



Premier Fidel Castro, left, of Cuba, visited United Nations Headquarters in New York on April 22, 1959. He is seen as he was greeted by UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld in his office.

Photo: UN Photo/MB

US should end Cuban embargo, UN says

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By Michael McGuire, United Nations Examiner

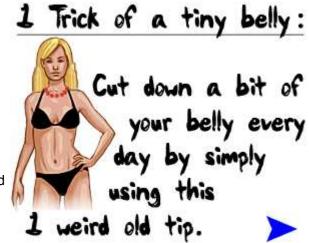
The United Nations General Assembly on Tuesday voted to request the United States to end its embargo on Cuba.

According to a news release the UN emailed to journalists, the General Assembly ruled the US does not live up to its "obligations to reaffirm freedom of trade and navigation."

The vote was 187 nations for, two against.

Voting against the resolution were representatives of the United States and Israel.

Micronesia, the Marshall Islands and Palau abstained from voting, the UN said.



The embargo was instituted by President Dwight Eisenhower after Cuba nationalized U.S. property in 1960. President John Kennedy strengthened the embargo two years later.

American think tanks differ on what to do about the embargo.

The libertarian <u>Cato Institute</u> published an article saying, "The most powerful force for change in Cuba will not be more sanctions, but more daily interaction with free people bearing dollars and new ideas."

The conservative <u>Heritage Foundation</u>, however, wrote "The United States must not abandon the Cuban people by relaxing or lifting the trade embargo against the communist regime."

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Tuesday was the 19th time the UN called on the US to end the embargo.

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