

MARCH 15, 1975

CBC

\* Headline

In Havana, ~~Canada and Cuba have signed~~  
an agreement which ~~will~~ provides a ten million dollar loan to Cuba  
and also a 2.6 million dollar technical assistance grant, ~~financed~~  
~~both~~ financed by the Canadian International Development  
Agency. Here is the story.

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The loan and technical aid grant agreement which was just  
signed here in Havana was first proposed in February 1974 during  
a visit by Paul Gerin Lajoie, the president of CIDA. The  
Cubans were pleased but then the proposal ran into criticism  
in Ottawa. Critics said that the terms of ~~the loan~~  
~~at~~ fifty years to pay at ~~zero~~ zero percent  
interest was too lenient in spite of the fact that this is a fairly  
typical type of CIDA loan. Finally a few weeks ago, after a year,  
the present version was approved. The 10 million dollar  
loan carries an interest of three percent per annum and matures in  
30 years. ~~The money will be spent on buying Canadian products.~~  
Cuba's ~~total~~ purchases from Canada ~~which~~ amounted to 144 million  
dollars last year and should reach 200 million this year.

This is Lionel Martin in Havana for CBC Radio News.

\* Headline: The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) will  
finance a 10 million dollar loan to Cuba as well as a  
2.6 million dollar technical  
assistance grant

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March 15, 1975  
Canada + Cuba Sign  
\$10 million agreement