RR-88-60

1988

UU ISA LEN BAS FBA CAN VISM
:AM-CUBA-GHANA
GHANAIAN PRIME MINISTER IN CUBA, BEGINS OFFICIAL TALKS:
HAVANA, JUNE 23, REUTER - THE PRIME MINISTER OF GHANA, P.V
OBENEO, BEGAN OFFICIAL TALKS WITH TOP CUBAN OFFICIALS ONLY
HOURS AFTER HIS ARRIVAL IN HAVANA THURSDAY, THE GHANAIAN AMBASSADOR
TO CUBA, KOJO AMOO-GOTTFRIED, TOLD REUTER.
HE SAID THAT MR OBENEO ARRIVED HERE IN THE EARLY HOURS OF
THURSDAY MORNING ON AN OFFICIAL SEVEN DAY VISIT AT THE INVITATION
OF CUBAN PRESIDENT FIDEL CASTRO.
AMOO-GOTTFRIED SAID THAT CUBAN VICE-PRESIDENT, CARLOS
RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ, WAS THE HIGHEST RANKING CUBAN OFFICIAL AT THE
OFFICIAL TALKS. HE SAID THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WILL ATTEND
A DINNER THURSDAY NIGHT HOSTED BY RODRIGUEZ.
DURING HIS VISIT HERE, THE GHANAIAN LEADER IS EXPECTED TO
MEET AND HOLD CONVERSATIONS WITH CUBAN PRESIDENT FIDEL CASTRO.
ACCORDING TO THE GHANAIAN AMBASSADOR AND CUBAN OFFICIALS,
THE TWO NATIONS HAVE EXCELLENT RELATIONS.
THE AMBASSADOR SAID THAT OBENEO WILL VISIT THE ISLE OF
YOUTH TO THE SOUTH OF THE CUBAN MAINLAND WHERE SIX HUNDRED
GHANAIAN SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM GRADE 7 TO 12 ATTEND
A SPECIAL SCHOOL. AMOO-GOTTFRIED SAID THAT GHANAIAN TECHERS
GIVE HISTORY AND CULTURAL SUBJECTS AT THE SCHOOL WHILE THE CUBAN
TEACHERS GIVE THE SCIENCE AND MATHEMATIC COURSES.
THE GHANAIAN LEADER IS ALSO SCHEDULED TO VISIT THE
CITY OF CIENFUEGOS IN SOUTH-CENTRAL CUBA, THE SITE OF CUBA'S
FIRST NUCLEAR POWER PLANT NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION. HE WILL
ALSO TRAVEL TO THE EASTERN CUBAN CITY OF SANITAGO DE CUBA,
KNOWN FOR ITS AFRO-CUBAN TRADITION.
CUBA AND GHANA ESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS SHORTLY
AFTER THE VICTORY OF THE CUBAN REVOLUTION IN 1959. TIES WERE
BROKEN IN 1966 WHEN THE GOVERNMENT OF PRESIDENT KWAME NKRUMAH WAS
OVERTHROWN IN GHANA. FULL RELATIONS WERE RESTABLISHED IN
1973.
GHANA'S CHIEF OF STATE, JERRY JOHN RAWLINGS VISITED CUBA
IN 1984 TO ATTEND THE FOURTH SUMMIT MEETING OF THE MOVEMENT OF
NON-ALIENED NATIONS. HE HAS STATED THAT HE IS AN ADMIRER OF
THE CUBAN REVOLUTION AND ITS LEADER, FIDEL CASTRO.
==REUTER/LEM
NNNNNN