. In the top right, there are pink flowers and green leaves. In the bottom left, there is a large red flower. In the bottom right, there are green leaves and small white flowers. The background is a solid light blue color.

"EITHER PRAISED AS A BRAVE
CHAMPION OF THE PEOPLE, OR
DERIDED AS A POWER-MAD
DICTATOR."

(THE DAILY TELEGRAPH)

”



Legal Methodology

- ◉ National Institute of Agrarian Reform (INRA)
- ◉ The Role of Ideology
- ◉ Leadership
- ◉ Education

Instituto Nacional De Reforma Agraria (INRA)

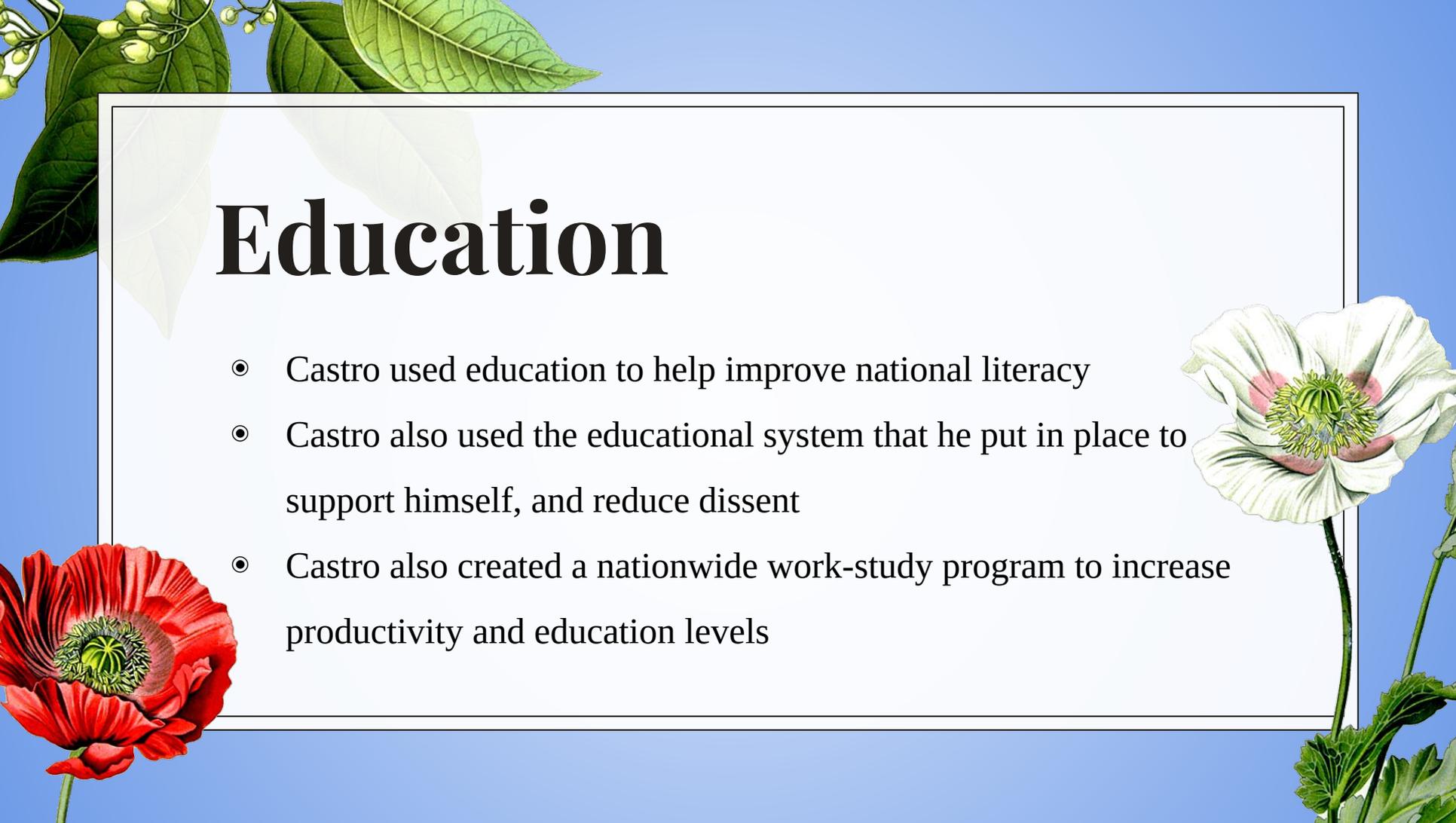
- Agrarian reform under Che Guevara
- Seized and distributed land
- Use of force; militia
- Popular with poor, alienated rich





