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AM-CUBA-CASTRO/OLYMPICS
CASTRO CHIDES OTHER COMMUNIST NATIONS FOR ATTENDING OLYMPICS:
HAVANA, SEPT 24, REUTER - CUBAN PRESIDENT FIDEL CASTRO MADE A STRONG ATTACK ON THE CHOICE OF SOUTH KOREA AS THE SITE OF THE SUMMER OLYMPIC GAMES, DEFENDED CUBA'S DECISION TO STAY AWAY AND CHIDED OTHER COMMUNIST-BLOC NATIONS FOR ATTENDING THEM
CASTRO MADE HIS REMARKS FRIDAY AFTER HE PRESENTED 173 CUBAN ATHLETES WITH GOLD MEDALS. HIS REMARKS WERE PUBLISHED IN THE SATURDAY EDITION OF THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER GRANMA..
+I SAY IT IS VERY UGLY THAT OTHER SOCIALIST NATIONS HAVE GONE TO SEOUL,+ CASTRO SAID. +FRATERNAL FFRIENDS DO NOT ABANDON EACH OTHER,+ HE ADDED.
+WE COULD HAVE BROUGHT BACK MEDALS BUT OUR HONOUR WOULD HAVE SUFFERERED,+ THE CUBAN LEADER SAID.
REFERRING TO CUBA'S POSITION ON THE SUMMER OLYMPICS CASTRO SAID THAT HIS COUNTRY IS +SOVEREIGN, VERY FREE AND NOT A SATELLITE.+
CASTRO RECALLED THAT CUBAN ATHLETES HAD ALSO STAYED AWAY FROM THE SUMMER OLYMLICS IN LOS ANGELES IN 1984 IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE SOVIET UNION'S DECISION NOT TO ATTEND.
THE CUBAN LEADER CHARGED THAT SOUTH KOREA IS +ONE OF THE NATIONS WHERE THE MOST VIOLENCE AND REPRESSION OF THE PEOPLE EXISTS.+ HE SAID THAT THE GAMES ARE BEING PLAYED +UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THE U.S NAVY, AIR FORCE AND ARMY AND MANY TENS OF THOUSANDS OF REPRESSIVE POLICE.+
+THE LEAST THAT I CAN SAY,+ THE 61-YEAR OLD CUBAN LEADER SAID +IS THAT IT WOULD NOT HAVE CONSTITUTED AN HONOUR TO PARTICIPATE IN OLYMPICS UNDER THESE CONDITIONS.+
CASTRO SAID HE DID EVERYTING HE COULD TO ENCOURAGE THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE TO FAIRLY DIVIDE THE GAMES BETWEEN SOUTH AND NORTH KOREA. BUT, HE SAID +EGOTISM, A REACTIONARY SPIRIT AND POLLITICAL MACHINATIONS PREVAILED TO PREVENT THAT KIND OF A SOLUTION.+
+I BELIEVE THAT SPORTS WOULD HAVE GAINED A LOT AND THESE GAMES WOULD HAVE BECOME TRUE OLYMPICS IF THE IDEAL OF SHARING THEM HAD PROSPERED.+
HE TOLD THE CUBAN ATHLETES +WE ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO HAVE WON GOLD MEDALS+ AND SAID THAT ANY MEDALS THAT CUBANS WOULD HAVE WON IN SEOUL WOULD HAVE BEEN COVERED WITH SLIME.
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