

A MAJOR POLICY SPEECH BY FIDEL CASTRO

"How is our Line? How is the Line?"

[The following is the text of a speech delivered by Fidel Castro on Sept. 28 in Havana's Plaza de la Revolución. He was addressing a mass rally celebrating the third anniversary of the organization of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution. Also present were delegates from the International Union of Architects then meeting in Havana.]

Distinguished members of the delegations to the Seventh Congress of the International Union of Architects present here tonight; comrades of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution:

This third anniversary of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution coincides with an event of international character — the International Architects Congress — which is an occasion for joy and stimulus to the warm and hospitable sentiment of our people. First of all, therefore, we wish to greet all the delegations that have come to this Congress being held in our country for very many countries of the world. This event is not political in character; it is technical and scientific. Regardless of the country from which the delegations participating in the Congress have come, the social regime under which they live, the political ideas they may have, to all of them, to absolutely all of them, as technicians and scientists, we extend our warmest welcome and hospitality.

It was not easy to prevent the enemies of our country from carrying through their plans to keep Cuba from being the site of this international event. And it was precisely due to the earnestness and firmness of the organization — a non-political organization — which had to decide on this question, that it was possible to hold this Congress in our country.

It is good to repeat here that the doors of the Cuban nation are open, and will always be open, to all visitors who come in peace. It is good to repeat that in our country absolutely no one is forbidden to go out of the country or to visit other countries, and it is good that this be said precisely on a day, like today, when a group of U.S. students have been indicted merely for visiting Cuba. That was published in today's cables, apparently without a blush among the shameless leaders and defenders of that policy, the policy of U.S. imperialism.

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BY FIDEL CASTRO

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And that country calls itself democratic, calls itself powerful. It cynically proclaims itself the standard-bearer of human rights, and it doesn't even allow the citizens of that so-called powerful country to visit a small neighboring country which of course is not powerful in weapons but is powerful in honor, dignity and moral power from leaving.

Because our country, of course, is not a nuclear power, but it is a moral power. And it is facts like these that make it evident, facts like these, the different attitude, the different policy of two systems of a cowardly and decadent system, of a new, vigorous and courageous system.

We have always practiced the policy of authorizing people to leave the country and the imperialists made use of that to take away as many technicians as possible, to deprive our country of doctors, engineers, architects, professional people, and so on. So people thought that the best policy would have been to forbid technicians to leave for all those people that we always thought not, we always thought that we should maintain the right to leave for all those people that we always thought not, we always thought that we should maintain the right to leave for all those people that the workers and farmers — the humble people of Cuba — were creating, that we were following the correct path, that of promoting education to the maximum, to encourage study, to eradicate illiteracy, to create 20,000 new schools, to multiply class attendance, to develop the education of the people by every means, so that some day we would have technicians created by the Revolution, coming from the humble strata of the country. And that course is already bearing fruit, despite the fact that the Revolution triumphed only four-and-a-half years ago. And the day is not far away when, in a single year, the Revolution will graduate from the universities as many technicians as in those taken away by imperialism in four years.

Bleeding Process

We went through that bleeding process. They thought they were weakening us, and in the end they were the ones who abandoned that policy, they were the ones who surrendered. Because, as far as our country was concerned, they opened the doors of the United States to everyone who wanted to leave here. Before the Revolution there were enormous lines in front of the U.S. Embassy, of unemployed men and women who wanted to leave the country to find work in other lands, in the United States itself, and yet the number then was restricted — no more than 10,000 were given permission. When the Revolution triumphed and they tried to weaken our nation, they opened the doors, without restriction, to all those who wanted to leave; they promised to educate their children, to give them subsidies; they offered them jobs, in carrying out their campaigns against the Revolution they did what they had never done before.

But, the lines before the Embassy were no longer of the unemployed. In the lines were those who had been affected by the Revolution, primarily the wage or property owners, the big landholders, the bourgeoisie, some of the petty bourgeoisie and some white-collar workers, mainly those who had privileges under imperialism when hundreds of thousands of families could eat only one meal a day.