The Role of Ideology + Leadership

- ◉ Communism vs. Socialism
- ◉ Influence of Marxism
 - ◎ Che: Governor of the Central Bank, Minister of Industries
- ◉ President Urrutia affair
 - ◎ Castro resignation - “fevered anti-Communism”
 - ◎ Popular support, charismatic leadership, Urrutia resigns



Education

- ◉ Castro used education to help improve national literacy
- ◉ Castro also used the educational system that he put in place to support himself, and reduce dissent
- ◉ Castro also created a nationwide work-study program to increase productivity and education levels



“TOTALITARIAN IN HIS
CHARISMATIC APPEAL, UTOPIAN
FUNCTIONAL ROLE AND PUBLIC,
TRANSFORMATIVE UTILISATION
OF POWER”



(PAUL SONDRÖL, *TOTALITARIAN
AND AUTHORITARIAN
DICTATORS*)



”

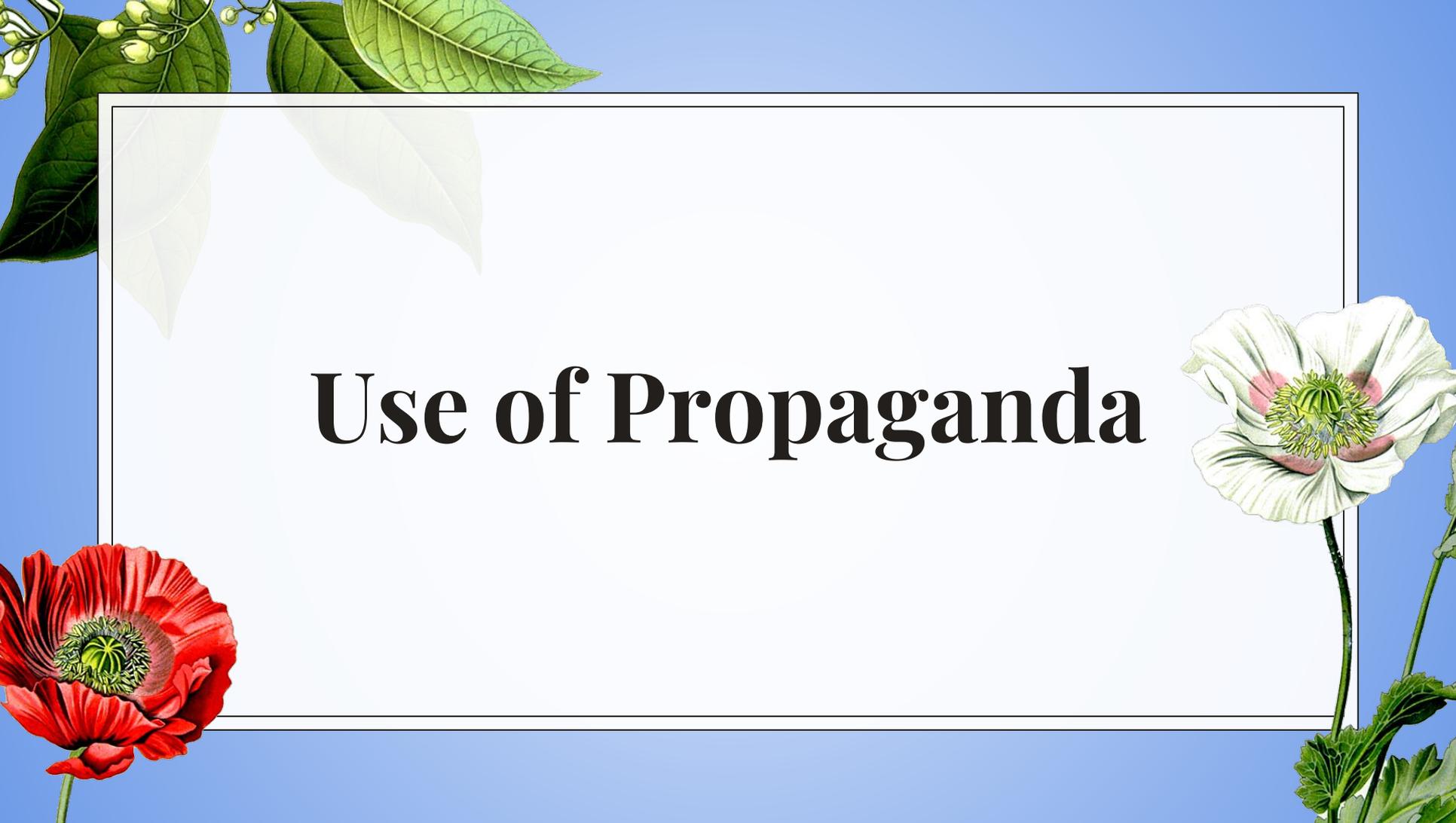




Use of Force

- ◉ Fidel Castro used inhumane prisons to incarcerate political opponents, dissidents, and anyone opposed to his rule
- ◉ Castro also used surveillance on his citizens, beating, and arbitrary arrests to deter opposition to his rule





Use of Propaganda





Discussion Question!

Which of Fidel Castro's tactics in consolidating power were most similar to Hitler's?

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Opposition Movements

- 
- Cuban government represses/repressed nearly all forms of political dissidence
 - Starting in 1960
 - ◎ Opposition political parties banned
 - ◎ Heavy censorship
 - ◎ All power in Cuba in control of cabinet (appointed by Castro)

Escambray rebellion



PRIMERA GRAN REUNIÓN DE LOS JEFE GUERRILLEROS DEL ESCAMBRAY (1960)

- ◉ Started directly after revolution
- ◉ Anti Batista rebels disillusioned with Castro's regime and farmers
- ◉ Led by Student Revolutionary Directorate
- ◉ Some initial support from CIA changed after Bay of Pigs
- ◉ Crushed by Castro's superior numbers

Other groups



- M-26-7
 - ◎ Named after 26th of July movement
 - ◎ Anti Batista but also anti communism
- Wealthy middle class
 - ◎ Hoped status would be maintained under Castro
- Alpha 66
 - ◎ Attempt to assassinate Castro

