

This is Lionel Martin in Havana

RB-336

03:05

The parade went on and on ~~and on~~ a human river flowing up
Havanas fifth avenue - men, women and children, young and
old -- ~~black~~ black and white, workers, professionals, housewives,
students and farmers.

If Fidel Castro had in mind to show the world that the
the Cuban revolution was still alive and kicking, he certainly
succeeded.

~~It will never be known how many people marched up the~~
~~spacious thoroughfare -- but it is known that~~ **exactly**
~~the march of a fighting people as it was billed, began at~~
~~9 am and ended went on into the early morning hours of the next~~
~~day.~~ **to MIDNIGHT.**

~~It wasn't so much a march, in the formal sense of the word,~~
~~as people strolling up the avenue, shouting slogans,~~
doing their cha cha cha -- all in a gay and festive mood. The
march was perfectly organized -- each ~~neighborhood~~ neighborhood had its
~~assigned time to assemble on a side street and then~~
enter the main stream.

What was the reason for this show of support for Fidel Castro
and the Cuban revolution? How did it come about?

The detonator was the event at the Peruvian embassy that
began on Easter weekend. On Good Friday, the Cuban government
announced that it was removing its guards from the embassy.
The Cubans said that the Peruvians were giving asylum in their
embassy to common delinquents so - if that's the way they wanted
it -- Cuba would simply take away the guards and let anybody
who wanted to enter the embassy.

Word spread among the disaffected - those alienated from
the Cuban revolution for whatever reason - whether it be
ideological dissidence / or the belief that their individuality
was being crushed / or because things were getting too hot for
them in the case of delinquents / or because they just wanted to
~~have~~ have more material things than the poor Cuban economy can
provide.

APRIL 19, 1980
CBE SUNDAY MORNING

This is Lionel Martin in Havana Sunday morning.
here is a ~~xxxxx~~ report on Havana's monster march of Saturday
in which an estimated million people participated.
I'll begin

If anybody claims that the revolutionary spirit is
dead in Cuba, they had better study the phenomenon of ~~the~~
Saturday here in Havana. One million Cubans, ~~xxxxxxx~~ marched
in a human river up Havana's fifth avenue from 9 am to close to
midnight in a undeniable demonstration of loyalty to Fidel Castro
and the Cuban revolution.

The detonator of this outbreak of revolutionary passion,
was the Peruvian embassy events of Easter weekend. In just
two days, after the Cuban government had removed its guards from
the Peruvian embassy, 10,000 Cubans, the disaffected, the alienated,
the ideological dissidents and even a good number of delinquent,
took advantage of the situation to climb the embassy fence ~~and~~
in the ~~xxxxxxx~~ hope of leaving Cuba. 7500

~~Made~~ About 1000 have already left Cuba, about 8000 are
at home with their passports stamped with exit visas ready to
leave when some nation accepts them and only about 2000 are
still recalcitrantly staying in the embassy.

The Saturday marchers, all day long and into the night
marched right by the embassy.

Unfortunately, it would be impossible to do justice to
the catchy slogans shouted by the crowd who were always in a
festive mood. The slogans looseso much when translated including
their rhymn. But its worth knowing the ideological content of
some of them. Here are a few: Fidel, put on the squeeze, so they
respect Cuba/ The embassy of Peru seems like Cayo Cruz - cayo cruz
is the dump yard in Havana/

Here are a few in Spanish with their literal English
equivilents

Fidel Aprieta que a Cuba se respeta - meaning Fidel
put on the pressure, so they respect Cuba.

another: La embajada de Peru parece a cayo cru. meaning.
the embassy of Peru seems like Cayo cru ..cayo cru is the garbage
dump in Havana.

Carta, loca a Cuba no se toca...Carter, crazyman, dont touch Cuba.

APRIL 19, 1976 BBC

4 and still another ..Gusano, because se venden por petusa.
meaning Worm, owl, they sell themselves for a pair of jeans.

The owl is in there for the purpose of rhyming in spanish.
and then there are the ~~xxx~~ oldies like

Fidel Seguro a los yanqui dale duro which means, fidel for
sure hit the yanquis hard.

Perhaps most impressive about the huge march was the
participation of the young..it seemed as if the torch of revolutionary
commitment was being passed to the new generation.

This is Lionel martin in Havana for bbc news.
Lio

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