

A 'Denial' of Cuba Move For Talks

Washington

The State Department gave a qualified denial yesterday to a report that it has received a message from the Cuban government asking for formal discussions to settle differences between the two countries.

The Mutual Broadcasting System said it learned from reliable sources that the State Department received a message from Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro at 4 a.m. yesterday.

Department spokesman John King said he checked the report with appropriate officials and "the first anybody heard of it was when Mutual broadcast it. They flatly and categorically know of no such message being received here."

Other officials said that for the time being they could not rule out the possibility that a message may have somehow been directed to the plane carrying Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger of the Middle East.

Associated Press