Huber Matos

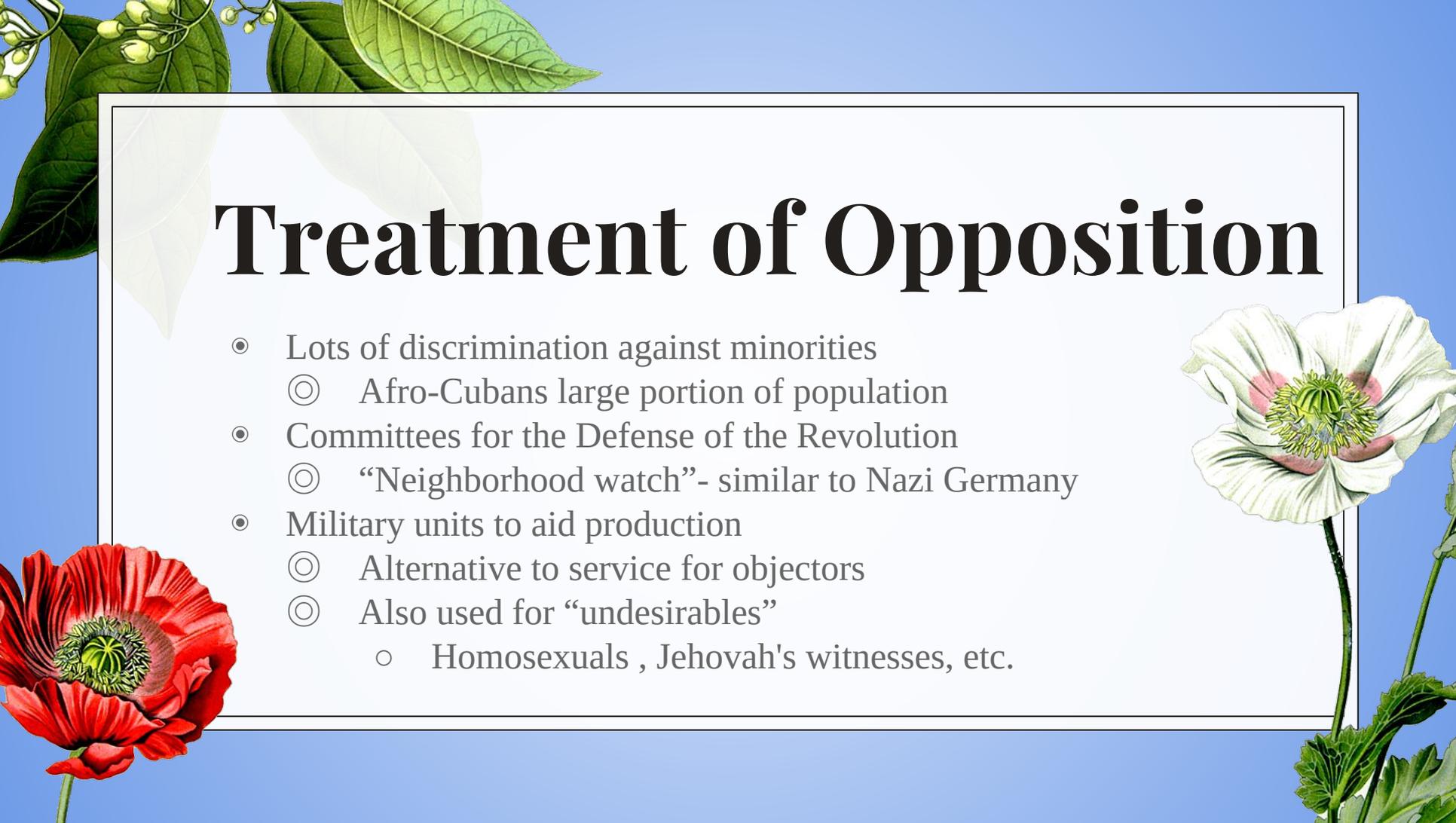


- ◉ Important revolutionary- leaders in July 26 movement
- ◉ Criticizes regimes communist shift
- ◉ Prison 1959-1979
- ◉ After release becomes active in US based resistance

Bay of Pigs



- ◉ Failed US (sponsored) invasion of Cuba
- ◉ Wave of nationalism
- ◉ Anyone who criticised regime denounced as traitor
- ◉ Some CIA and other terrorist attacks (Omega 7)
- ◉ Helps to cement Castro's position as savior of Cuba

