

UU LEN NYK BAS

FEA:CHRISTIE

JULIE CHRISTIE ATTENDS FILM FESTIVAL, EXPRESSES THIRD WORLD CONCERNS
BY LIONEL MARTIN

HAVANA, DEC 22. REUTER - JULIE CHRISTIE, IN A MINI-SKIRT AND HER CURLY HAIR TOSSELED SAT ON THE UNMADE BED AT THE HOTEL CAPRI. +I WANTED TO COME TO CUBA FOR SO LONG BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO COME JUST AS A TOURIST SO I WAS VERY PLEASED WHEN I WAS INVITED TO THE EIGHTH FESTIVAL OF NEW LATIN AMERICAN CINEMA - IT SEEMED THE RIGHT OPPORTUNITY.+

THE RENOWNED BRITISH ACTRESS WON THE FESTIVAL'S TOP AWARD AS THE BEST FEMININE PERFORMER FOR HER ROLE IN THE ARGENTINIAN FILM +MISS MARY+.

CHRISTIE SAID THAT THE HAVANA FESTIVAL HAD BECOME ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT IN THE WORLD BECAUSE IT WAS A THIRD WORLD FESTIVAL AND IT ISN'T AS COMMERCIAL AS OTHERS +FILM MAKERS ARE HERE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD, INCLUDING NORTHAMERICA.+ CHRISTIE OBSERVED. +THERE IS SYDNEY POLLACK, FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA, GREGORY PECK, HARRY BELAFONTE AND LAST YEAR JACK LEMMON AND ROBERTO DE NIRO.+

+SO IT IS A BIG FILM FESTIVAL AND BIG FILM FESTIVALS ARE A GOOD PLACE TO GO IF YOU ARE IN THE BUSINESS.+ SHE SAID

THE PETITE AND VERSATILE ACTRESS WAS INTERESTED IN SPEAKING ABOUT HER CONCERN FOR THE SITUATION IN THE THIRD WORLD. +I'VE TRAVELLED A LOT IN THE THIRD WORLD AND I'VE SEEN THE RESULTS OF DEPENDENCY,+ SHE SAID. +WE ALL KNOW ABOUT THEM AND WE GO AROUND LAMENTING THE POVERTY IN INDIA, THE STARVATION IN AFRICA, THE REPRESSION IN SOUTH AFRICA, THE MASSACRES IN GUATEMALA AND THE HORRORS OF TORTURE IN ARGENTINA UNDER THE GENERALS AND IN CHILE NOW.+

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THE INTERVIEW TOOK PLACE IN THE SAME HOTEL WHERE THE HOLLYWOOD TOUGH GUY ACTOR, GEORGE RAFT, HAD BEEN HOST OF THE GAMBLING CASINO BEFORE THE REVOLUTION IN 1959. NEXT TO THE BED, ON THE LAMP TABLE, WERE SEVERAL BOOKS ABOUT CUBA AND CENTRAL AMERICA.

+ALL THESE THINGS ARE A RESULT OF DEPENDENCY.+ SHE AFFIRMED AND ADDED, + THAT IS WHY I AM INTERESTED IN POOR, UNDEVELOPED, NON-INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES THAT ARE TRYING TO FIND A WAY OTHER THAN DEPENDENCY, ESPECIALLY ON THE UNITED STATES BECAUSE THAT IS WHERE THE ECONOMIC POWER IS.+

THE EARNEST ACTRESS WHO WON FAME FOR HER ROLE IN DR. ZHIVAGO SAID SHE WANTED TO COME TO CUBA +BECAUSE IT HAS CHOSEN A DIFFERENT STRUCTURE FOR ITSELF THAN MOST OF THE THIRD WORLD; IT HAS CHOSEN TO BE INDEPENDENT.+

+I WANTED TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT CUBA BECAUSE THERE IS SUCH A LOT OF RUBBISH WRITTEN AND I WANTED TO COME AND SEE FOR MYSELF,+ SHE SAID.

ANGER CREPT INTO HER VOICE WHEN SHE TALKED ABOUT THE FLIGHT OVER CUBA OF A U.S SR-71 RECONNAISSANCE PLANE THAT HAD BEEN REPORTED IN THE CUBAN PRESS. +CANYOU IMAGINE IF A RUSSIAN SPY PLANE FLEW OVER BRITAIN...THE OUTCRY.+ SHE SAID. +I KNOW IT IS A NORMAL THING FOR THE UNITED STATES TO DO BECAUSE WHEN I WAS IN NICARAGUA THERE WERE U.S PLANES GOING OVER ALMOST EVERY DAY.+

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+I THINK IT IS ALMOST RACIST: THE APROGANCE OF THINKING YOU CAN GET AWAY WITH THAT KIND OF BEHAVIOR WHICH IS INTOLERABLE ANYWHERE ELSE..WHY IS IT THEY CAN GET AWAY WITH IT...IS IT BECAUSE THE PEOPLE ARE NOT WHITE OR SOMETHING..ITS INCREDIBLE.. JSUT BLITHELY VIOLATING OTHER PEOPLES' TERRITORIES. +

WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE CHARGES THAT NICARAGUA AND CUBA ARE AGRESSIVE CHRISTIE REPLIES: +WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? HOW CAN NICARAGUA BE ACTING AGRESSIVELY WHEN IT IS ON THE DEFENSIVE AGAINST AN ILLEGAL ARMY FINANCED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND CUBA IS ON THE DEFENSIVE ALL THE TIME AND ON THE DEFENSIVE DEVERY MINUTE BECUASE OF THE U.S. EMBARGO. +

JULIE CHRISTIE SEEMS TRULY PERPLEXED: +HOW CAN THESE SMALL COUNTRIES WITHOUT EVEN ONE LITTLE NUCLEAR WEAPON BE CALLED AGRESSIVE?+ SHE ASKS AND ADDS, +OF COURSE, THEIR ATTITUDE MIGHT BE AGRESSIVE...YOURS WOULD TOO IF THERE WERE ARMIES BEING TRAINED TO DESTROY YOU.+

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