

If the U.S. Wants War, It'll Be War, Says Castro

By Daniel Harker

HAVANA, April 30 (AP) Prime Minister Fidel Castro warned today against more U.S. plane flights over Cuba, declaring: "We will defend our sovereignty, whatever it may cost and wherever it may happen."

He said he is ready to seek a peaceful solution to problems with his North American neighbor but if the Americans want war "there will be war."

Castro made the statement during a four-hour talk with foreign newsmen and diplomats at a Japanese diplomatic reception.

At Havana's May Day celebration Friday diplomats expect Castro to hit hard at the United States, which has announced the reconnaissance flights will continue despite Cuban protests. The Soviet Union has supported Cuba's protests.

"We will prevent these flights to the limits of what our weapons can do," Castro asserted.

Rocket Plans Laid

["Very soon now we are going to have (Cuban) 20-year-olds manning land-to-air rockets," he said. "When we are threatened with force we will not be any tougher than anyone else, nor will we be any softer than anyone else," United Press International quoted Castro as saying.]

He did not specify that Cuba would use Soviet rockets to try to bring down American planes. But, without mentioning any definite date, he said the ground-to-air rockets now controlled by Russians "will be handed over to Cuba."

In good humor, Castro



United Press International

Sought

This sketch, said to be as good as a photo of the suspect, is being used by Chicago police in the search for the woman who kidnaped infant Paul Joseph Fronczak from a hospital earlier this week.

sipped brandy and soup at the Japanese Embassy as he talked.

"We follow a straight, clear, policy and we will not be weak, so we will not cry later over our weakness," Castro said.

"We will not surrender in the face of any position of force. This is the reason why Cuba can not accept any more flights."

U.S. Warning to Castro

The spy flight crisis arose from U.S. intelligence reports that departing Soviet troops

are expected to turn over to Castro 24 high-powered anti-aircraft rocket installations.

A U.S. note was sent to

Cuba March 27, via the Swiss, warning Castro against interfering with the American flights.

A Cuban note arrived in Washington rejecting the U.S. contention that the flights are necessary to guard against reintroduction of Soviet ballistic missiles.

Last Friday the Soviet government's newspaper Izvestia denounced the U.S. flights and reiterated that the Soviet Union would side with Cuba if it were attacked.

Castro said today that the United States had known for a long time that Cubans were being trained to operate Russian rockets. He said this knowledge gave the United States "one and a half years to rectify its flight policy."

"We are ready to talk and to search for peaceful solutions to all pending problems but any positions of force against us are going to fail," he said.

"I am interpreting the feelings of the Cuban people and I do not want war because I consider myself to be the father of seven million Cubans. But if they (the United States) want war,