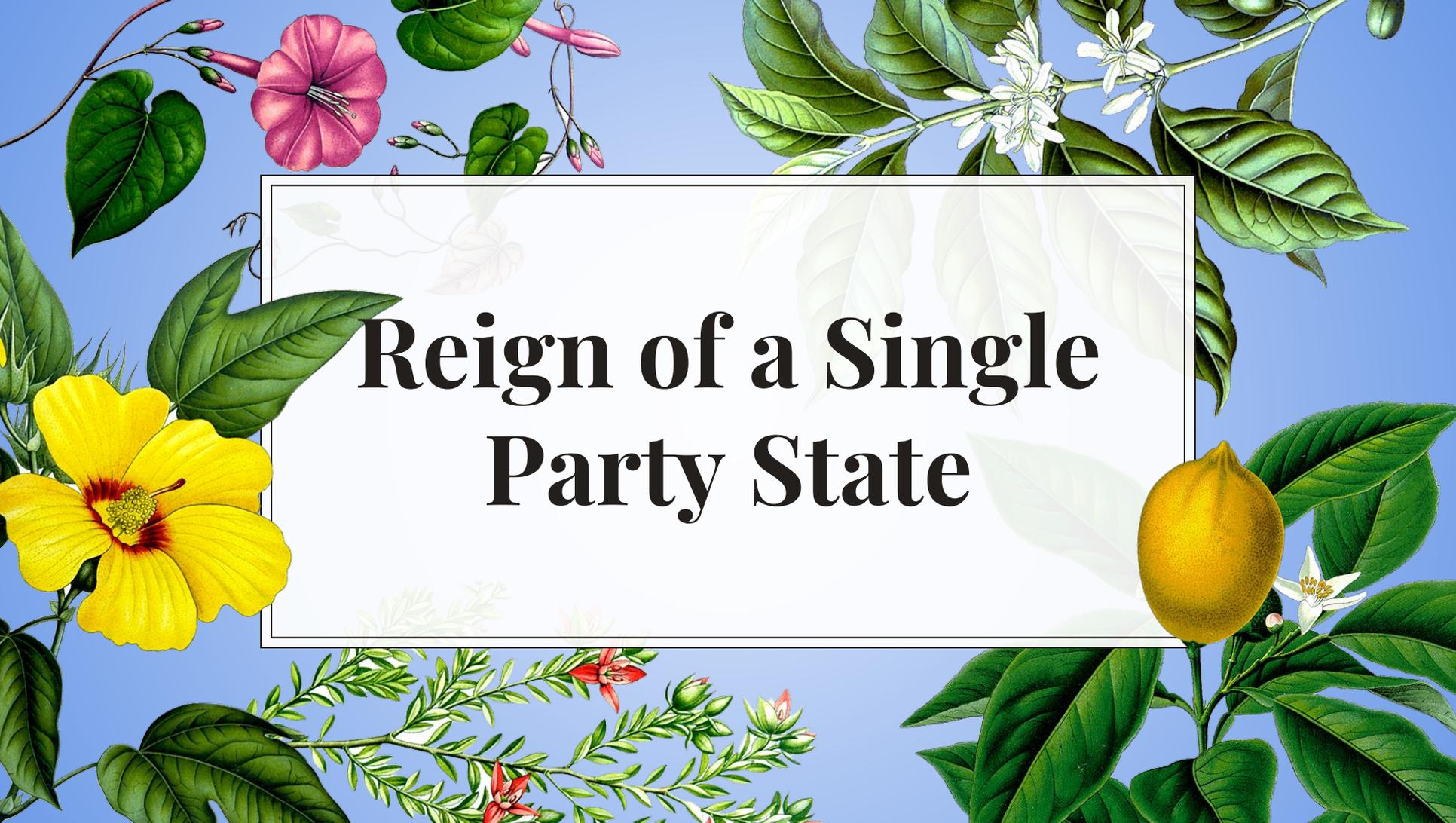


Treatment of Opposition

- Lots of discrimination against minorities
 - ◎ Afro-Cubans large portion of population
- Committees for the Defense of the Revolution
 - ◎ “Neighborhood watch”- similar to Nazi Germany
- Military units to aid production
 - ◎ Alternative to service for objectors
 - ◎ Also used for “undesirables”
 - Homosexuals , Jehovah's witnesses, etc.

