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Castro Cool To Improving Ties to U.S.

Mexico City

Cuban Premiere Fidel Castro says he isn't "in any hurry" to improve relations with the United States.

"We can wait 10 years, 20 years," Castro said inan interview in the issue of the Mexican magazine Siempre released yesterday.

He said the U.S. is increasingly losing supporters in its economic blockade of Cuba.

"The North Americans are more and more alone," he said.

"The blockade keeps getting more unpopular. If the North Americans analyze it well, it would be more convenient to drop it.

"I don't want to say that it isn't harming us, because it is," he added.

The interview appeared shortly before a meeting of 24 Latin American foreign ministers with U.S. Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger scheduled to start here Wednesday. Cuba was not invited.

Associated Press