

FORB. AD
**PRO-CUBANS SHORT
OF VOTES IN O.A.S.**
NYTimes NOV 12 1974
**Move to Lift Blockade Still
Lacks Needed Two-thirds
—U.S. Plans to Abstain**

By **JONATHAN KANDELL**

Special to The New York Times

QUITO, Ecuador, Nov. 11—The effort to lift a political and economic blockade imposed on Cuba a decade ago by the Organization of American States verged on collapse today.

Latin-American foreign ministers advocating a rapprochement were two votes short of the two-thirds majority necessary to lift the sanctions against the government of Premier Fidel Castro. But the ministers continued to press for a last-minute accord.

In a closed session this afternoon, the United States delegation informed other members of the inter-American organization that it intended to abstain in the vote.

The foreign ministers of Brazil, Chile and Uruguay suggested that the session be suspended because a resolution acceptable to two-thirds of the members could not be found.

Advocates of more normal relations with Cuba have until tomorrow to gather the necessary 14 votes.

Costa Rica Accuses U.S.

So far 12 countries have come out in favor of lifting the blockade, and another nation—Bolivia—is leaning in that direction. Three countries have said they will vote against the resolution and five have indicated they will abstain in the voting tomorrow.

The move to lift sanctions broke down in today's morning session when Guatemala and Haiti announced they would abstain.

The Foreign Minister of Costa Rica, Gonzalo Facio, attributed the impasse to the United States "playing a very negative role" in the conference.

The American delegation has described its position as neutral. Spokesmen said this meant that the delegation, to avoid charges of "arm-twisting," did not wish to influence the votes of other members.

"All I know is that when the United States is interested in accomplishing something, it puts all its weight behind it even if the majority is against it," Mr. Facio said. (over)

"In this case, a majority of the O.A.S. members are behind

Continued From Page 1, Col. 1

us," he continued. "Only three countries are against us. So the neutral attitude of the United States means that it is showing its solidarity with that group."

The United States Under Secretary of State, Robert S. Ingersoll, replied:

"If negative is the designation that other countries wish to give us, that is their opinion."

gained the support of Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru, the

Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela and possibly Bolivia.

Three nations—Chile, Uruguay and Paraguay—have said they will vote against any change in the blockade.

Brazil, Nicaragua, Haiti, Guatemala and the United States have said they will abstain.

The milder version has Advocates of an end to the Cuban blockade came to the conference, which opened last week, with a draft resolution calling for an end to the sanctions imposed in 1964.

The resolution has been softened to permit members to de-

cide on their own whether to resume economic and diplomatic ties with Cuba.

Advocates of the resolution, which was sponsored by Costa Rica, Colombia and Venezuela, appeared to have miscalculated the support they could gather.

Weeks before the conference, Foreign Minister Facio of Costa Rica expressed confidence that the original draft resolution would receive as many as 16 votes.

Two Nations Not Voting

The optimism was partly based on the fact that seven members—Argentina, Mexico, Peru, Panama, Trinidad-Tobago, Jamaica and Barbados—already have economic and diplomatic relations with Cuba. Jamaica and Barbados are not voting in this session because they were not signers of the 1947 Rio Treaty of Mutual Defense, which was used to apply the sanctions against Cuba.

But anti-Cuban sentiment remains strong among a minority of the members. Delegates of Chile, Uruguay and Paraguay have accused Cuba of continued interference in their internal affairs.

Anti-Cuban feelings also run high in Guatemala, Haiti, Nicaragua and Brazil whose delegates have indicated they will abstain. And Washington appears in no hurry to move toward a resumption of relations with Havana.

"A lot of countries came here with enthusiasm, but they forgot to negotiate," said a Brazilian spokesman, who added that sentiment for lifting the blockade "had not ripened sufficiently."

The United States and Brazil have taken a passive role throughout the conference. Neither has delivered speeches in the debate on the Cuban issue. Neither has been accused of lobbying behind the scenes to scuttle the resolution.

Continued on Page 2, Column 4