

Around the World

Cuba's Roa Attacks U.S. Policies On Vietnam and Puerto Rico

Post 10/12/65
UNITED NATIONS — Cuban Foreign Minister Raul Roa bitterly denounced U.S. policies in the General Assembly yesterday and demanded "freedom" for Puerto Rico.

the Soviet Union. There was no reason given for the visit.

The U.S. delegation except for a lone foreign service officer, boycotted the speech. Delegation sources said it was the first U.S. boycott of an Assembly speech. But Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg came back later to say it was "unusually bizarre" to see Roa shedding crocodile tears about Puerto Rico when nearly 300,000 Cubans have fled to the United States and its territories and many more "are waiting desperately for a chance to leave."

"We do not see any exodus of Puerto Ricans to Cuba," Goldberg said. Roa countered that Puerto Rico is a "formed nation" and that more than a million Puerto Ricans had left their island. He did not say that nearly all of them moved to the continental United States.

In another development at the U.N., it was announced that Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, in New York for the current session, will make a four-day stop-over in Cuba beginning next Tuesday before returning to