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Cuba

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Would Peace Talks Be So Evil?

Mexico is sticking by her guns on the Cuban issue.

Three weeks ago, at a meeting of the Organization of American States, 15 member nations out of 19 voted to impose sanctions on Cuba and to break diplomatic relations with Castro.

One nation, Bolivia, abstained, and three nations—Chili, Mexico and Uruguay—voted against the anti-Cuban resolution.

At the time of the OAS meeting, it was thought the four dissenting nations later might swing into line.

But Mexico let it be known this week that she will join in no boycott against Cuba unless ordered to do so by the World Court. Mexico contends that under the UN Charter sanctions such as those voted by OAS are illegal unless approved by the Security Council.

Mexico's stand won't be popular in Washington. It tends to show up the OAS for what it is—a collection of puppet nations controlled by Uncle Sam.

But we predict history will applaud Mexico for courage, independence and a sense of fair play. Mexico recognizes the Cuban revolution as a revolution of the people. It was not engineered by the cloak and dagger boys of the CIA as so

many South American revolutions have been. Mexico knows that Castro did not invite aid from Russia until we spurned him and began lending clandestine aid to his enemies.

Mexico knows that Castro can walk around among his people with more freedom, and apparently with more safety, than even an American President, although at every public rally in Havana they say half the male population goes armed.

Castro is a dictator, to be sure. But he wasn't put in office by the U.S.A. And he hasn't been kept in office by the U.S.A. How many other dictators south of the border can make this claim?

It's long since time that the U.S.A. got realistic about Cuba. We are suggesting vehemently today that Turkey and Greece get together and straighten out their problems on Cyprus. Yet here in our own back yard we refuse to sit down and work out our difficulties with Cuba, even though Castro is willing.

When the most powerful nation on earth won't take a friendly step toward one of the weakest, how can we have the gall to advise others about how to achieve peace? We should take a tip from Mexico.