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NEWS ANALYSIS:U.S. EMBARGO
VIEW ON TIGHTENING OF U.S. EMBARGO ON CUBA:
BY LIONEL MARTIN

HAVANA, AUG 23, REUTER -- WASHINGTON'S NEWLY ANNOUNCED PLAN TO TIGHTEN THE U.S. EMBARGO ON CUBA BY L BLOCKING THE HOLES THROUGH WHICH SOME DOLLARS AND U.S.-MADE PRODUCTS LEAK INTO FIDEL CASTRO'S ISLAND, WILL ADD SOMEWHAT TO CUBA'S PRESENT ECONOMIC WOES BUT IS UNLIKELY TO FORCE ITS GOVERNMENT TO CHANGE ITS FOREIGN POLICY OR RENEW THE IMMIGRATION AGREEMENT WHICH IT UNILATERALLY TERMINATED IN MAY 1985, ACCORDING TO SOME WESTERN DIPLOMATS HERE.

THE NEW MEASURES CALL FOR STRICTER CONTROLS ON MONEY SENT BY CUBAN EXILES IN THE UNITED STATES TO THEIR RELATIVES IN HAVANA AND ON THE PURCHASE OF U.S.-MADE PRODUCTS BY CUBA THROUGH COMPANIES REGISTERED IN SUCH PLACES AS PANAMA.

CHARLES REDMAN OF THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT SAID FRIDAY THAT THE MEASURES APPROVED BY PRESIDENT REAGAN WILL ALSO RESTRICT THE NUMBER OF U.S. VISAS GIVEN TO CUBANS IN THIRD COUNTRIES. THE U.S. CHARGED THAT THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT OFTEN CHARGED EXHORBITANT SUMS, PAID BY RELATIVES IN THE U.S., FOR ALLOWING CUBANS TO LEAVE FOR OTHER COUNTRIES.

A NON-OFFICIAL CUBAN SOURCE SAID THAT IN THE PAST THE PANAMANIAN EMBASSY IN HAVANA HAD COLLECTED THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS TO GIVE VISAS TO CUBANS WHO WISHED TO GO TO PANAMA AND THEN TO THE UNITED STATES. THE SOURCE ALSO SAID THAT A LAW FIRM SET UP BY THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT TO EXPEDITE LEGAL MATTERS WITH THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT ALSO CHARGED HEAVY FEES.

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LOCAL OBSERVERS BELIEVE THAT THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT MIGHT REACT TO THE NEW U.S. RESTRICTIONS BY TIGHTENING ITS OWN CONTROLS ON CONTACT BETWEEN CUBANS ON THE ISLAND AND THEIR RELATIVES IN FLORIDA.

WHEN THE RADIO FREE-EUROPE STATIN, RADIO MARTI, BEGAN TRANSMITTING TO CUBA IN MAY 1985 THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT REACTED BY IMMEDIATELY SUSPENDING ITS IMMIGRATION AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT SIGNED ONLY SIX MONTHS BEFORE. THIS AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE PERMITTED THE DEPARTURE OF 20,000 CUBANS FOR THE UNITED STATES EACH YEAR.

CUBAN SOURCES SAY THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS, FOR SOME TIME, BEEN PROHIBITING CUBANS FROM RECEIVING MONEY FROM THEIR RELATIVES IN THE UNITED STATES. THE SAME SOURCES SAY THAT TELEPHONE CALLS BY CUBANS
TO THE UNITED STATES ARE MUCH MORE DIFFICULT TO MAKE INASMUCH AS THE SPECIAL TELEPHONE EXCHANGES SET UP TO THE PURPOSE ARE NOW ONLY OPEN FOR A FEW HOURS A DAY.
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