Of course, those who had enjoyed many things, who had enjoyed without restrictions, those who could buy luxury goods of every kind, who had their own foreign reserves of the Republic, could not resign themselves to a situation in which the country's re-

sources had to be placed within the reach of everyone — which meant, of course, restrictions for those minorities which used to live in abundance.

The type of emigration from our country changed. But it was not stopped, until the imperialists, changing their policy, thought it was more profitable for them to prevent people from leaving.

Of course, the imperialists are characterized not only by their great ill will but very often by their great stupidity as well. They talk about social classes. For instance, they talk about developing certain social classes in Latin America to serve as a brake on the Revolution. Sometimes they accept the Marxist concept of social classes, but they deny the role that social classes play in history, in the development of history, and

Fidel Castro

of course, their class — the bourgeoisie class — they carried off to the United States. They thought that in this way they would ruin the Revolution, that they would do it great harm; but, after all, what they did was to take away their social class, their counter-revolutionary army. So they came to the conclusion that the best way, come to stop the people from leaving the country. They thought this would promote discontent, and once again the imperialists were wrong. When vacillating and cowardly people, those who were afraid of the risks of the Revolution, who were unable to face the risks involved in a Revolution, when they knew that they would be freely admitted to the United States, many of them even used blackmail on the enterprises where they worked and said: "If you don't agree, I'll resign, I'll leave." They had their passports ready, many of them had resigned from their jobs to leave the country, forgetting Marx's words about the rough and brutal North. They wanted to use this possibility to leave the country, and they even used it to the point of doing harm.

What happened when the U.S. government stopped entry to that country, in the hope that this would promote discontent? How wrong they were! But these potential counter-revolutionaries, these little worms and I regret having to call them little worms even once they have to coexist with us here — what happened to many of them when they were not allowed to enter the United States was that they started to adapt themselves, and instead of the discontent that the imperialists had hoped to promote, a process of adaptation began for many people who had not adapted themselves before while they had hopes of leaving for the U.S.A.

And then they went back very humbly to ask for their old jobs which they had left with scorn —

jobs that were very well-paid.

But we never practiced such a policy of restrictions, not even to the detriment of the imperialists and their airlines, but tried to stop other airlines from coming here. But every so often these imperialists have their own contradictions and clash with the interests of other companies, because the U.S. monopolies as such want to control everything. But there are other commercial enterprises in the Western and capitalist world — transportation enterprises, airline companies. And they wanted to stop these companies from coming to Cuba as they are doing with ships, companies with which they are competing, and they want to stop them from coming here.

Some companies and some nations reacted firmly. The lines are still functioning and through them some people continue to leave the country — those who can afford the passage because we are not going to pay it for them, are we? Although in some cases it might be better to do so, because there is a certain kind of parasite around here that consumes and produces nothing. The lines are really better to invest that money in buying agricultural machinery or any other kind of working equipment.

Principled Stand

This goes to show how different is the attitude of our Revolution and capitalist attitudes.

Even when we are forced to defend ourselves from the attacks of that powerful country, we practice a more principled stand. Those, and times higher than the principles and the policy practiced by the imperialists.

Here, for instance, we don't find those racial problems that they find in their country. I can't tell the visitors gathered here from all over the world — and of course I am not trying to insult anyone in any way, but those who are present here on an occasion when we have to discuss these problems with our people — I ask if they don't find it interesting, an interesting experience, the fact that here in this nation, among the people, in our schools, in our hospitals, in our theaters, in our beaches, in our recreation centers, in our work centers, in our cultural centers, there is not the slightest shadow of that discrimination which was so strong in our country before. Because here it was the imperialists who set the rules and who taught us their vices, their hates, their grudges, their prejudice, which are the result of their society.

Of course, the U.S. imperialists are trying to fool the world; and that's what their government tries to do when it adopts a self-righteous, self-righteous, self-righteous attitude saying that they have these problems but that they are fighting them. And those who have lived with these prejudices and these hatreds and these evils are the consequence of the prevailing social system; that it is the exploiters' hate toward the exploited, and the ideas that are inculcated by a society where in every man is man's worst enemy — the exploiter and degrader of man. And that racial discrimination will not disappear from the U.S. until imperialism and capitalism disappear in the U.S., when the exploitation of man by man disappears.

