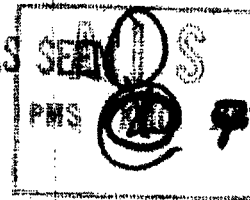


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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301



INTERNATIONAL
SECURITY AFFAIRS

13 AUG 1976
In reply refer to:
I-23720/76

good wrap-up

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Cuban Activities in the Western Hemisphere -- INFORMATION
MEMORANDUM

The threat to US interests posed by Cuban activity in Latin America is of a different character than the African situation but no less worrisome. In Latin America Castro has embarked upon a careful effort to increase Cuban influence and foster new communist states. His techniques are nonmilitary and generally subtle, fearing that overt military action in our backyard would precipitate a US military response. Castro has selected ways to promote his aims without provoking the US or even arousing much public concern in the US.

W/4 092

The Situation

Castro is concentrating on the Caribbean where the new, small countries are resource poor, undeveloped, and until recently, dependent upon a major foreign power for survival. Their governments are weak and often plagued by power struggles, violence and incompetence. The colonial heritage has left a legacy of bitterness and distrust of the major powers. With its economic control and Socialist discipline, its growing reputation as a third world leader, and a history of success against the US, Cuba offers an attractive example to these struggling mini-states.

They also have few options to resist Cuban advances. Militarily, economically, and politically we pay little attention to the Caribbean community. In sum, conditions are excellent for Castro in the Caribbean as long as he does not invoke our wrath through overt military aggression.

Tactics and Operations

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Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS

13 Aug 76

Castro's current tactics are to:

- Infiltrate the political and economic power base of the largest countries and influence their policies.

-- In Jamaica 300 Cuban advisors are engaged in economic development projects. Cuba has provided training for some police and

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ASD/EAPA/ISA
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER 12958, AUTOMATICALLY
AT TWO YEAR INTERVALS. DECLASSIFIED ON 12-31-84

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AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL
1776-1976
Dep Sec Def
08-M-0855

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security forces; 120 Jamaican youths have received "construction" training in Cuba and 300 more will go later this year. Some 90 recently returned youth are being used by Prime Minister Manley as political action cadres. Manley expressed admiration for Castro and increasingly looks to him for advice.

-- In Guyana 100 Cubans are engaged in economic development projects. Several hundred Guyanese Defense Force personnel have been trained in Cuba. Prime Minister Burnham's personal bodyguard force was trained by Cubans and Cubans were totally responsible for security at the 26 May independence celebration. Burnham is another strong Castro admirer. The Cubans suggested the Guyanese propaganda campaign about an invasion threat from Brazil. Burnham admitted no threat existed but claimed that the campaign has united the country. Guyanese defense personnel have been trained in Cuba for guerrilla and jungle warfare. Guyana has been used as a refueling stop for Cuban planes in transit to Angola.

-- Cuban intelligence tried to recruit the Attorney General of Belize.

-- The Cubans have apparently offered assistance in agriculture, housing and political organization to Dominica, a British associated state planning independence within the year and whose viability is in doubt.

- Foster closer state-to-state relations in Latin America, thereby limiting the opposition of the other states to Cuban efforts and obtaining their support for Cuban positions in international forums.

-- A Cuban official is working behind the scenes to establish full diplomatic relations with Ecuador.

-- Fifty Peruvian Air Force pilots recently completed flight training in M-16s in Cuba. Thirty-six plus Peruvian cadets are there now. (With recent political change in Peru, Cuban-Peruvian relations have cooled.)

-- Cuba is pressing for reestablishment of consular and diplomatic relations with Costa Rica.

-- Expanded landing rights have been negotiated with Barbados.

-- Upsurge of Cuban visits to Surinam, Barbados, the Bahamas and other Caribbean islands have been reported including meetings to discuss improved relations.

-- Reports indicating Cuban-Colombia commercial relations continue to improve.

✓-- Castro is actively courting the Mexican leadership.

-- Active Cuban friendship societies have been formed in Surinam, Guyana, Guadeloupe, Jamaica and Martinique.

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- Covertly export revolution, disruption and terrorism.

-- Venezuelan terrorists claimed that direction for Niehous kidnapping and other planned kidnappings in Venezuela, Colombia and Argentina is coming from Cuba.

-- A Cuban was reportedly responsible for development of the logistical structure for terrorists in Argentina.

