Russia and Cuba begin closer military cooperation

Moscow to upgrade Cuba's Missile Defense Facilities

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Chief of the Battle Antimissile Defense Staff of the RF Armed Forces General-Lieutenant Alexander Maslov visits Cuba October 27 through November 3. Maslov goes to Cuba together with the delegation of Russia's military, said Igor Konashenkov, the aide to the commander of the RF Army.

The visit's agenda provides for the meetings with Chief of the General Staff of Cuba's Revolutionary Armed Forces Army General Álvaro López Miera and Chief of the Anti-Aircraft Defense and Revolutionary Air Force General Pedro Mendiondo Gómez, Konashenkov told Interfax.

In Cuba, the official went on, the parties will focus on improving ties of Russia's and Cuban military. They will exchange experience related to arranging the missile defense for armed forces and to officers' training. They will also deliberate on potential training of Cuban military in Russia's antimissle defense colleges and universities and at the upgraded military facilities of Russia's make.

During the visit, Russia's officers will take a look at the units of Cuban Anti-Aircraft Defense Forces, their strength and arrangement of combat training. They will render assistance in operating Igla air defense missile systems and P-18 and P-19 radar stations of Russia's make.

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