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Peter Ueberroth and top olympic official, mexican mario vazquez raña met with fidel castro for three hours here in havana. the bottom line was that cuba would not change its decision to skip the los angeles olympics.

until now, cuban statements of the withdrawel from the olympics have centered on the lack of security in los angeles. But Fidel Castro told ueberroth and vazquez raña that the main reason was not security but rather that of solidarity with the soviet union and the socialist block. the head of the cuban olympic committee, manuel gonzalez guerra stressed that position at the news conference. here he is through an interpreter.

Mr. Ueberroth said he tried to get Dr. Castro to use his influence to get the social bloc nations back into the olympics. But to no avail. He did get a committment from Fidel Castro however:

Peter Ueberroth said he was impressed by Fidel Castro's kno knowledge of sports

International olympic officials have now visited all the social bloc nations that have with

Despite the fact that his mission to havana failed to get the cubans back into the fold, Ueberroth, ~~expressed his confidence in sports as a healthy factor~~ in international affairs. STILL showed a glint of optimism

The head of the olympic organising committee said that now is the time to make the olympics -- even without the fourteen nations that have withdrawn -- a success.

fo cbc news this is lionel martin in havana

Head of Olympic Organizing Committee Meets with Fidel Castro to Discuss Cuba's Socialist Bloc Countries' Withdrawal from the Games

Fighting to Persuade Los Angeles

CBC
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