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CASTRO TO RENOUNCE ANTIHIJACKING PACT

OCT 16 1976
Accuses U. S. of Involvement in Sabotaging of Cuban Airliner

NYTimes

By Reuters

HAVANA, Oct. 15—Prime Minister Fidel Castro said today that he would renounce Cuba's 1973 antihijacking agreement with the United States because of what he described as American complicity in the crash of a sabotaged Cuban airliner off Barbados last week.

[In Washington, Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger said that the United States had nothing to do with the bomb that exploded aboard the airliner and warned that the United States would "hold Cuba strictly accountable for any encouragement of hijacking or any act of terrorism that may flow from its renunciation of the treaty."]

Speaking at a rally here in honor of the 73 passengers and crew members killed in the crash, Mr. Castro said the antihijacking agreement could not survive "this act of terrorism." He charged that the United States Central Intelli-

Continued on Page 4, Column 5

Continued From Page 1

gence Agency had been directly involved in the sabotage, which, he said, was carried out through "mercenaries" by anti-Castro groups based in the United States.

The Prime Minister said that he was invoking the clause of the treaty allowing either side to renounce it by giving six months' notice. He said that Cuba would make no efforts to renew the pact, now set to expire on April 15.

He added, however, that Cuba would be willing to discuss the agreement with whatever administration emerges from next month's Presidential elections, but that "this has to be on the basis of a definite end of all acts of aggression and hostility against our homeland."

He noted that the antihijacking agreement included a United States pledge to clamp down on anti-Castro Cuban exiles operating from its territory.

The Cuban leader also made it clear that he suspected the C.I.A. was still trying to assassinate him. According to the Senate Intelligence Committee, the C.I.A. had plotted at least eight times to kill Mr. Castro in the 1960's.

He said that a double agent of the C.I.A. had been asked to provide information about his projected itinerary when Mr. Castro goes to Angola next month for that country's independence celebration.

"Why does the C.I.A. want to know the itinerary of the Cuban Prime Minister?" Mr. Castro asked.

Twice Threatened to Cancel

He asserted that instructions to agent here were coming directly from the agency's center of operations in Virginia.

Mr. Castro said that the agent, who had passed information to the Cuban Government for 10 years, had also been asked to provide information about the steps Cuba was taking to prevent bomb attacks against its diplomatic missions abroad. He pointed out that the attacks against Cuban missions or boats had receded at first after the antihijacking agreement was signed in February 1973, but that they had increased again over the last few months.

The Prime Minister threatened to cancel the antihijacking agreement after two Cuban fishing boats were machine-gunned in the straits of Florida last April. He reiterated the warning after a bomb blasted the Cuban mission at the United Nations in June.

In other attacks, two persons were killed in a bomb attack against the Cuban mission in Lisbon in April, and a Cuban fishing expert was killed last July in an abortive attempt to kidnap the Cuban consul in Merida, Mexico.

In July a bomb went off at the airport

of Kingston, Jamaica, in a suitcase about to be loaded aboard a Cuban airliner operating on the same route as the DC-8 that crashed eight days ago after takeoff from Barbados.

Mr. Castro blamed the C.I.A. for the recent attacks against Cuban missions abroad and noted that they had followed military support to the faction that won the civil war in Angola.

The antihijacking agreement was the last diplomatic link between the United States and Cuba, which broke relations 15 years ago. Similar agreements between Cuba and Canada and Colombia will not be affected by Mr. Castro's decision.

U.S. Deplores Action

By DAVID BINDER

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15—The State Department issued a statement today deploping Prime Minister Castro's "unilateral and unwarranted action" in announcing that he would cancel the antihijacking agreement.

Secretary of State Kissinger, in informal comments to reporters, said that contrary to Mr. Castro's allegations, the United States had nothing to do with sabotaging the Cuban airliner which blew up Oct. 6 off Barbados.

He said the United States would "hold Cuba strictly accountable for any encouragement of hijacking or any act of terrorism that may flow from its renunciation of the treaty."

The Castro action caught the State Department by surprise. Only yesterday officials familiar with Cuba said that they did not expect Mr. Castro to cancel the antihijacking agreement, because of its value as a bridge toward resumption of normal relations between the two countries.

Extradition of Exile Sought

The agreement was designed to put an end to a series of hijackings of United States planes to Cuba—101 attempts, of which 84 were successful—beginning in the mid-1960's. The Cuban Government indicated after the pact was signed in 1973 that it viewed it as beginning of normalizing ties with the United States following the break in 1961.

The agreement provided that anyone apprehended after hijacking an aircraft or vessel from one country to the other would be returned to the jurisdiction of the country or origin.

The State Department spokesman, Robert L. Funseth said that the United States was seeking the extradition of Orlando Bosch, a 49-year-old Cuban exile arrested today in Venezuela in connection with the sabotaging of the Cuban airliner. The extradition request was sent, but Monday, United States officials said.

Mr. Bosch was imprisoned in 1968 in Miami in connection with "anti-Castro terrorist activities," including bombings, and then paroled. He fled the United States recently.