

CBC

8:15 PM

Nov 14

Jose Marti airport here in

Yassir Arafat was met at ~~the~~ Havana ~~airport~~ by Prime

Minister Fidel Castro. A huge portrait of Arafat flanked by red flags and the ~~the~~ ^{FLAG OF CUBA} and Palistinian Liberation ~~flag~~ ^{Movement} were visible to Arafat as ~~he~~ he walked down the ramp. Castro ~~and~~

embraced arafat and the two guerilla fighters - Castro and Arafat-drove off in a Russian made Chaika auto ^{mobile} to the city ^{of Havana} ~~of Havana.~~

~~Most Cubans did not know of Arafats arrival this morning until ~~the~~ ~~Granma~~ Granma, the official newspaper of the Communist party~~

Cubans only learned of Arafats arrival this morning. ~~the~~ Granma, the official newspaper of Cuba's Communist Party carried a banner headline in arabic and spanish: Welcome Comrade Arafat. ~~the~~ After Arafat's arrival here in Havana, one could see workmen putting up Welcome signs around the city.

Yassir Arafat will probably receive the full treatment accorded to friendly heads of state here in Cuba. He might be ^{given} ~~accorded~~ the opportunity to speak to the Cuban people at a mass outdoor rally and if he does, it is almost certain that Fidel Castro will also speak. It is believed here that conversations between the Cubans and Palistinians will lead to the signing of a joint communique. one in which Cuba will declare its support for the proposals made by Yassir Arafat at the United Nations in New York...

This is Lionel martin in Havana for CBC Radio News.

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Palestinian Yassir Arafat Received at Havana Airport by PM Fidel Castro