-- Leaders of guerrilla activity in Guatemala are apparently Cuban trained.

-- French have expressed concern over expanded Cuban interest and possible Cuban subversion in the French Caribbean Islands.

-- Cubans are training Nicaraguan guerrillas in Cuba and have promised limited financial support.

- Actively pursue anti-American actions.

-- Reports indicate that Cuba is behind Jamaican recent anti-American propaganda campaign.

-- Castro says he can deliver heavy artillery to Panama without arousing US suspicions. He has also offered paramilitary training to Panama. The 26 March student demonstration at the US Embassy in Panama City was promoted by the Cuban Embassy.

-- Havana based radical labor unions have initiated a campaign for support of Puerto Rican independence. Castro has promised all necessary support. Puerto Rican labor leaders will be sent to Cuba, Eastern Europe and Soviet Union for training.

-- Castro has promoted regional structure to exclude the US and align small countries toward Cuba. For example:

--- SELA (Latin American Economic System), NAMUCAR (Caribbean Multinational Shipping Association), and GEPLACEA (Latin American and Caribbean Sugar Exporters Group), and the new radical Caribbean labor union.

Implications for US Policy

Castro is successfully capitalizing on the endemic problems of the area and indifference thereto. The near term consequences of his policies and actions in Latin America are not momentous yet they are ominous. Castro

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

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30 AUG 77 17 02
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

MEMORANDUM FOR HONORABLE LANDON BUTLER
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Foreign Policy Consultations

Since my last report, the Panama Canal treaty has been discussed or is scheduled for discussion by senior DoD officials in a number of forums. In case it may be of use to you or Ham Jordan, a compilation of the major DoD presentations dealing with the Panama Canal is attached to this memorandum.

As a follow-on to the SALT conservatives meeting earlier this month, Harold Brown has had several meetings with Paul Nitze, Bud Zumwalt and Mel Laird. Further meetings will be held in the weeks ahead.


John G. Kester
The Special Assistant

Attachment

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Reviewed Ch RDD, WHS
Date: JAN 15 2008
IAW EO 12958 Section 3.5

Panama Canal

30 Aug 77

WH 52841

**FOREIGN POLICY INITIATIVES
PANAMA SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>GROUP</u>
19 July, Harold Brown	United Democrats of Congress
28 July, Charles Duncan and Gen George Brown	Defense Affairs Roundtable (Veterans Group & Defense Related Organization)
29 July, Harold Brown	World Affairs Council in San Francisco
29 July, Harold Brown	Bohemian Club Summer Encampment
10 August, Charles Duncan	Group in Bismarck, North Dakota (Arranged by Democratic State Committee)
11 August, Charles Duncan	Group in Colorado Springs (Arranged by Demo- cratic State Committee)
16 August, Sec Army, Cliff Alexander	Group in Kansas City (Arranged by Democratic State Committee)
17 August, Deputy Panam Canal Negotiator from DoD, LtGen Dolvin	Appeared on PBS. McNeil/Lehrer Report. Presented Administration Position in forum. Anti-treaty position presented by Senator Strom Thurmond
22 August, Chief of Staff, Army, Gen Rogers	VFW Convention in Minneapolis
23 August, Harold Brown and George Brown	W.H. requested SEC Brown to speak to group of 40 influential persons from Mississippi and Kentucky
25 August, Commandant, Marine Corps, Gen Wilson	American Legion Convention in Denver
26 August, CJCS Brown	Met with Retired 3 & 4 Star Admirals/Generals (Discussed Panama Canal)
30 August, CJCS Brown	Meet with retired CJCS Lemnitzer and Taylor
30 August, Charles Duncan	W.H. requested Charles Duncan to speak to a group of influential citizens from Georgia & Florida
1 September, Charles Duncan & CJCS Brown	State delegation from West Virginia, Arkansas (perhaps Tennessee and/or North/South Carolina
2 September, Sec Air Force, Sec Stetson	Presentation before Civic Group in Greenville, Mississippi

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is increasing his influence there and our ability to affect events in the Caribbean is diminishing. Left unchecked we will, in the long term, find ourselves outmaneuvered in a strategic sense and faced with a hostile Caribbean as well as a major political problem in the US.

(Signed)
EUGENE V. MCAULIFFE
Assistant Secretary of Defense
International Security Affairs

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