

satellite news channel with beth carney
august 8, 1983 (12:45 am)

WR 543

Did one Q and A -----

Did one spot

Fidel castro's tone was conciliatory but not to the point of giving in on some of his cherished principles. he expressed satisfaction with the recent meetings of u.s. presidential envoy richard stone with representatives of both nicararagua and the salvadorean revolutionary movement. he also said he would be highly pleased if the kissinger commission appointee by president reagan met with the same two parties.

on the tougher side dr. castro said cuba would not withdraw its advisors in nicaragua and its troops in angola unless those two nations asked them to do so. we will not betray our friends, he said but he insisted that if those two nations want to make an agreement with the united states in which cuban troops and advisors would have to be withdrawn, he would have no objections.

The cuban leader said that the show of u.s. military power in central america would not intimidate either nicaragua or cuba. but he spoke in favour of a negotiated, political settlement in central america in which there were mutual concessions.

this is lionel martin for satellite news channel - havana, cuba

1) Q + A
2) 1 spot } Aug 8, 1986
see separate page

(SNC)

prod Charles Crawford & Beth Carney

On Fidel Castro's statements about Cuban Presence in Nicaragua and Angola

8, 1983 Q + A

Fidel castro gave one of his guerilla type, impromptu news conferences ~~inbthxbzbdlex~~ during a reception here. What he said ~~inbthxbzbdlex~~ was quite conciliatory - ~~but~~ he insisted ~~once~~ again that Cuba was strongly in favour of a negotiated, political settlement for central america.

In this conciliarty mood, he praised the contects between presidential envoy stone with the nicaraguan government and the salvadorean gueillas. He then went on to say he would be please^d if the commission henry kissinger presides over with establish contacts with the nicaraguan government and even more pleased if it would establish contacts with the salvadorean guerillas.

The cuban leader said that ~~xx~~ the central american crisis cannot be solved by negotiations with cuba but only by negotiations with nicaragua and the salvadorean opposition groups. He said cuba would ~~xx~~ keep its advisors in nicaragua and its soldier in angola until those governments asked them to leave. He said cuba had nothing against ^{those} governments making an agreement ~~witxbzbx~~ with other power^s which included the withdrawal of cuban forces from their country^{es}.

this lis lionel for satellite new channel - havana

Aug 8, 1983
S.W.C.

exmartin (havana) - 3

he told the grenadians: +if grenada is invaded by the united states, the cuban personnel will defend their position in their camps.+ he was speaking primarily about the construction camp at the new airport site .

the invasion took place at dawn on october 25. according to the cubans, while the u.s. troops were landing in helicopters in the area of st. george university with its hundreds of american students, there was no confrontation with the cubans who remained inside a defensive perimeter armed with infantry weapons such as soviet made ak-47's.

on october 25 at 8:30 am cuban time, the cuban government received a reply to its october 22 message from the u.s. government. dr. castro told journalists that this note arrived in cuban hands an hour and a half after u.s. troops began their first attacks on the cuban positions on grenada.

the note from washington offered the cubans safe passage out of grenada and said it agreed to the oct. 22nd cuban proposal to maintain constant contacts in regard to the safety of cuban and american nationals on grenada.kak

the u.s. note called on the cubans to cooperate fully with the invading forces. the same evening, john ferch, the head of the u.s. diplomatic mission in havana sent the cuban government a message which advised that +the cuban personnel stationed on grenada is not a target for the actions of u.s. troops.+ the note said the united states was fully aware that the cubans on grenada did not have the weapons or ammunition for prolonged resistance.

==lem

exmartin (havana) -4 and final

at 8:30 pm october 26 fidel castro replied to ferch's note. the cuban government, he said, had done its best to prevent the intervention in grenada. he said that no foreigners had been in danger in grenada and that +the intervention had been totally unjustifiable.+ he called on the united states to find +an honourable way to put an end to a battle that far from honours the united states.+

Last night (oct 27) cuban deputy foreign minister, ricardo alarcon told journalists here that us troops had initiated the confrontation in havana. (this in reply to a u.s. government p(correction - above line should read +in grenada) press release that said the cubans had been the first to fire their guns). he indisted that the construction workers at the airport were only construction workers but he noted that most adult males in cuba have had army or militia experience and are familiar with weapons. to the charge that a huge cache of arms for the cubans on the island had been discovered in a warehouse, he said that they did not belong to the cubans but rather to the granadian government which planned to give arms to its people in the event of an invasion.

even before the cubans announced that the cubans had been subdued,

even before the cuban goverment announced that the lasz bastion of the cubans had fallen in grenada, cubans began to hold street rallies in support of fidel castro's policy and in condemnation of the american landings in grenada.

the last ditch defense by the cubans who were outnumbered and outgunned obeyed fidel castro's sense of dignity and honour. in his october 26 note to the us government, castro suggested that cuba's defense of its psotions in the face of what it considered an illegal invasion would +inflict a costly moral defeat on the united, states.+
end end end end end end end end end end

22269 suntim g

mmmmmm

0021.5