

# U.S. may change policy concerning Cuba

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WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger was reported Tuesday as willing to support a move in the Organization of American States that could lead to an end of the economic and diplomatic embargo against Cuba.

Sol M. Linowitz, a former U.S. ambassador to the Organization of American States, told reporters that

Kissinger assured the commission on United States-Latin American relations that the current American policy concerning Cuba might be changed, perhaps as early as March when inter-American foreign ministers meet in Buenos Aires.

Linowitz used a peculiar phrasing. "We were assured by the secretary that the policy now in progress would through another mechanism advance ... in subsequent meetings, perhaps in Buenos Aires."

When asked what he meant, Linowitz speculated that the secretary was indicating a change in the American position toward the voting in the OAS.

State Department officials said later that Linowitz' remarks should not be interpreted as a reflection of a changed

American attitude toward Cuba. Rather, they said, Kissinger is concerned over the implications of minority rule in the OAS.

In the last meeting of the organization in Quito, Ecuador, earlier this fall, a majority of the group voted to end the embargo. However, with the abstention of the United States and the outright opposition to lift the embargo, the vote fell short of the necessary two-thirds needed to lift the embargo.

Linowitz said that Asst. Secretary of State William D. Rogers indicated earlier the United States would support a move to end the two-thirds rule.

It was his impression, Linowitz went on, that the "other mechanism" mentioned by Kissinger was an allusion to Rogers' statement.