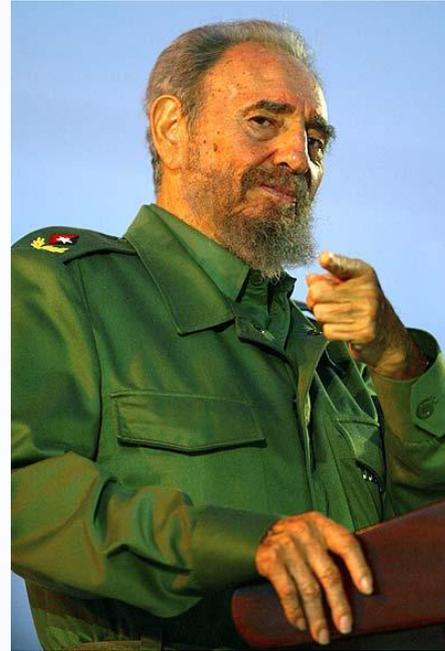


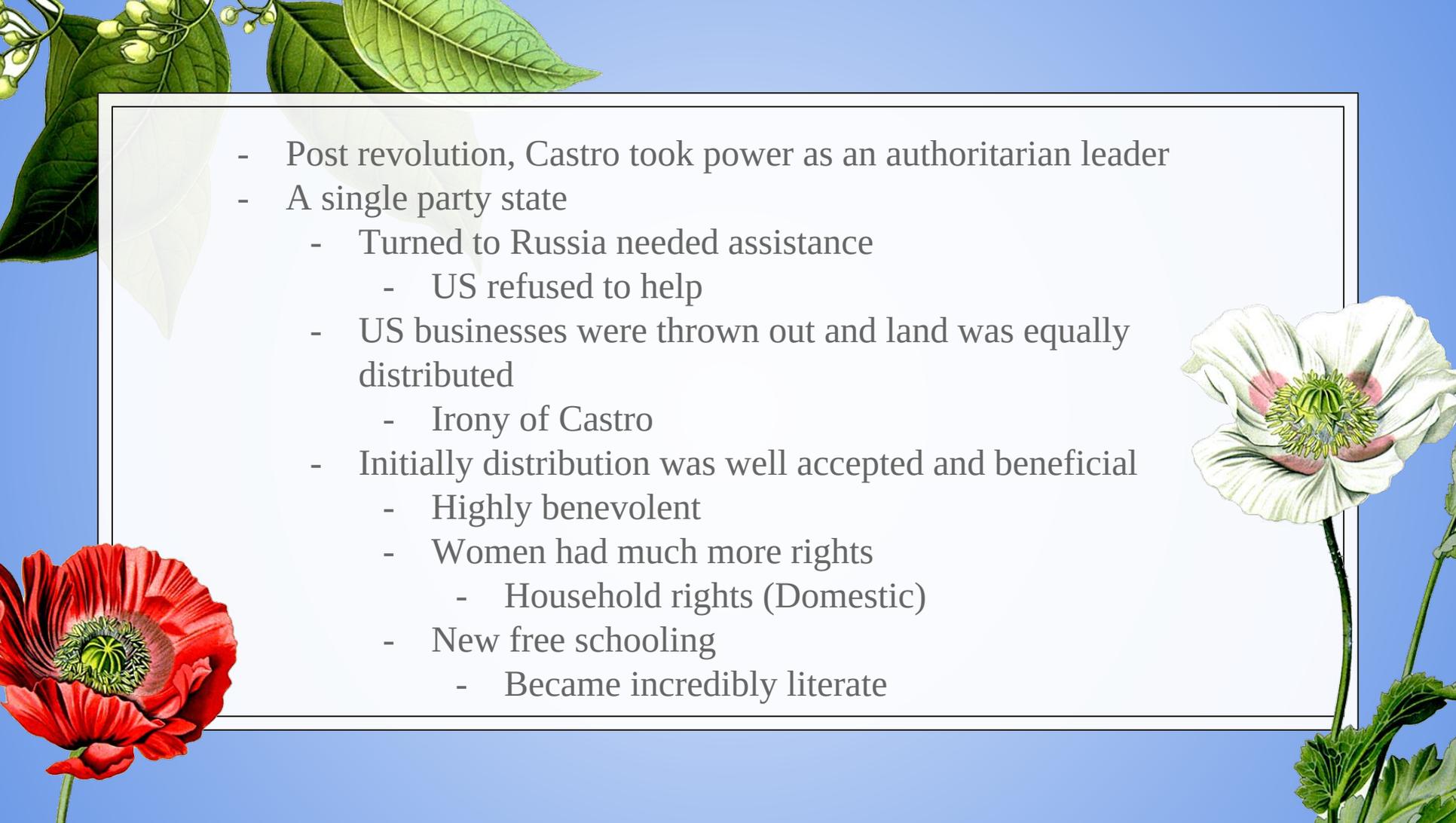
**Compare and contrast
opposition in Cuba to
opposition in other
authoritarian states.**

A detailed botanical illustration background featuring various plants and flowers. In the top left, there are pink and purple flowers with green leaves. In the top right, there are white flowers with green leaves. In the bottom left, there is a large yellow hibiscus flower with a dark red center. In the bottom right, there is a yellow lemon with green leaves and a small white flower. The background is a solid light blue color.

