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# Cuba Sugar Men Refuse U.S. Ouster

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## New Orleans

A delegation of Cuban sugar cane experts, who said a State Department order telling them to get out of the country "constitutes a new aggression of the United States against Cuba," defied the U.S. government yesterday by refusing to leave.

They stayed in their guarded rooms in a plush hotel and munched Kentucky fried chicken. The 22 Cubans tried to slip a note to newsmen but an immigration officer snatched it away. However, a photographer took a close-up picture of the note, in

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which the Cubans said they had a right to attend the 14th Congress of the International Association of Cane Sugar Technologists.

"We refuse to return voluntarily before the end of the meeting," the Cubans said.

"The State Department of the United States refuses to give us the visas and in this form — that constitutes a new aggression of the government of the United States against Cuba — to make impossible to us technologists of the sugar cane to exchange expressions with our colleagues in this technical meeting."

The meeting, attended by 700 delegates from 52 sugar producing nations, opened last Friday and ends November 5. The 22 Cubans, who arrived in New Orleans Tuesday, refused to leave for the return flight home in their Russian - built, red, white and blue airplane until they received instructions from their government, which was silent yesterday.

The State Department said it had asked the Cuban government of Fidel Castro to order the pilot to fly the plane back to Cuba, but had received no reply.

"We assume the Cuban government will be paying the hotel bill" until it instructs the delegation to return home," a State Department spokesman said.

Four persons calling themselves "Free Cubans" picketed the New Orleans hotel where the Cuban sugar delegation was staying. They carried signs that said, "Reds Go Home," "Castro is worse than Hitler" and "100,000 Cubans Are Political Prisoners."

Carlos Bringuier, a New Orleans merchant and Cuban refugee leader, headed the pickets yesterday.

In a broadcast monitored in Miami, Havana Radio said the Cuban sugar cane group had "an inalienable right" to stay in New Orleans for the conference. The State Department said it had refused visas to the Cubans a month ago, but they came anyway.

F. A. Graugnard of St. James, La., president of the International Society of Cane Sugar Technologists, said the meeting "is open to all members, no matter what country they are from, and the Cuban members are welcome."