

Sold to Washington Post
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450 words

Called Ben Bradley

definitely

Wk 228
Sports/Politics

The Cuban Baseball Federation has decided to call off "Baseball Diplomacy" for this spring season. A top Cuban sports official, Fabio Ruiz, notified Gabe Paul, General Manager of the New York Yankees of the Cuban decision. Mr Ruiz sent the message through David LeFevre, a New York lawyer and grandson of Cyrus Eaton, who ~~has been trying to arrange a baseball exchange with the Cubans for several years. Attempts by Mr. Ruiz to reach Mr. Paul on Friday and Saturday failed.~~ ^{left Havana today.} ^{by phone}

Mr. LeFevre

~~Mr. Ruiz said that the Cuban decision to call off baseball~~
~~who leads the sport~~

The Cuban official said at his office at Sports City here that ~~called~~ Bowie ~~Kik~~ Kuhn, the Baseball Commissioner, is responsible ^{for} the Cuban decision to shut the door on the visit by an American major league team during spring training. The Cuban were prepared to play the New York Yankees on April 1st but Mr. Kuhn refused to give his permission to the New York ball club. Instead he suggested that an All-Star team be organized to play in Cuba.

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~~Negotiations~~

According to Mr. Ruiz, the New York Yankees originally suggested that their team play in Cuba last year. The Cubans received no other ~~proposals~~ propositions ~~at~~ over subsequent months and accepted the Yankee proposal. President Fidel Castro told Congressman Jonathon Bingham of New York in Havana recently that Cuba was looking forward to the Yankee visit. President Carter ~~exhibited the~~ characterized as "constructive" a Cuba-Yankee baseball game. ^{during his recent telephone conversations with the American public} On March 23, 1977, Baseball Commissioner Kuhn sent a telegram to the Cuban ~~sports~~ baseball federation proposing the visit of a Major League all-Star team to Cuba on March 27 and 28th.

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Mr. Kuhns cable arrived three days after the Cubans began their own baseball championship playoffs. The original Cuban plan was to postpone the beginning of their ~~playoffs~~ playoffs in order to ^{prepare} ~~pick~~ a Cuban ~~national~~ all star team to play the Yankees. Mr.

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APPLICATION INIT
Fndo Garcia

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