

1984
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UW LEN NYK BAS
HIS:PROTEST SPY FLIGHT

CUBANS PROTEST SR-71 +SPY FLIGHTS+ IN FRONT OF U.S. EMBASSY:
HAVANA, DEC 9, REUTER -- TENS OF THOUSANDS OF CHANTING,
SINGING AND BANNER HAVING CUBANS BEGAN DEMONSTRATING HERE THIS
MORNING IN FRONT OF THE U.S. EMBASSY IN PROTEST AGAINST THE
FLIGHT YESTERDAY OF A U.S. SR-71 RECONNAISSANCE PLANE OVER THE
ENTIRE LENGTH OF CUBA.

THE NUMBER OF DEMONSTRATORS IS EXPECTED TO SWELL TO MORE
THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND TO CONTINUE TONIGHT AND TOMORROW,
CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCES SAID.

U.S. DIPLOMATS, LOOKING THROUGH THE WINDOWS OF THE U.S.
EMBASSY, SOME WITH BINOCULARS AND IN ONE CASE, A TELESCOPE,
WATCHED AS HOUSEWIVES, WORKERS AND STUDENTS IN THEIR SCHOOL
UNIFORMS BEGAN GATHERING OUTSIDE THE BUILDING SHORTLY AFTER THE
CUBAN GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY'S +SPY FLIGHTS+ OVER MORNING
TELEVISION SHOWS AND IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER, GRANMA.

THE NUMBER OF PROTESTORS INCREASED AS THE MORNING WORE ON
AND AT MID-AFTERNOON ARE EXPECTED TO SURPASS THE ONE HUNDRED
THOUSAND MARK WHEN AN ANNOUNCED RALLY
WILL BE HELD.

LOUD SPEAKERS BLASTED OUT REVOLUTIONARY
SLOGANS WHILE STUDENTS SANG REVOLUTIONARY SONGS AND SHOUTED
SLOGANS.

A LONG BANNER HELD ALOFT BY FIVE ADULTS READ: +MR. IMPERIALISTS,
YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT THE CUBAN PEOPLE WILL LIVE WITH THE REVOLUTION
OR DIE TO THE LAST MAN AND WOMEN DEFENDING IT.+ ANOTHER
BANNER SAID: +MR IMPERIALISTS, WE DON'T FEAR YOU IN THE LEAST+.
ONE HAND LETTERED SIGN SAID +STOP THE SR-71 SPY FLIGHTS OVER CUBA+
AND ANOTHER READ: +FIDEL, GET TOUGH SO THAT THEY RESPECT CUBA..+

IN ITS ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FLIGHT THIS MORNING, GRANMA SAID
IT WAS LINKED +TO THE IMPERIALIST THREAT OF AGRESSION AGAINST
NICARAGUA AND THE LATEST EVENTS ON THE FRONTIER BETWEEN NICARAGUA
AND HONDURAS.+ IT SAID THAT IT WAS THE SEVENTH +ARROGANT AND HAUGHTY
ACTION OF THIS KIND SINCE 1983.

--REUTER/LEN