

Castro Talks of Reducing

By Norman Gall

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HAVANA, June 13—Premier Castro said today that "the greatest cause of difficulties" between Cuba and the United States could be removed through abstention of both countries from materially aiding "revolutionary and counterrevolutionary" movements beyond their frontiers.

In a 2½-hour talk with reporters at a British Embassy reception, Castro asserted that "the Cuban revolution will have a great influence on Latin American history. The independence of Latin America will not come in one year or 10 years but in from 10 to 20 years.

Asked what the role of Cuba and other socialist countries would be in promoting hemispheric revolution, Castro said Cuban influence would spread, "by ideology and by example."

Castro talked with reporters and diplomats while seated on sofa at the residence of British Ambassador Adam Watson during the celebration of the birthday of Queen Elizabeth II.

The Cuban leader denied under lengthy and pointed questioning that Cuba would actively promote violent revolution in the hemisphere.

Russian Persuasion

Wearing his olive green uniform and combat boots and gesturing emphatically with his hands in accompaniment to his rapid, high-pitched speech, Castro said, "You cannot export revolution, just as you cannot export counter-revolution."

Diplomatic sources here report that the Russians are seeking to persuade Castro to reduce his efforts to promote revolutionary movements in Latin American in order to reduce the Cuban disturbance of U.S.-Soviet relations. The Russians also reportedly are encouraging Castro to strengthen relations with

U.S.-Cuban Tensions

Western Europe.

The Associated Press reported from Havana that:

Castro said during the reception that overtures had been made for an improvement U.S.-Cuban relations but that Cuba cut them short recently because of American threats and pressures.

He hinted that a third party made the overtures but declined to say who or exactly when. He denied that Cuba

had initiated any such moves but said, "We are never opposed to conversations with the United States on the basis of equality and mutual respect for sovereignty."

On Tuesday the Foreign Ministry denied Madrid dispatches that said Cuba was seeking the intervention of a third

country to investigate the prospects for settling differences with the United States.

No Johnson Judgment

"We didn't make overtures with any government," Castro said. "There were some overtures but they didn't come from Cuba. They came from

persons interested in the possibility of improving relations between the United States and Cuba. We rejected the overtures because in those days pressures and threats were raining upon us. Cuba never will negotiate under pressures and threats."

Asked his views on the

November U. S. presidential election, Castro said he saw nothing good in it. Both the Democrats and the Republicans are reactionary and bellicose, he said.

Puffing on his familiar cigar, Castro said he has not been able to judge President Johnson fully as yet but

added that he wondered if Mr. Johnson would continue to surround himself with men like Thomas Mann, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Latin America.

Mann was appointed to his post shortly after Mr. Johnson took over as President last year. Castro called Mann "a

known reactionary who is the architect of a policy of the tough hand and military coups."

He said the Alliance for Progress under President Kennedy was "reactionary but intelligent." With Mann's hand to it, Castro charged, it is "now only reactionary."