Reign of a Single Party State

- Originally took over as socialist
 - Highly left
 - Rights
- Turned communist
 - Threat
 - Focused more on “people”
 - Forced to affiliate outside of Cuba



- 
- Post revolution, Castro took power as an authoritarian leader
 - A single party state
 - Turned to Russia needed assistance
 - US refused to help
 - US businesses were thrown out and land was equally distributed
 - Irony of Castro
 - Initially distribution was well accepted and beneficial
 - Highly benevolent
 - Women had much more rights
 - Household rights (Domestic)
 - New free schooling
 - Became incredibly literate

- Downsides

- New Man's Theory
 - No one was rich “everyone was equally poor” - Anthony Iacobucci
- Censorship of media
- Embargo from the USA (Russia)



- 
- Censorship & Anti- Communism
 - Speaking out against Communism or Castro
 - Prisons
 - US “Mercenaries”
 - Private trials
 - HMMMMM
 - Abandoning Castro and Communism
 - 78 000 people died (killed)
 - Bay of Pigs and military conflict
 - 5 300 people dead

- Bad relations with countries (United States)
 - Miraculously survived over 600 assassination attempts
- Despite his tyrannical rule
 - Was a hero to many



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Activity: Hitler and Castro



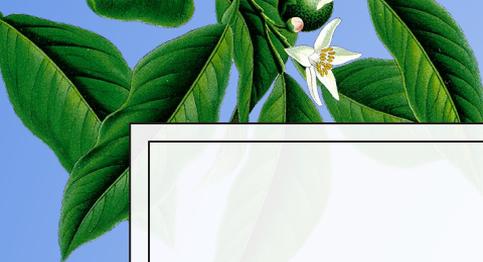
“The US will come talk to us when they have a black president and the world has a Latin pope”

“I use emotion for the many and reserve reason for the few”

“It is not truth that matters but victory”

