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COMMUNIST CONTROL OF CUBA: A SERIOUS THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY*

I. Conclusions and Recommendations

On April 17, 1961, the United States again failed to apply the Monroe Doctrine against Soviet control of Cuba by its failure to give full support to the Cuban patriots. Yet, on that same day, the prestige of the United States was committed to the overthrow of the Communist government of Fidel Castro. The United States did not face its enemy openly: it attempted a covert operation. It was unable to provide non-attributable support for an operation of the magnitude of the Cuban Revolutionary Council's landing at the Bay of Pigs. Facts proved stronger than fiction and the world knew of our participation.

The defeat which these Cuban patriots suffered has caused serious damage to America's position as the acknowledged leader of the Free World. This damage is not irreparable, provided we are prepared to act rather than drift.

It is the National Strategy Committee's conclusion that:

- (1) The Castro government is an integral part of the Soviet Bloc.
- (2) Due to the enormous resources which the Soviet Bloc is putting at Castro's disposal, an internal revolution is becoming increasingly unlikely without outside help.
- (3) Communism is building up Cuba as a beachhead of revolution and aggression throughout the Western Hemisphere.
- (4) Unless the United States takes immediate bold and resolute action, it will eventually be isolated from the rest of the Americas.

President Kennedy has strongly implied that effective action will still be taken to free Cuba.** Nevertheless, the National Strategy Committee desires to record its grave concern that much time has passed since the April landings without any

*A study by the National Strategy Committee of the American Security Council.

**See Appendix.