

Beat: Politics

## HISTORIC DAY FOR US AND CUBA RELATIONS BY RE-OPENING THE US EMBASSY HAVANA

### AFTER 54 YEARS THE US FLAG RAISED

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**USPA NEWS** - "Today marks the resumption of normal diplomatic ties between our countries and the re-opening of our embassies after a rupture that has lasted 54 years. So it's an historic day; a day for removing barriers" Secretary of State Kerry after welcoming Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez Washington DC

RE-OPENING OF THE US EMBASSY HAVANA WELCOMING BRUNO RODRIGUEZ FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER-----"Today with the opening of our embassies and the visit of the Foreign Minister we are taking an historic and long overdue step in the right direction, to keep moving forward both governments must proceed in a spirit of openness and mutual respect." Secretary of State John Kerry addresses reporters after bilateral meeting with Cuban Foreign Minister Rodriguez, at the Department of State, Washington, D.C., on July 20, 2015.-----

The Embassy to Cuba in US has released the following, yesterday: "Tomorrow, our two countries will begin a new era of diplomatic relations and return to open our embassies. In honour of this historic occasion, we want to share one of our favorite memories of recent years of rapprochement. In this photo taken during the friendly match annual softball players between the United States and Cuba, our second Head of Mission Conrad tribule joins hands with a Cuban player who just made a home run.-----

Rodriguez listed several of his government's long-standing requests, such as returning the U.S. Naval base in Guantanamo Bay and ending the U.S. economic embargo, which Congress has shown little inclination to lift anytime soon. Also crucial is "compensation for our citizens for human and economic damages," he said. But he said Monday's events represented a first step toward resolving those issues.-----"We can both cooperate and coexist in a civilised way," Rodriguez said.

Both men alternated between speaking in English and Spanish. Source : USA Today

CERRO HORTER BUILDING HOSTED THE US DIPLOMATIC OFFICES UNTIL 1953-----In 1923, the offices of the diplomatic mission of the United States. States. In Cuba moved from the Cerro Horter the building, Bishop Street e / trades and sellout. Built in 1917, this building hosted the US diplomatic offices until 1953, today occupy the library publishes ruben martinez villena and the Museum of Natural Sciences Felipe.

The building housed the United States Interests Section in Havana between 1977 and 2015, which operated under the auspices of the Swiss Embassy (acting as protecting power). On July 1, 2015 it was announced that with the resumption of diplomatic ties, the building would resume its role as the U.S. Embassy in Cuba on July 20, 2015. The embassy is currently led by Chargé d'affaires ad interim Jeffrey De Laurentis.

### A GIANT STEP IN US-CUBA RELATIONS BY RESTORATION OF BILATERAL DIPLOMACY-----

"In accordance with President Barack Obama's announcement on July 1, effective today the United States and Cuba have re-established diplomatic relations. Said, John Kerry, US Secretary. Yesterday the U.S. Interests Section in Cuba officially became U.S. Embassy Havana. Secretary Kerry has met with Cuban Foreign Minister, Bruno Rodriguez at 1 p.m. at the Department of State. Secretary of State John Kerry will then travel to Cuba later this summer to celebrate the re-opening of U.S. Embassy Havana and raise the U.S. flag.-----

President Barack Obama announced on July 1, 2015, the decision to re-establish diplomatic relations between Cuba and the United States. The President's historic decision became effective today, July 20, when our two countries re-opened our embassies after a rupture that lasted 54 years.

Today also marked the first visit by a Cuban foreign minister to the Department of State since 1958, as Secretary of State John Kerry hosted Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodríguez at the Harry S. Truman Building in Washington, D.C. The Secretary also announced via Twitter that he will travel to Havana on August 14 to re-open U.S. Embassy Havana and raise the U.S. flag.

Source state.gov

JOHN KERRY TO VISIT CUBA ON AUGUST 14-----Secretary of State John Kerry will travel to Havana, Cuba, on August 14 to formally re-designate the U.S. Interests Section to U.S. Embassy Havana.- Department of State Spokesperson John Kirby, July 20, 2015.

We shall update about the next steps of bilateral restoration of relations between the USA and Cuba, and including the conditions from each part, and particularly the lifting of embargo in Cuba.----- President Obama asked the Congress in January 2015, to lift the embargo in Cuba saying "Let's try something new". Our shift in Cuba policy has the potential to end a legacy of mistrust in our hemisphere; removes a funny excuse for restrictions in Cuba; stand up for democratic values; and extends the hands of friendship to the Cuban people. And this year Congress should begin the work of ending the embargo" Concluded President Obama.

For more information: # # Usembcuba uscuba, <http://go.usa.gov/3GdeT> # "USCuba, [www.Whitehouse.gov](http://www.Whitehouse.gov)

Source : [www.state.gov](http://www.state.gov), [www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov), "Cuban flag flies at embassy in Washington". USA Today. 2015-07-20, History of the U.S. Interests Section in Cuba. United States Department of State, "U.S. and Cuba to announce embassy openings". CNN. 2015-06-30, "U.S. and Cuba to reopen embassies". Politico. 2015-06-30, "US proposes US, Cuba reopen embassies as of July 20: Havana". Business Insider. 2015-07-01.

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