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It was a happy ending after a long and trying day for the airline passengers ^{here at the Jose Marti airport in Havana} who were held hostages for over 14 hours.

According to reports ~~that~~, the heroes of the day were several crewmen who overpowered the hijacker who was aboard with his wife and two children.

Negotiations with the hijacker ^{who wanted to go to IRAQ} were going on all day with the Cubans and Americans here cooperating closely. There was a great sigh of relief from all concerned as the ~~hijacked~~ passengers came down ~~the~~ onto the tarmac and were escorted to the terminal building here. They were treated to orange juice and ham sandwiches and ^{soon} ~~now long afterward~~ were on their way back to Miami. The hijacker and his family are now in ~~custody~~ in the custody of the Cuban police.

This is Lionel Martin in Havana for CBC Radio News.

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