

CBU Debate 2008-09

Invasion Aff

I stand resolved that the **The United States Federal Government should substantially increase its constructive engagement with Cuba.**

Observation 1 – Status Quo

A. Cuba's spies have infiltrated U.S. intelligence and help world terrorism

Richards, 2007 (Andrew Richards, The Washington Times, Nation, pg. A02, "Cuba spies sell to U.S. foes; Agent recalls Montes case", from Lexis)

A defense intelligence official said yesterday that Cuba's spies have sold American intelligence secrets to other U.S. enemies, and that the communist island's spies even now could be involved in long-term operations in the FBI, CIA, Congress and the White House.

Christopher Simmons, a Cuban counterintelligence officer for the Defense Intelligence Agency, cited in a Heritage Foundation speech the case of Ana Montes, a former DIA analyst who pleaded guilty to 16 years of spying for Fidel Castro's dictatorship.

"Based on my estimates, there could be at least six others like her involved in long-term penetrations of U.S. government at the highest level," Mr. Simmons said. Agents for the Cuban regime "have had over 50 years to get this right. They understand America better than some Americans do."

Mr. Simmons said Havana has sold any U.S. intelligence secrets it can get to such foreign countries as Russia, China, North Korea and Iran, and also makes money through terrorist-training programs. All told, these activities earn the communist regime hundreds of millions of dollars per year.

"Castro has spent years strengthening ties and supporting other terrorist groups and organizations around the world. He still continues to do so right now," Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart, Florida Republican and a Cuban-American, said during the same Heritage forum. "This guy has been extremely successful in infiltrating our intelligence community here in the United States."

American military intelligence has been compromised by Cuban agents in every U.S. military mission since 1983, including Grenada and the 1990-91 Persian Gulf War.

U.S. prosecutors said Montes, who spied for ideological reasons, was arrested within days of the September 11, 2001, attacks to prevent that from happening again because she was privy to classified plans to attack the Afghan regime that harbored Osama bin Laden.

The United States needs to keep close tabs on its defense intelligence information, the congressman said, because Cuba is still spreading anti-Americanism in Latin America and forging a strong relationship with Iran.

"Iran is Cuba's strongest ally," Mr. Diaz-Balart said. "Nut cases bond together."

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B. Cuban Espionage will continue under Raul Castro

Gentile, 2006 (Carmen Gentile, The Washington Times, World pg. A16, "Espionage to Proceed Under Castro", March 25, 2008, from Lexis)

Cuba will maintain its extensive spy network under new President Raul Castro, a U.S. authority on Cuban espionage and a former Cuban intelligence official said.

Chris Simmons, a former Cuba analyst for the Defense Intelligence Agency, said Havana likely will increase efforts through the November elections aimed at discerning the politics, policies and military strategies of the next U.S. president.

Cuban spies are suspected to be continuing surveillance of Capitol Hill, military bases and the Cuban exile community, particularly in South Florida.

Juan Manuel Reyes-Alonso, a former Cuban intelligence officer living in the U.S., said that during the latter years of Fidel Castro's presidency, Cuba would place at least one intelligence officer at its Washington and U.N. missions.

Larry Birns, director of the Council on Hemispheric Affairs, a Latin-America-focused think tank in Washington, denounced the notion, saying Cuba's diplomatic personnel don't go "spooking around" on behalf of Cuban intelligence.

Cuban officials at the United Nations would not comment and their counterparts at the Cuban Interests Section in Washington could not be reached.

Meanwhile, South Florida, particularly the Miami area, also is considered a valuable resource for Cuban spies seeking information on the exile community.

"Cuban intelligence is still very active in South Florida," said Frank Mora, a professor of National Security Strategy at the National War College. "The United States is still very much the enemy of the [Castro] regime."

Intelligence analysts agree that the Southern Command, just outside Miami, has long been the focus of Cuban spies, as any invasion would be orchestrated there.

Southcom officials would not comment on Cuban intelligence operations aimed at infiltrating the command.

South Florida has been a main focus for Cuban intelligence, said Mr. Reyes-Alonso, who estimated that Cuban intelligence ranks in the area to be in the hundreds.