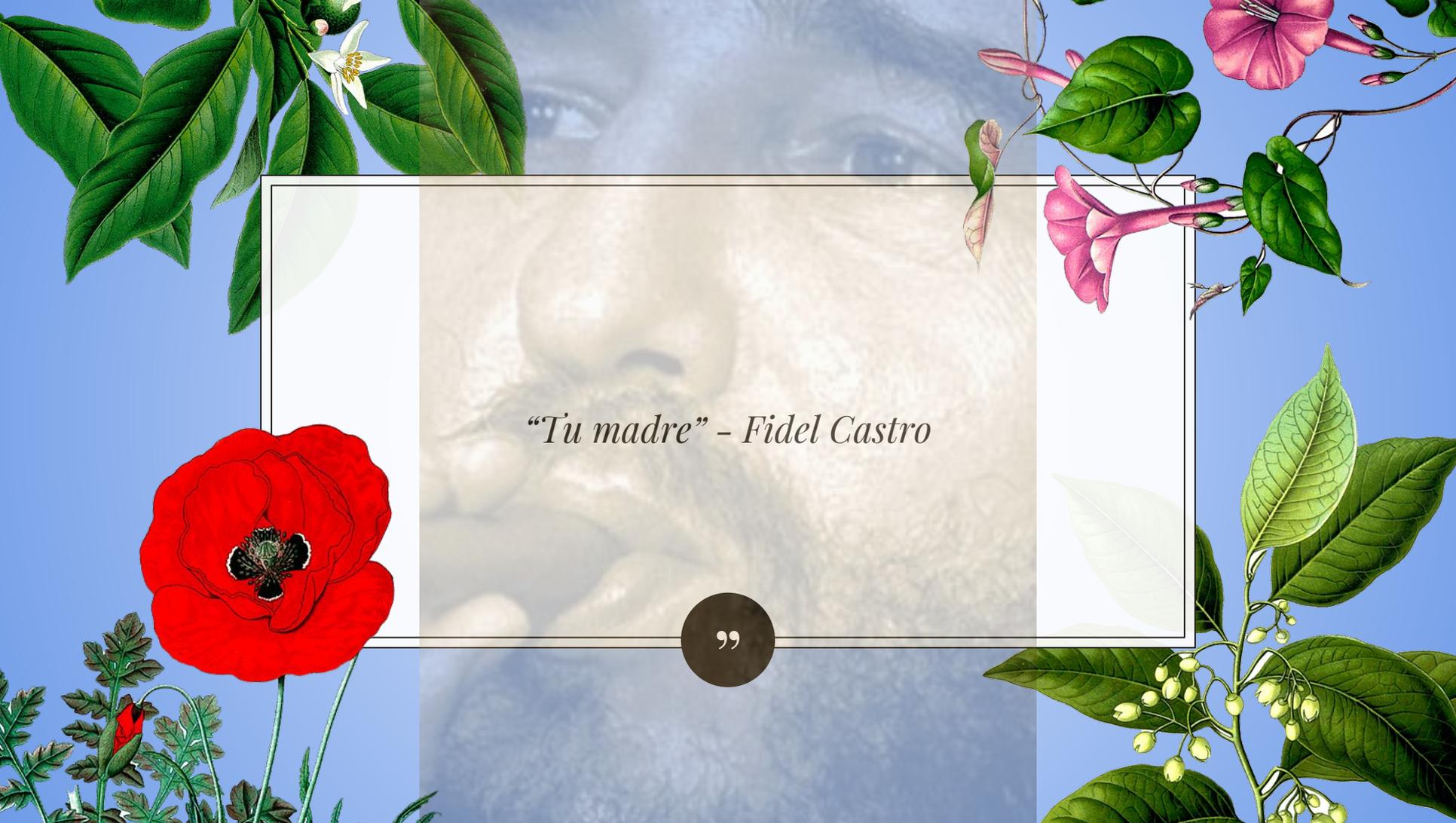
“A revolution is a struggle to the death between the future and the past”





Focusing on the effect of social and domestic policy, discuss the consolidation of power of two authoritarian states from different regions.





“Tu madre” – Fidel Castro

”

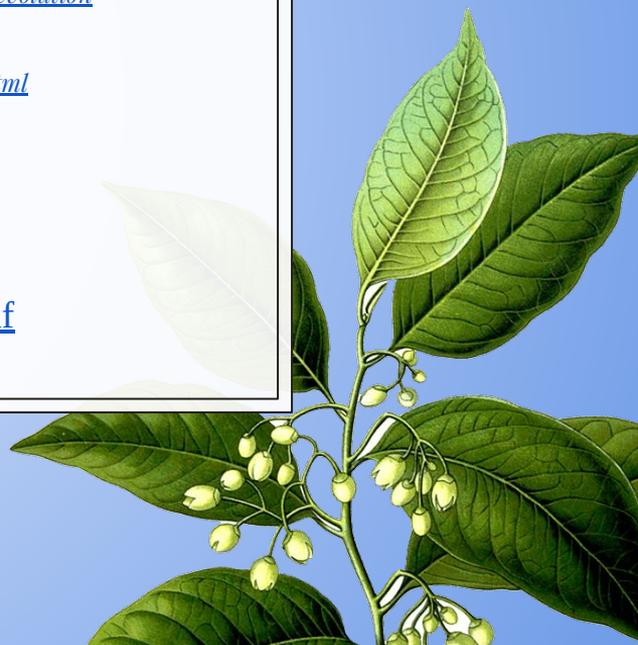
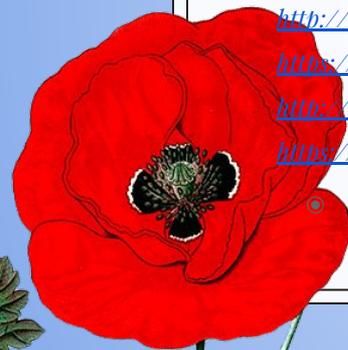


How Many Castros?

36 Castros

RIP Fidel Castro. You will be missed 💔





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