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1964

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19 APRIL 1964
1017 PES

(ADVANCE FOR 6 P.M., EST, SUNDAY)

(ADVANCE) NEW YORK, APRIL 19 (AP)-FIDEL CASTRO SAID IN AN INTERVIEW BROADCAST TONIGHT HE BELIEVES BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND CUBA SHOULD MAKE CONCESSIONS TOWARD RESTORING NORMAL RELATIONS.

CASTRO SAID HE ONCE HAD FELT THAT THE LATE PRESIDENT KENNEDY "WAS IN THE WAY OF PERSUADING HIMSELF OF HIS MISTAKES ABOUT CUBA," AND THAT SOME SORT OF CHANGE IN U.S. POLICY HAD BEEN IN THE MAKING. HE INDICATED CUBA IS WATCHING AND WAITING WITH REGARD TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S ADMINISTRATION.

CASTRO'S INTERVIEW WITH LISA HOWARD OF THE AMERICAN BROADCASTING CO. WAS RECORDED IN HAVANA FEB. 12 AND APPEARED AS PART OF A DOCUMENTARY.

"KENNEDY, AFTER THREE YEARS AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, HAD MUCH MORE EXPERIENCE THAN HE HAD AT THE BEGINNING," THE CUBAN PRIME MINISTER SAID. "...MY OPINION IS THAT HE WAS IN THE WAY OF PERSUADING HIMSELF OF HIS MISTAKES ABOUT CUBA... I DO NOT WANT TO MAKE A SPECULATION ABOUT THAT. BUT I HAD SOME EVIDENCE THAT SOME CHANGE WAS TAKING PLACE IN THE MIND OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES."

CASTRO SAID THE CUBANS "DO NOT KNOW JOHNSON'S THINKING (AND) ARE OBSERVING WHAT HE IS GOING TO DO ABOUT CUBA."

"YOU ASK ME WHAT WE ARE WILLING TO CONCEDE," HE ADDED. "I THINK SOME CONCESSIONS OUGHT TO BE MADE BY BOTH PARTIES, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND FOR CUBA. I THINK A PEACE POLICY MEANS MUTUAL CONCESSIONS, DIGNITY."

CASTRO DID NOT ELABORATE ON WHAT CONCESSIONS HE THOUGHT SHOULD BE MADE BY EITHER SIDE.

THE CUBAN LEADER DECLINED TO BE PINNED DOWN ON HIS POSITION IN THE WORLD COMMUNIST LEAGUE ARGUMENT PRODUCED

THE CUBAN LEADER DECIDED TO BE PINNED DOWN ON HIS POSITION IN THE WORLD COMMUNIST ARGUMENT PRODUCED BY THE CHINESE-SOVIET SPLIT. HE SAID HE THOUGHT THE PROBLEM SOONER OR LATER WOULD BE SOLVED AND "OF COURSE, THIS IS NOT THE PLACE WHERE I HAVE TO GIVE MY OPINION ABOUT THAT PROBLEM."

"THE CUBAN OPINION WILL BE GIVEN AT THE PROPER OPPORTUNITY, AT SOME CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES," HE ADDED.

(END ADVANCE FOR 6 P.M. EST, SUNDAY--SENT APRIL 18.)

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