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Castro pushes trade with U.S. subsidiaries

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HAVANA — The question of U.S. subsidiaries in other countries doing business with Cuba was alluded to by Premier Fidel Castro at a cocktail party yesterday.

The occasion was a farewell for 220 Argentine businessmen who were winding up four ac-

tive days of negotiation in Cuba.

Premier Castro referred to the fact that the Government of Argentina had insisted that U.S. subsidiaries operating in that country open their doors to Cuban trade regardless of restrictions laid down by U.S. Department of State.

A measure of the success of this was that in attendance at

the party were representatives of the Argentine subsidiaries of General Motors, Chrysler, Standard Electric, Westinghouse and Kaiser Industries plus several other Argentine firms which operate under U.S. licences.

The Cuban Premier said that Argentina was the first case in which a Government has put heavy pressure on for-

ign subsidiaries operating on its soil to do business where it is deemed to be in the national interest.

He did not lose the opportunity to make cutting remarks about some European countries that have permitted U.S. subsidiaries to abide by State Department restrictions and had "never made their sovereignty a question of honor."

Premier Castro implied that the presence of representatives of the Argentine subsidiaries means that the United States has already made an exception in their case.

He said that the situation of U.S. subsidiaries in other countries must be observed "to see whether they will also become an exception to the rule."

Premier Castro also said that the U.S. embargo of Cuba loses more and more prestige each day and "if the Americans were to analyze the situation they would see that it is to their benefit to lift it."