

26 January 1967

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CUBA

U.S. NEGRO, PUERTO RICAN RIGHTS EFFORTS COMPARED

Havana in Spanish to the Americas 1200 GMT 25 January 1967--E

(Text) The U.S. Negro leader Stokeley Carmichael said in San Juan, Puerto Rico, that there is a close relationship between the struggle of the U.S. Negro citizens and the Puerto Rican independence movement. Stokeley Carmichael, leader of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in the United States, is in San Juan to take part in an event organized by the university federation of the Puerto Rican Pro-Independence Movement (MPI).

Carmichael said. U.S. Negroes are a colony within the United States, just as you Puerto Ricans are a colony outside continental America. After expressing support for the just struggle which Vietnam is waging against Yankee imperialism, the U.S. Negro leader said: We are told that we go to fight in Vietnam for a so-called democracy, but we know the hypocrisy of that statement. "We have experienced," he added, "with our bodies and our own blood what this so-called U.S. democracy means."

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