"They always wanted to know about those that dictated U.S. policy on Cuba," he said.

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C. Cuba under Raul will get worse

Allen-Mills, 2008 (The Australian, June 16, 2008, "Cracks in Cuban Reform Widen", World, Pg. 14, from Lexis)

Optimism about greater freedom in Raul Castro's Cuba is giving way to a jump in the number of refugees amid fears of a Putin-style regime, writes Tony Allen-Mills

ON a patrol off the Caribbean resort of Cancun this month, the crew of a Mexican naval vessel spotted unusual activity on an arriving yacht. Officers found 33 Cuban migrants on board.

The Cubans were heading for Miami by a roundabout route -- instead of braving the short but heavily policed crossing from western Cuba to Florida, they were planning to be escorted by professional smugglers overland through Mexico to the US border.

Authorities in Mexico and the US have reported a jump in the number of Cubans attempting to flee their homeland, despite economic and social reforms introduced by President Raul Castro, 77, who succeeded his ailing brother, Fidel, 81, in February.

The younger Castro has won international attention for reforms that seemingly marked the beginning of the end of rigid communist orthodoxy.

Yet the lifting of bans on mobile phones, improved access to computers and other consumer goods, and the removal of restrictions on wages and foreign currency have had little impact on a poor population reeling from rising fuel and food prices.

Cubans newly arrived in Miami have raised serious doubts about Raul Castro's intentions.

"It's just a big facade to impress the people," claimed Yhosvany Carmona, a popular Cuban television actor who arrived in Miami last week. "Who are these people who can now afford to buy computers, cellphones and DVDs? They are the same people who could afford to buy them on the black market before."

D. Cuba is a center for global sex trafficking

CIA World Factbook, 2008 (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/cu.html>, October 1, 2008)

Cuba is principally a source country for women and children trafficked within the country for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation and possibly for forced labor; the country is a destination for sex tourism, including child sex tourism.

F. Thousands are kept as political prisoners in Cuba for unpopular views

Department of State, 2008 (<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/2886.htm>, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, August 2008)

Despite having signed the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights in February 2008, Cuba ignores the obligations assumed in these treaties, continuing to commit serious abuses and denying its citizens the right to change their government. Cuba is also a signatory of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and sits on the UN Human Rights Council, yet routinely arrests citizens who seek to exercise internationally recognized fundamental freedoms.

The government incarcerates people for their peaceful political beliefs or activities. The total number of political prisoners and detainees is unknown, because the government does not disclose such information and keeps its prisons off-limits to human rights organizations and international human rights monitors. There are an estimated 225 prisoners of conscience currently detained in Cuba in addition to as many as 5,000 people sentenced for "dangerousness."

Observation 2 – Plan

1. The United States Federal Government will void the Treaty of Relations with Cuba, signed into law in 1934.
2. The United States Federal Government will reclaim the island of Cuba as a U.S. Territory and protectorate, by right of the Platt Amendment of 1901, which read in part, “That the government of Cuba consents that the United States may exercise the right to intervene for the preservation of Cuban independence, the maintenance of a government adequate for the protection of life, property, and individual liberty..”

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Observation 3 – Solvency

A. Cuba as a protectorate will become the new Puerto Rico

CIA World Factbook, 2008 (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/rq.html#Econ>, last updated September 4, 2008)

Puerto Rico has one of the most dynamic economies in the Caribbean region. A diverse industrial sector has far surpassed agriculture as the primary locus of economic activity and income. Encouraged by duty-free access to the US and by tax incentives, US firms have invested heavily in Puerto Rico since the 1950s. US minimum wage laws apply.

Sugar production has lost out to dairy production and other livestock products as the main source of income in the agricultural sector. Tourism has traditionally been an important source of income, with estimated arrivals of nearly 5 million tourists in 2004. Growth fell off in 2001-03, largely due to the slowdown in the US economy, recovered in 2004-05, but declined again in 2006-07.

