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CUBA AND THE MONROE DOCTRINE

For a century and a half, the Monroe Doctrine was the most constant star in the firmament of our otherwise orbiting foreign policy. It means that the United States laid its power and prestige on the line to prevent any European government from "controlling" the "destiny" of any Western Hemisphere nation.

After Castro took over Cuba, however, Soviet Premier Khrushchev, whose earthy vocabulary included frequent references to burying non-Communists, taunted us by saying: "Now the remains of this [Monroe] Doctrine should best be buried, as every dead body is, so that it does not poison the air by its decay."

It is now clear that that was no idle boast. Russia has converted Cuba into a Soviet military base for Communist subversion and aggres sion all over the world. Since Castro ruined the once-prosperous economy of Cuba, he has been sjlstained in power by Soviet subsidies totalling a half billion dollars a year.

Unlike the United States, the soviets exact their pound of flesh for their foreign aid. Today, some 7,000 Russians are effec tively governing Cuba in the Stalinist pattern.

They train the secret police, run the military and the economy, dispatch troops to Angola, and direct Cuba's subversive and terrorist activities all over the Western Hemisphere, and even as far away as Austria and Iran. Cuban-trained terrorists are part of the Puerto Rican bomb-throwers, the Argentinian murder-kidnap-ransom brigade, and the guerrilla agitators in the Dominican Republic.

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More than 2,400 Cubals our country have visited Cuba to receive training for espionage and terrorist activity inside the United States.

Dangerous as is Cuba as a base for subversion, espionage, and tf r:rorism, i.ts potential a P ?ovt flt n,isc;i1e and rmlrnarine ·vnse :l.r far greater.

When our U-2 reconnaissance plane discovered Khrushchev's missiles in Cuba in 196i, we were able to make him reuove theml1ccaus we then bad the capability to deliver more than 40,000 rnegetons of nuclear striking powPr on th0 Soviet Union. 'Porlay, *we* can crer1ibly threaten to <'.leliver on itussia only a'itlOut S,OOO megatons.

\ hat will our Prestchsnt no next ye.1:r 11' ou-r lntelli1,:;ence rFp0rts th•t Brezhnev hos secretly in tAlled his 11Aw S3-20 mobile nticle r missiles in Cuba aimed nt '".fl td. 11Y:10r1cffn popn1Nti.:m tar: ets, '.ri' ere is no threat that our Vre ident can hurl at Brezhnev that he cannot toss back at us, doublet in nuclear spades. Missiles fir d from

t:uha would reach **our** ci tles jn about eigt.t. or nine minutes, ns OP}--.Of:ied to a '30-minute warning time for mtssil es launched from 1i.us -i.f\.

Nor is there any credible *th:1:0at* that we f;f-1,J u -e to intir;ddat Pidel Castro Recent evi ence indicates that, even 13 years ago, e reacted to CL-1. unsuccessful attempts to ae'1H'lssin':!te him l,y etwour1Hfl::4i#,, and perhaps even sponsoring the trag.Lcally successful eesa3sinAti0:1 of President Kennedy.

Now Castro is fl ushe1} with victory n t'ter h:f. s Angolan eon'{ut·st anrj realy to take on new challenges.

The big American mistake about Cuba was our abandonment of the Monroe Doctrine. We shoub revive that dying "body" before Brezhnev r,·erTi,,s 0ut Khrushchev's th.re:3t to lrnry :i.t f(;rever.

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