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Sanctions Against Cuba Set to Be Voted by OAS

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Foreign ministers of the hemisphere today met behind closed doors in an effort to reach an agreement on imposing diplomatic and trade sanctions against Communist Cuba.

United States officials expressed optimism that a two-thirds majority of 13 countries would approve sanctions condemning Cuba for aggression against Venezuela. Other sources predicted that 14 nations in the hemisphere would vote some form of sanctions.

Mexico and Chile oppose the sanctions while Uruguay and Bolivia were viewed as possibly abstaining from voting. Those four countries are the only Latin American republics still maintaining diplomatic relations with Cuba.

The conference, which began Tuesday, was scheduled to end this afternoon. Differences over phrasing of the various resolutions presented has placed the final action in doubt, however.

Close May Be Delayed

It is possible the conference may extend into the week end.

A key resolution calls for placing a diplomatic and trade quarantine on Cuba. The resolution, introduced by Colombia, Panama and Costa Rica, embodies the basic penalties requested by Venezuela.

Venezuela has accused Cuba of aggression and subversion aimed at overthrowing its democratic government.

The ministers today also are considering three resolutions introduced by the United States.

They are intended to tighten further Cuba's isolation from the rest of the hemisphere.

Resolutions Outlined

One of them calls on all OAS members to "co-operate in the establishment of a system of air, sea and land surveillance in the waters off their coasts and along their land boundaries in order to detect clandestine movements of persons or any other suspected movement of arms, munitions or implements of war from Cuba to any other part of the hemisphere."

Another asks non-Communist nations to co-operate in hemispheric efforts to suspend both trade and economic assistance to Cuba.

The third United States resolution is regarded by officials as pointing toward the future. It asks the ministers to define acts of subversion as aggression under the terms of the Inter-American treaty of reciprocal assistance (the Rio treaty).

If adopted, this resolution would give legal authority for countries to react to Communist infiltration. The resolution is expected to meet opposition.