

More Easing of Cuba Trade Curbs

Washington

The United States has further eased trade restrictions against Cuba, the Commerce Department reported yesterday.

The effect of a new regulation would be that Western Hemisphere countries or companies can sell goods to Cuba provided they contain less than 20 per cent by value of U.S.-made parts or materials.

Previously, the United States would not license export of

materials expected to wind up in foreign manufactured goods sold to Cuba.

The relaxation applies only to countries which are members of the Organization of American States, and does not apply to export of what the Commerce Department considers strategic materials.

The goods in which the U.S. material is used must be manufactured outside the United States, the department said.

The United States announced August 21 that it would relax a trade embargo imposed against the Caribbean island nation after Fidel Castro's Communist government gained control about 15 years ago.

The relaxation means U.S. goods will be sold indirectly to the Cubans, via third-country manufacturers, rather than through straight transactions between the United States and Cuba.

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