

CBC RADIO NEWS

MAY 8, 1975

2-AM

RB-161

Fidel Castro gave a press conference for 40 American newsmen who are accompanying Senator George McGovern on his visit to Cuba, ^{which ends today} .. here is the story....

Prime Minister Castro said that Cuba was interested in normalizing its relations with the United States. He said that Cuba had ~~shown~~ made a gesture in this direction by signing ^{an} ~~a hijacking~~ anti-hijacking agreement with the United States.

Now he said, it is up to the United States to ^{RECIPROCATE WITH A} ~~make~~ a significant

gesture. Dr. Castro said that ~~that before~~ Cuba would like the United States to drop its policy of embargo against his country ~~but~~ before discussing other outstanding

problems related to normalization. However, ^{the Cuban PM said} ~~he said~~, the Cuban

government would look very favorable on a move by the United States to lift the embargo ^{what amounts to} ~~partially~~ on exports of medicine and food to Cuba, that is, a partial lifting of the embargo.

This is Lionel Martin in Havana for CBC radio news.

~~after the news~~

when the news conference ended Dr. Castro and Senator McGovern held a private discussion for several hours.

May 8, 1975

2 a.m.

Interview Fidel + McGovern

(:57)

Fidel Castro at Press Conference for 40 US newspaper persons who accompany Sen McGovern

CBC FEB 10, 1975

10 AM

Headline: Senator Ted Kennedy affirms that the U.S. embargo →

Senator Ted Kennedy's blast at U.S. Cuban policy comes on the heels of rumors here in Havana that Kennedy would like to visit Cuba ~~was~~ sometime this year. It is said here that Kennedy sent two emissaries to Cuba some time ago to sound out the feasibility of making a personal visit. A few weeks ago ~~last~~ a foreign correspondent asked Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro if there was anything to the rumors and Castro replied ~~somewhat evasively~~ that Kennedy would be welcome as would other political figures from the United States.

Last summer, it should be recalled, Senators Javits and Pell visited Cuba. Some months before that, Pat Holt, the chief of staff of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee also visited Cuba and conversed with Fidel Castro.

Few ~~Maxxxxxxxx~~ here in Cuba question ~~Senator~~ Kennedy's affirmation that the U.S. embargo policy against Cuba has been a failure. ~~the~~ The idea of the embargo policy which has now been ~~under~~ ⁱⁿ effect under five U.S. presidents was to ~~strangle~~ strangle the Cuban economy. ~~Butxxxxxxx~~ But 1974 was Cuba's most solid year of economic progress since the revolutionary ~~xxxxxx~~ victory in 1959. And today, many nations of the world have an active ~~polityxxxxxx~~ trade with Cuba. The most recent indications of Cuba's strong economic position are the ~~xxxx~~ loans made to Cuba by Spain and France: 900,000 million dollars by Spain over a three year period and 250,000 million by France for a one year period. It is estimated that Cuba will purchase some 200 million dollars worth of ~~xxxxxxxix~~ products from Canada this year, the highest

1313

45

A NEW RECORD HIGH.

THIS IS L.M. IN HAVANA FOR CBC RADIO NEWS