

Through a Diplomatic Approach

As Cuban-Americans living in South Florida who represent  
grass roots organizations with thousands of members, we have come  
to Washington, D.C. in response to President Bush's recent  
statement that he wished to hear from the Cuban American  
community regarding U.S. policy toward Cuba and that we were ready  
to listen to new ideas in relation to that issue. We also come  
with concern that any rift between the United States and  
Cuba could lead to military confrontation.

STATEMENT

**MIAMI CUBAN AMERICAN DELEGATION**

**TO WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**JULY 24 - 26, 1990**

We are pleased that the United States has taken the initiative to  
hear from the Cuban American community regarding U.S. policy toward Cuba,  
acknowledging a step  
toward diplomatic relations. We also appreciate the United States  
request that the United States take our view on military  
intervention in Cuba.

It is our conviction that the climate of tension which now  
exists and the military and counterproductive  
humanitarian issues. They have adverse consequences for the Cuban  
people and do not contribute to the possibility of  
change in Cuba.

At the same time, we request the Cuban government to adopt  
positive measures to reduce tension with the U.S. government and  
to take concrete steps necessary to resolve humanitarian and family  
separation issues. We also ask that the Cuban government  
implement changes to resolve concerns about the status of human  
and economic rights in Cuba.

We ask that U.S. officials give high priority to resolving  
family reunification and other humanitarian issues which affect  
Cuban Americans, Cubans living on the island and all U.S.  
citizens.

Security concerns and fear have been a major factor in  
preventing a fair and equitable return of Cuban-Americans. We  
request an investigation of activities in the Cuban-American  
community. There have been many unexplained deaths in Miami  
and other areas. Including our own family in 1988.  
Some returned cases of terrorism have manifested death threats,  
destroyed property, and damaged lives.

A Request to Resolve U.S. - Cuba Issues

Through a Diplomatic Approach

As Cuban-Americans living in South Florida who represent grass roots organizations with thousands of members, we have come to Washington, D.C. in response to President Bush's recent statement that he wished to hear from the Cuban American community regarding U.S. policy toward Cuba and that he was ready to listen to new ideas in relation to that issue. We also come amid concern that growing tensions between the United States and Cuba could lead to military confrontation.

We ask that the Bush Administration and Members of the 101st U.S. Congress rethink their policy toward Cuba, adopting a step-by-step diplomatic approach to resolve U.S. - Cuba issues. We request that the United States rule out any military intervention in Cuba.

It is our position that the climate of tension which now exists and the U.S. economic embargo are counterproductive in humanitarian terms. They have adverse consequences for the Cuban people and do not contribute to the possibility of democratic change in Cuba.

At the same time, we request the Cuban government to adopt concrete measures to reduce tension with the U.S. government and to take those steps necessary to resolve humanitarian and family reunification issues. We also ask that the Cuban government implement changes to address concerns about the status of human and democratic rights in Cuba.

We ask that U.S. officials give high priority to resolving family reunification and other humanitarian issues which affect Cuban Americans, Cubans living on the island and all U.S. citizens.

Because terrorism and other forms of intimidation have created a false image of unanimity among Cuban-Americans, we request an investigation of terrorism in the Cuban-American community. There have been 17 unsolved bombings in Miami within the last three years, including two bombs against an art museum. Such criminal acts of terrorism have endangered human lives, destroyed property, and trampled upon democratic values.

Signed:

Max Castro

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Jose Cruz  
Cuban American Coalition

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Carmen Diaz  
Cuban American Committee for Family Rights

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Lorenzo Gonzalo  
Social Democratic Cuban Party

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Giselda Hidalgo  
Human Rights Activist

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Carlos Luis  
Social Democratic Cuban Party

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July 24, 1990  
Washington, D.C.