

RB 363

Cuban Government Says Hijackers Will Be Sent to the US for Prosecution

any new hijackers or they will be sent back to the United States for prosecution-- which would also mean a stiff jail sentence.

The Cubans give three reasons for their decision to warn off the ~~hijackers~~ would be hijackers.

First, they say it is their international ^{obligation} responsibility to discourage hijackings. Secondly they say that innocent persons, including American women and children, could be killed if the hijacking ~~xxxxxxx~~ has a sad instead of happy ending. And finally they say they ^{exile} don't want the Cuban ~~xxxxxxx~~ antisocial elements and adventurers back in Cuba.

~~xxxxxxx~~ According to a U. S. diplomat here, the Cuban warning should play a big role in discouraging would be hijackers. It is a gesture ~~xxxxxxx~~ in the right direction and can only help to normalize what have been very touch and go relations between Cuba and the United States.

~~xxxxxxx~~

These relations worsened on May 2 when about 400 Cubans, many of them ex political prisoners, fought a battle with Cuban revolutionaries in front of the ~~Cuba~~ ^{U.S.} ~~xxxxxxx~~ diplomatic mission here in Havana, and then rushed into the building. They were given ~~safe~~ haven by the United States interest section. But over recent weeks, the Cuban ~~exiles~~ ^{voluntarily} have given themselves up to Cuban authorities--all but eleven of them -- and they have, according to U.S. diplomats ^{here} been treated properly and even allowed to go to the United States.

So, it seems, the pendulum is swinging, just a bit, the other way now. But nobody ^{here} expects any drastic changes in U.S. -Cuban relations before the November elections

FOR CBC Radio News

This is Lionel Martin in Havana, ^{Cuba} ~~for CBC Radio News.~~

CBC September 16, 1980 --

This is Lionel Martin in Havana for Tuesday afternoon and evening use. The Cuban government has come out with an important policy statement about the rash of hijackings of passengers planes that have been taking place. Here is the story.

Since August 10 there have been 9 hijackings of U.S. passenger planes to Cuba. They involved a total of 27 hijackers and more than 1000 passengers.

The United States government took stern ~~xxxx~~ measures to stop the hijackings, ~~xxxxxxx~~ all by Cuban exiles, but ~~nothing~~ they continued. Just two days ago a Delta airlines plane was diverted from its New Orleans-Atlanta route by 2 hijackers. The scenario was just about the same as the earlier hijackings. ~~The~~ ^{one} hijacker brandished a ~~xxxxxx~~ bottle filled with what was thought to be gasoline and the other kept ~~lighting~~ ^{flexing} a cigarette light while both shouted Cuba, Cuba...the message was clear and the plane flew ~~onxx~~ Havana.

~~When the hij~~

~~xxxxxxx~~ When a hijacker plane arrives here, the hijackers give themselves up to Cuban police and are whisked away. Then the passengers are allowed to go into the terminal building where they eat, drink, buy souvenirs and began perfecting the ~~stories~~ ^{stories} they will tell to the folks back ~~home~~ home about their unexpected adventure.

But what happens to the hijackers. ~~xxxxxxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ We knew they were taken off by the police but had no idea of whether they were being held and would be prosecuted.

Today's official communist party newspaper makes the Cuban position clear. They don't want hijackers forcing planes to go to Cuba. ~~The~~ An editorial says that the ~~pass~~ hijackers are in jail here.

But what is more important is what it says about future hijackers. Cuba, it says, will mete out drastic punishment to

This is Lionel Martin in Havana, for Tuesday afternoon evening use. The service message. Since August 10, there have been nine hijackings of U.S. passenger planes to Cuba. Now the Cuban government has come out with an important policy statement ~~that might~~ on the matter of hijackings. Here is the item:

~~THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT~~

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In the future, hijackers of passenger planes to Cuba will be drastically - that's the word

The Cubans say that any future hijackers can expect to be punished drastically or be sent back for prosecution to the United States. This is the first policy statement by the Cuban government since the rash of nine hijackings began on August 10. Western diplomats here say that the ~~stern~~ stern Cuban warning should help to discourage the hijackers. The Cubans say they have taken this measure because it is their international obligation to do so. Also they say, they do not want innocent people killed in a hijacking that might ~~not~~ not have as happy an ending as the last nine.

this is Lionel Martin in Havana for CBC radio news

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For CBC Radio News in Havana Cuba

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