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POL:SOVIET FLOTILLA

SOVIET NAVAL FLOTILLA PAYS ITS ANNUAL VISIT TO CUBA:

HAVANA, OCT 20, REUTER - A SMALL SOVIET NAVAL FLOTILLA WAS GIVEN A TWENTY-ONE GUN SALUTE AS IT ENTERED HAVANA BAY FOR WHAT WAS DESCRIBED BY CUBAN OFFICIALS AS +AN OFFICIAL AND FRIENDLY VISIT.+

THE VISIT OF THE SOVIET FLOTILLA HAS BECOME AN ANNUAL EVENT, THE OFFICIALS RECALLED THAT THIS IS THE SIXTEENTH ~~TIME~~ IN SEVENTEEN YEARS THAT A SOVIET NAVAL FLOTILLA HAS MADE A SIMILAR VISIT.

THE FLOTILLA IS COMMANDED BY VICE-ADMIRAL FIODOR STAROCHIOV, SUBSTITUTE CHIEF OF THE SOVIET RED SEA FLEET. HE WAS RECEIVED BY CAPTAIN RENE GONZALEZ OF THE CUBAN NAVY. FOLLOWING THE WELCOMING CEREMONIES, ADMIRAL STAROCHIOV MET WITH REAR-ADMIRAL PEDRO PEREZ BETANCOURT, CHIEF OF THE CUBAN NAVY.

THE FLOTILLA CONSISTS OF THE FLAGSHIP, A MISSILE CARRYING ANTI-SUBMARINE FRIGATE +OCHAKOV+, ANOTHER FRIGATE OF THE SAME CLASS, A TANGO CLASS DIESEL SUBMARINE AND THE TANKER +BORIS NILIKIN+.

THE SOVIET SHIPS WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC DURING THEIR STAY IN HAVANA HARBOR.

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