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UU ISA LEN BAS FBA CAN VISM
:AN-CUBA-CASTRO
CASTRO HOPES CUBAN TROOPS IN ANGOLA CAN RETURN HOME SOON:
HAVANA, DEC 1, REUTER - IN A SPEECH PUBLISHED HERE THURSDAY BUT DELIVERED TUESDAY, CUBAN PRESIDENT FIDEL CASTRO SAID HE HOPED THAT THE 50,000 CUBAN TROOPS IN ANGOLA WOULD BE ABLE TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMELAND SOON.

THE SPEECH WAS DELIVERED IN THE MOUNTAINS OF EASTERN CUBA TO VETERANS OF HIS OLD GUERRILLA ARMY THE DAY BEFORE HE FLEW TO MEXICO TO ATTEND THE INAUGURATION OF THE NEW PRESIDENT. THURSDAY'S OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER, GRANMA, DEVOTED AN ENTIRE PAGE TO THE SPEECH.

CASTRO SAID THAT HIS NATION HAD WORKED SERIOUSLY FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE WAR IN ANGOLA +ALTHOUGH WITHOUT ANXIETIES OR IMPATIENCE.+

A PEACE PROTOCOL IS EXPECTED TO BE SIGNED THIS WEEK IN BRAZZAVILLE, CONGO AFTER SEVEN MONTHS OF SENSITIVE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN A JOIN ANGOLAN-CUBAN DELEGATION AND SOUTH AFRICA, WITH THE UNITED STATES ACTING AS MEDIATOR.

CASTRO SAID THAT HIS NATION HAD NEVER SOUGHT A CRUSH MILITARY VICTORY OVER SOUTH AFRICA. +RATHER, WE SOUGHT A FAIR, POLITICAL SOLUTION,+ HE SAID.

THE SIXTY+TWO YEAR OLD CUBAN LEADER EXCLAIMED, +MAY OUR TROOPS RETURN FROM ANGOLA SOON.+

IN ANOTHER PART OF THE SPEECH CASTRO SAID THAT CUBA MUST MAINTAIN STRONG DEFENCES +BECAUSE WE HAVE A POWERFUL ENEMY, YANKEE IMPERIALISM, WITH ITS CYNICISM, PERFIDY AND OPPORTUNISM.+

+THE POWERFUL EMPIRE STILL THREATENS US AND WOULD LIKE TO LIQUIDATE THE REVOLUTION, BY WAY OF ARMS OR BY WAY OF EROSION: THROUGH MILITARY STRUGGLE OR IDEOLOGICAL STRRUGLE, IN ADDITION TO ITS CONSTANT ECNOMIC BLOCKADE,+ CASTRO SAID.
==REUTER/LEM
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