

OAS Votes Sanctions

On Castro

Denounces Cuba And Threatens Military Action

By Jack Brannan

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The Organization of American States last night denounced Communist Cuba for aggression against Venezuela and imposed economic and diplomatic sanctions as punishment.

Then it warned Premier Fidel Castro that further aggressive acts against his neighbors could bring him face to face with the combined military might of Latin America and the United States.

The action came on the eve of the 11th anniversary of Castro's 26th of July revolutionary movement.

The foreign ministers of the 20 OAS nations approved the sanctions by a 15-to-3 vote in an executive session of the Conference General Committee.

Three Nations Vote No

Chile, Mexico and Uruguay voted against the sanctions. Bolivia abstained. The four nations are the only members of the 20-nation OAS still maintaining diplomatic relations with Cuba.

Venezuela, which requested the sanctions as punishment for Cuban aggression, was ineligible to vote.

Venezuela accused Cuba of aggression last year after authorities discovered a three-ton cache of Cuban arms, supplied to pro-Castro terrorists who were attempting to disrupt the Venezuelan elections. A five-nation OAS investigating committee substantiated the charges last February.

The sanctions will be

binding on all OAS nations. But there was no deadline for compliance with them. They call for:

- Suspension of all trade by the American republics with Cuba, except in foods, medicines and medical equipment.

- Suspension of all sea transportation between the American republics and Cuba, except for transportation necessary for emergency reasons of a humanitarian nature.

- The governments of the American republics not to maintain diplomatic and consular relations with the government of Cuba.

The United States withdrew at the last minute its proposal recommending collective land, sea and air surveillance of Cuban and Latin American coastal and territorial boundaries.

"We thought it unnecessary," Secretary of State Dean Rusk explained. "That surveillance goes all the time anyway."

Join in Denunciation

The OAS nations, represented here by their foreign ministers, also collectively denounced the Castro regime for aggression against Venezuela and called upon other nations of the free world to cooperate in the trade embargo of the Caribbean island.

Included with the sanctions was a warning to Castro that any further aggression would be met with even sterner measures, including possible use of military force.

The decision climaxed a five-day meeting during which

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ministers sought to iron out any differences in the proposed sanctions that might lead to a hemispheric split over the Cuban issue. Chile and Mexico, however, had been opposed to sanctions before the meeting opened.

Chilean Foreign Minister Julio Philippi told the Ministers that his nation opposed the action because it felt the sanctions were not in strict accord with the Rio Treaty, the inter-American mutual defense pact under which the action was taken.

The Mexican Ambassador to the OAS, Vicente Sanchez Gavito, said his nation did not believe Cuba was guilty of aggression against Venezuela.

The Ministers' latest action followed by two years the OAS decision to expel Cuba from membership.

The Ministers apparently reached final accord on the sanctions when they dropped a proposal to order suspension of airline service between Cuba and Latin America and reworded the diplomatic sanction, out of consideration for Mexico.

In addition to maintaining relations with the Castro regime, Mexico also provides

Cuba's only airline link with all of Latin America.

The wording of the diplomatic sanction was changed so that it ordered nations "not to maintain" such ties with Cuba rather than insisting that relations be broken.

The trade sanction primarily affects Chile, Uruguay and Mexico, the only three OAS members that traded with Cuba last year. The total amount of their trade was \$15.2 million, mostly in sugar and food.

The measures concerning the shipping embargo fell in line with established United States policy. Its backing by the hemispheric organization strengthened the U.S. appeal to other free world countries to participate in the embargo.