1986

RR-86-112

IU GMW BRJ
MISC:CASTRO-SMOKING
FIDEL CASTRO CELEBRATES FIRST ANNIVERSARY AS NON-SMOKER.
HAVANA, AUG 26, REUTER -- CUBAN PRESIDENT FIDEL CASTRO, WHOSE ROMANTIC IMAGE WAS ASSOCIATED WITH A HAVANA CIGAR STICKING OUT OF HIS MOUTH, CELEBRATED HIS FIRST ANNIVERSARY AS A NON-SMOKER TODAY.

CASTRO TOLD A NATIONWIDE T.V. AUDIENCE LAST NIGHT DURING THE INAUGURATION OF A NEW HEART SURGERY ANNEX AT THE +WILLIAM SOLER+ CHILDRENS' HOSITAL HERE THAT +I HAVEN'T TAKEN A PUFF SINCE LAST AUGUST 26.+ HE ADDED: +I DON'T MISS IT AND I FEEL BETTER.+

THE WHITE-BEARDED CASTRO WHO HAD HIS SIXTIETH BIRTHDAY TWO WEEKS AGO SAID SEVERAL MONTHS AGO THAT HE HAD GIVEN UP SMOKING AS AN EXAMPLE TO OTHERS. ACCORDING TO RELIABLE STATISTICS, CUBANS ARE AMONG THE HEAVIEST SMOKERS IN THE WORLD.

IN YESTERDAY'S T.V. APEARANCE CASTRO SAID HE NOW HAD THE MORAL AUTHORITY TO TALK ABOUT THE HAZARDS OF SMOKING AND TO ADVISE OTHERS TO DROP THE HABIT.

THE CUBAN LEADER SAID HE BELIEVES THE BATTLE AGAINST SMOKING IS GAINING GROUND +AND THAT THERE ARE GOING TO BE MANY WOMEN WHO FIGHT WITH THEIR HUSBANDS BECAUSE IT IS PROVEN SCIENTIFICALLY THAT SMOKERS NOT ONLY KILL THEMSELVES SOONER BUT ALSO DO DANGE TO THEIR CHILDREN AND EVEN THE UNBORN CHILDREN STILL IN THE MOTHER'S WOMB+.

CASTRO SAID THAT CUBA'S EXPANDING, FREE OF CHARGE MEDICAL SYSTEM AS WELL AS THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST SMOKING AND PHYSICAL INACTIVITY (SEDENTARISMO) SHOULD EXTEND THE LIFE EXPECTANCY OF CUBANS. HE SAID THAT LIFE EXPECTANCY IN CUBA HAS RISEN TO 74 YEARS OLD BUT THAT +HE WILL BATTLE FOR 80 OR 85.+ HE ADDED THAT MAN'S GENETIC POTENTIAL LIFE EXPECTANCY IS 120 YEARS OLD.
=-REUTER/LEM
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1986

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UU LEN NYK BAS
FEA:FILM JHAVANA

GARCIA MARQUEZ SAID DURING HIS SPEECH AT THE INAUGURAL CEREMONIES THAT THE SCHOOL IS NOT ASHAMED TO PUT UP A SIGNED SAYING: +WE ACCEPT DONATIONS.+

THE FOUNDATIN HAS AMBITIOUS PLANS. IT HAS INITIATED A PROJECT FOR A SERIES OF FILMS ABOUT NICARAGUA +AS A GESTURE OF SOLIDARITY+. THE DIRECTORS OF THE FILMS WILL BE SANTIAGO ALVAREZ OF CUBA, MIGUIEL LITTIN OF CHILE, JORGE PONS OF MEXICO, JORGE SANJINES OF BOLIVIA AND GERALDO SARNO OF BRAZIL. ALL WELL KNOWN EXPONENTS OF THE SO-CALLED +NEW LATIN AMERICAN CINEMA+ WHICH STRESSES SOCIAL AWARENESS.

THE SOUNDATION WILL ALSO SPONSOR THE PRODUCTION OF A FULL LENGTH DOCUMENTARY ON THE LIFE OF THE POPULAR PANAMANIAN LEADER, OMAR TORRIJJOS, WHO DIED IN AN AIRPLANE CRASH WHICH MANY LATIN AMERICANS ARE CONVINCED WAS CAUSED BY SABOTAGE. THE DIRECTOR OF THE FILM WILL BE THE PANAMANIAN, PEDRO RIVERA AND THE GOAL IS TO FINISH IT BY DECEMBER 1987.

