

Una Visita a Cuba

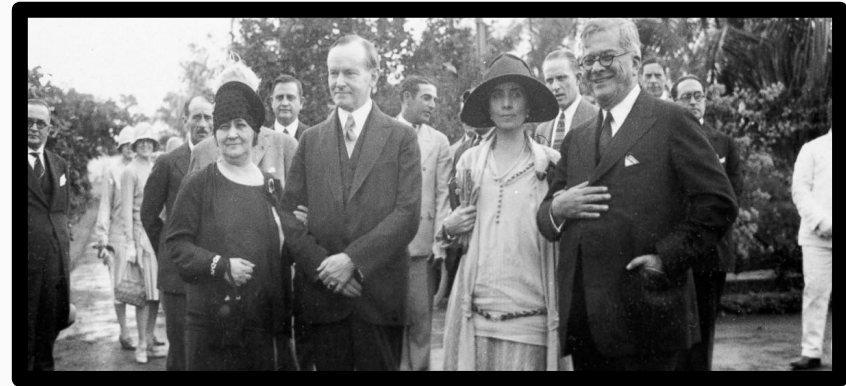
President Barack Obama's Upcoming Visit to Cuba



By Ava Eberly

The Beginning of a New Relationship

- President and Mrs. Obama will travel to Cuba, March 21-22, 2016.
- Diplomatic ties were cut with Cuba in 1961.
- President Calvin Coolidge was the last *sitting* president to visit Cuba in 1928.





“Cuba is only 90 miles from Florida, but for a long time the distance between our two countries seemed a lot greater.” -Ben Rhodes

Critics of Obama's Trip



- Critics believe the President's trip rewards the Castro regime and their repressive actions on the Cuban people.
- "...it is absolutely shameful that Obama is rewarding the Castros with a visit to Cuba by a sitting American president since their reign of terror began." - Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R- Miami
- Presidential Candidate, Marco Rubio says "he wouldn't visit the communist nation until it's 'free.'"

Ineffective Policy



- Obama administration made it easier for Cuban-Americans to travel and send money to Cuba.
- On December 17, 2014, U.S. and Cuba officially began to take steps to normalize relations.
- The secret negotiations were hosted by Canada.
- In August 2015, Secretary of State, John Kerry, restored diplomatic relations, reopening American embassy in Havana.
- The U.S. diplomatic presence makes it easier to advance U.S. interests.



Secretary of State, John Kerry, restoring diplomatic relations in Havana, Cuba, on August 14, 2015.

Obama's Goals for U.S.-Cuban Relations

- Re-establish full diplomatic relations
- Adjust regulations to empower Cuban people
- Expand sales, exports and services from U.S. to Cuba
- Allow Americans to import more Cuban goods
- Increase Cuba's access to communications and information
- Expansion of travel to Cuba by Americans



What We Can Expect



- Cuban people will benefit from increased travel from American people.
- More opportunities for U.S. businesses will also benefit Cubans.
- The U.S. will continue to press for civil rights for the Cuban people.
- We can hope for more freedoms for the Cuban people.



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