

Volleyball Update

An open letter from Tony Crabb, Coach, USA Men's Olympic Volleyball Team to Ron Sorrell, Director, USA Men's Olympic Volleyball Team

Dear Ron:

Here's an update on the USA Men's Olympic Volleyball team tour with Cuba. We left San Diego on April 1 and arrived in Ft. Lauderdale that afternoon. We had to charter a plane to

Havana and found a company called the Red Charter—the plane was an old (1943) DC-3 and flew like it was 40 years old.

Anyway, Cuba reminded me of Hawaii—warm and tropical with lots of similar flora—mango trees, papaya, coconut, guava, banyan and, of course, the ever-present sugar cane.

The Cubans were very strong and deep. Their bench strength was awe-

some, and they work the ball. Of five matches, we were lucky to win one. The match scores: 1-3, 2-3, 0-3, 3-0 and 0-3. Our final match, played in Havana, was a disaster—they really crushed us.

We are all in San Diego now, back to four hours of daily practice, jump training and weightlifting. Our next tour is with Canada in one week and then nothing until we go to Finland and Poland (see enclosed schedule). The most important tournament for us this year is the Zone Championships in July in Indianapolis. We will hope to beat the Cubans there for the gold medal.

Aloha, Tony

TENTATIVE 1983 INTERNATIONAL SCHEDULE

DATES	EVENT	SITE
8-16 July	Zone Championships	Indianapolis
30 July-	Domestic Tour—	
5 Aug	USSR	Undecided
6-13 Aug	Pre-Olympic Tournament	Long Beach, CA
14-29 Aug	Pan-American Games	Caracas, Venezuela
21-30 Aug	Savinne Tournament	Odessa, USSR
15-25 Oct	Domestic Tour— Poland	Undecided
1-15 Nov	Domestic Tour— Cuba	Undecided
28 Nov-5 Dec	Canada Cup	Canada