A TELEVISION SERIES BASED ON FIVE STORIES BY GABRIEL GARCIA MARQUEZ ARE ALSO ON THE FOUNDATION'S LIST OF PROJECTS. THE FILMS WILL BE MADE BY THOMAS GUTIERREZ ALEA OF CUBA, RUY GUERRA OF BRAZIL, LISANDRO DUQUE OF COLOMBIA, JAIME HUMBERTO HERMOSILLO OF MEXICO AND ALEJANDRO DORIA OF ARGENTINA. STILL ANOTHER PROJECT IS A FILM ON THE HISTORY OF LATIN AMERICAN MOVIES.

==MORE/LEM
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1966

UU LEN NYK BAS
FEA/FILM HAVANA
THE SECOND LEVEL COURSE IS CALLED "EXPERIMENTAL WORKSHOPS" (TALLERES EXPERIMENTALES) WHERE MOVIE MAKERS WILL PERFECT THEIR SKILLS BY MAKING FILMS.
THE HIGHEST LEVEL IS CALLED "HIGHER STUDIES DIALOGUES" WHERE MORE EXPERIENCED MOVIE MAKERS WILL EXCHANGE EXPERIENCES.
THE IDEA OF THE SCHOOL, BIRRI SAID, IS TO TURN OUR "MILITANTS OF THE VISUAL IMAGE." (MILITANTE DE LA IMAGIN). HE CALLED THE SCHOOL "A PRODUCTIVE CENTER OF CREATIVE ENERGY FOR AUDIOVISUAL IMAGES." (UNA CENTRAL PRODUCTIVA DE ENERGIA CREATIVA PARA IMAGENES AUDIOVISUALES) AND ALSO "A FACTORY AND LABORATORY FOR THE EYE AND EAR." (UNA FABRICA Y UN LABORATORIO DEL OJO Y DE LA OREJA).
=REUTER/LEN
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UU LEN NYK BAS
FEA:FILM 4HAVANA

THE FOUNDATION IS ALSO SPONSORING A LATIN AMERICAN COMPETITION FOR THE BEST IDEAS FOR FICTIONOR DOCUMENTARY FILMS. ANOTHER COMPETITION IS FOR THE WORKS OF AMATEUR FILM MAKERS IN LATIN AMERICA. THOSE WHO SHOW TALENT IN THESE COMPETITIONS WILL GET THE FOUNDATION'S SUPPORT IN PRODUCING THEIR FILMS AND ALSO HAVE A CHANCE TO WIN SCHOLARSHIPS TO THE NEW INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF CINEMA AND TELVISION.

THE NEW SCHOOL, ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF HAVANA, WAS REBUILT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE FILM SCHOOL WITH PROJECTION ROOMS, EDITING ROOMS AND STUDIOS FOR FILMING FROM ONE OF CUBA'S MANY "HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE". THE SCHOOL, WITH TWO MAJOR BUILDINGS, EACH WITH TWO STORIES, HAS A SIZABLE TRACT OF FARMLAND WHERE VEGETABLES WILL BE GROWN, A RUNNING TRACK AND A NEWLY COMPLETED OLYMPIC SIZE SWIMMING POOL WHICH FIDEL CASTRO SAID, HALF IN JEST, "CAN BE USED FOR LEARNING UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY."

FERNADO BIRRI, THE PATRIARCHAL LOOKING ARGENTINIAN FILM MAKER WITH A FLOWING BEARD AND A BALCK FEDORA HAT WHICH SOME SAY JOKINGLY THAT HE EVEN SLEEPS WITH, IS THE DIRECTOR OF THE SCHOOL. THE FIRST COURSE WILL BEGIN IN MID JANUARY 1987 WITH TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTY STUDENTS FROM ASIA, AFRICA AND MOSTLY LATIN AMERICA.

BIRRIA SAID THAT THERE WILL BE THREE SEPARATE SCHOLASTIC LEVELS AT THE SCHOOL.

THE REGULAR COURSE WILL RUN THREE YEARS AND WILL ATTEMPT TO TURN OUT ALL-AROUND (MULTI OFFICIO) MOVIE MAKERS WHO WILL STUDY PRODUCTION, DIRECTION, LIGHTING, STAGE SETTING, SOUND, FILMING AND SCRIPT WRITING. BIRRI EXPLAINED THAT THIS BROAD EDUCATION WILL NOT ONLY MAKE THEM BETTER MOVIE MAKERS BUT WILL ALSO HELP THEM TO FIND EMPLOYMENT WHEN THEY RETURN HOME.

==MORE/LEM
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