

STAR
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Cuba Repeats to U. N. Its Version of Shooting

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., July 23 (AP).—Cuba has asked the United Nations to inform all its members that Marines from the United States naval base at Guantanamo fatally wounded a young Cuban guard at the boundary of the base on July 19.

It disputed a United States version of the alleged incident.

Ambassador Arturo Barber-Orozco, acting chief of the delegation, handed a six-page Cuban letter protesting alleged United States actions against Cuba to C. V. Narasimhan, Indian undersecretary, yesterday. It asked that the latest protest be distributed to all members as a United Nations official document.

Issuance of the letter was held up by the office of Secretary General U Thant until its translation into the United Nations official languages could be completed.

The letter was written by Raul Roa, Foreign Minister of the Fidel Castro government.

It cited what it called 1,181 United States provocations against Cuba in the period from October 1962 to April 1964. Since that time, it charged, there have been 851 more, including attacks on two Cuban soldiers near the naval base in June.

Despite Cuban protests, the letter said, "the provocations

culminated on the 19th of the present month with a new attack which the revolutionary government of Cuba must denounce to you, to the United Nations and to world public opinion. . . .

"After a series of provocations and offenses against members of the Cuban military unit stationed on the boundary of the base. . . . At 7:07 p.m. . . . The North American sentries darted out suddenly, directed a small shaft of light in the direction of our soldiers. . . . Several instants thereafter, the North American soldiers wounded fatally, with their projectiles, the Cuban soldier, Ramon Lopez Pena, 19, who died 20 minutes later."

The United States State Department said Monday an incident that actually did occur appeared to be a carefully staged propaganda affair timed to the Washington meeting of Western Hemisphere foreign ministers on Cuban problems.

The State Department said only two shots were fired and that only one of those was fired by a United States Marine guard in reply to a shot fired at a Marine sentry post by Cuban sentries. The reply shot went over the heads of the Cubans, officials said.