

U.S. Hints at Easing Coolness Toward Havana

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WASHINGTON, April 12 —

Secretary of State William P. Rogers hinted today at an easing of United States coolness toward Cuba, provided Cuba changed her policies.

Speaking before the second General Assembly of the Organization of American States, which opened here yesterday, Mr. Rogers noted that the "boldness" of President Nixon's recent initiatives toward China had led to speculation that the United States might be planning "a shift, with similar surprise, in our attitude toward Cuba."

Cuba remains a "threat" to the Western Hemisphere, Mr. Rogers asserted, because of her continuing interventionist behavior, her support for revolution and her "close and active military ties with the Soviet Union, a matter of obvious concern."

However, he went on, "if changes in Cuba's policies and actions should justify a reconsideration of the 1964 O.A.S. resolutions, the U.S. of course would act in concert with our fellow members in the O.A.S."

Stresses Consultations

Mr. Rogers stressed that it was "essential for us all" to adhere to the process of consultations and decisions within the organization's framework.

The 1964 sanctions to which Mr. Rogers referred followed members' complaints of Cuban-backed subversion in their countries, followed by the discovery of a Cuban arms cache on the coast of Venezuela.

The organization, at Vene-



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Secretary of State William P. Rogers at general assembly of Organization of American States in Washington.

zuela's proposal, severed diplomatic, trade and communications ties with Cuba. Mexico alone has continued full diplomatic relations with Havana.

State Department sources cautioned that Mr. Rogers's speech should be taken with extreme reserve and should not be seen as an "opening of the door" toward Cuba.

They recalled that President Nixon, in a news conference on March 25, had been asked whether he might be planning to visit Premier Fidel Castro and had replied: "No, I have not been invited."

This was not intended, they said, as a hint for an invitation, nor has it been followed by an invitation from Cuba.

Immediately before Mr. Rogers spoke, Brig. Gen. Angel de la Flor Valle, the Peruvian Foreign Minister, criticized the