B. Only Regime Change Can Fix Cuba's Problems

Foster, 2008 (Peter Foster, National Post (Canada), Pg. A1, National Edition, "Last Gasps of a Repressive Regime", from Lexis)

The psychological roots of support for Mr. Castro demand analysis. Most people are suckers for vague notions of "social justice." These bromides provide a wonderful cover for the conscious or unconscious lust for power, and are greatly bolstered if you can claim to be fighting a demon -- in this case capitalism or its proxy, the United States. This psycho-cocktail explains why so many combine love of Fidel with hatred of the United States. However, they hate the U.S. not for its flaws but for its virtues, above all, for being a free, market-oriented society.

The Castro regime has always been bolstered by a set of fondly intoned Orwellian myths. Among the leading items of that Satanic catechism is that whatever its problems, Cuba is still "better than it was before" under the dictator Fulgencio Batista. This claim is nonsense. Batista was indeed a dictator, but he was merely corrupt. He did not demand mental conformity under pain of "Socialism or death." Moreover, he presided over the second-richest country in Latin America, with a standard of living better than that of many European nations. Cuba is now one of the poorest countries in the region.

Yet another myth circulated by the chattering classes is that the U.S. was utterly opposed to Mr. Castro from the beginning. In fact, U.S. authorities were initially quite supportive of Mr. Castro, who came to power spouting about the importance of free elections and a free press. It was only after he expropriated private property and imposed a Communist dictatorship that the U.S. turned on him.

Again, while the U.S. indeed supported a Cuban exile invasion at the Bay of Pigs, president John F. Kennedy also doomed that invasion to failure by withdrawing air cover. Kennedy's weakness also led to directly to the Cuban missile crisis, which was rooted in Mr. Castro's enthusiasm for aiming Soviet nuclear missiles at Florida from point-blank range.

The resolution of the missile crisis may have looked like a victory for Kennedy's resolve, but in fact by committing not to invade Cuba, Kennedy cemented Mr. Castro's rule and consigned Cubans to the repression they continue to suffer.

A further myth is that the subsequent U.S. embargo on trade with Cuba is directly responsible for the island's poverty. Again, this claim is nonsensical. Cuba was supported for almost 30 years by Soviet subsidies. Children went hungry in Moscow so that Fidel might strut and fret on the world stage. Cuba might not have been able to trade subsequently with the U.S., but it was free to trade with the rest of the world. Its problem lay not in the embargo, but in the low productivity of a workforce that toiled under command-and-control methods dictated by the whim of one man.

The Castro regime is inevitably on the way out. The issue is one of timing. Fidel's brother Raul, who has been acting as President, is almost as old as Fidel but lacks his charisma. Nevertheless, he retains the repressive apparatus of the state. His dilemma is that once he relaxes that apparatus, his days are numbered.

Perhaps the greatest myth of all surrounding the Cuban "experiment" is that one can exchange freedom for security. Anybody foolish enough to trade liberty for equality will find himself both poor and oppressed by the "equalizers."

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C. Only an invasion will secure regime change

BBC, 2006 (BBC Caribbean, July 6, 2006, "US Report Angers Cuba",
http://www.bbc.co.uk/caribbean/news/story/2006/07/060706_cubaresponse.shtml)

The Bush administration is preparing for a post-Castro Cuba. Cuban authorities have criticised an American report on how Washington should deal with Cuba after the departure of Fidel Castro.

Two senior Cuban officials said that the report delivered to the Bush administration's National Security Council amounted to a blueprint for regime change.

Cuban National Assembly President Ricardo Alarcon called it a true threat of aggression.

He said on a national TV programme that Cuba had a right to think the worst of the classified parts of the document.

Another government minister Bruno Rodriguez said the plans could not be achieved without an invasion.

Washington has insisted that the US is not trying to depose Fidel Castro.

White House spokesman Tony Snow said Wednesday that Washington is trying to provide democracy for Cuba wherever possible. The report, ordered by President George W. Bush, focuses on ensuring that communism ends when President Fidel Castro can no longer govern. It recommends that US\$80m be spent over a two year period if President Castro is either incapacitated or dies. However, Cuban Defence Minister Raul Castro, who is in line to take over from his older brother Fidel, has said the Communist Party would continue to rule the country after he and his brother were gone.