Because the American Negroes are the descendants of the former slaves to whose freedom many white Americans fought and died, but they became slaves without chains, just as much slaves as they



ON THE READY. Tanks in Ha equipment acquired by Cuba at any future attack.

were before the abolition of slavery, serfs of the landholders, day-laborers of the landholders, doing the worst, most brutal and most dangerous jobs, without political or social rights.

Because a social system forced those men to go on living in the same exploited condition under capitalism. And while this social system continues to exist, the condition of the Negro in the U.S. will continue to be the same. And the Negro, as well as many whites, the workers of the U.S., the progressive people of the U.S., will begin to understand better every day this truth about the evils inherent in an inhuman system, evils that will last as long as the inhuman social system of exploitation lasts, and that apart from the riches and the techniques that have been developed in that country, there are also inhuman living conditions for millions and millions of human beings.

And, of course, a demagogue like Kennedy will never be able to deal with this problem. He's only trying to win votes with it. For these demagogues, their interests always come before their country; for Kennedy the presidency is more important than the United States. His business is to win votes, while the brutal acts of murder and terrorism continue. Those who associated the four Negro children in church in an act of terrorism have not yet been punished nor have we read that they have even been captured. And that's how that so-called civilized country lives.

It's logical that the imperialists want to prevent visits to Cuba. Here it's true that we lack many things; it's true that there are no luxuries — nor will there be any for some time — luxuries which they have through the exploitation of other countries. We lack many things, because we are resisting, because there are no luxuries for exploiters; because today we are dedicated to creative work and the building of a solid future, because nobody built it for us and we have to build it ourselves. And we have to build it so that future generations may enjoy the fruits of the work of this generation.

Yes, we lack many things, but there are things here that will never be seen there in the heart of imperialism. And what we have here, they will never be able to have there — this united nation,

f Consistent Imperialists"



Van parade are part of military vena Bay of Pigs invasion to meet

have been converted into hanes for scholarship students, into schools, into revolutionary institutions. After the Committees were created, the counter-revolutionaries could not move an inch any longer. That is the result of a people organized, a wonderful people, a people converted into a power in the defense of its own cause. That can only happen in great historical moments, in the people's greatest hours.

And those three little bombs were the origin of this formidable mass organization. And naturally, they want to commemorate that occasion, and we understand their action as a homage to our success.

Of course, in our country, the class struggle is not over, no. We still have an urban and rural bourgeoisie; it exists; it does not co-exist nor will it exist in the future. It exists today, but it is transitory because the Revolution marches on inexorably.

We notice, for example, the manner in which the organs of the counter-revolutionary, how they do business; how the CIA maintains a fund, reaches an agreement with a bourgeois deposit money here for the CIA agents. The CIA deposits dollars for the bourgeois; even there. There are bourgeois who are still exploiting labor and who still have considerable resources and even privileges. Of course, they are in the process of disappearing. For instance, at the present time we know the plans of the CIA. But they are no secret; the enemy publishes them with extraordinary cynicism. Their plans to infiltrate to many thousand weapons and war equipment; their plans to infiltrate and subvert and terrorize their plan to cut pirate attacks and invasions.

The imperialists never learn from experience; they never profit by their defeats. They make mistakes again, they underestimate our people.

They speak of a campaign to undermine and weaken our Revolution. They speak of creating discontent with their economic blockade. And what they create in this was in the revolution in the Cuban nation. What they create in the first place is hatred and scorn for the imperialist criminals; what they create is the dignity and the grandeur of the Cuban nation, the heroism of the Cuban nation. Especially because we know that this is a battle between the past and the future, that it is a battle against time.

Opposite Views
The imperialist think that they will be able to crush the Cuban Revolution, and the Cuban Revolution thinks that the people will crush imperialism first. The imperialist think that the Cuban Revolution will be destroyed and we revolutionaries think that many other Revolutions like ours will arise on the continent.

The imperialists make no progress in their plans. At the end of almost five years of Revolution, what progress have they made against us? And yet, how much progress the peoples of Latin America have made against them. What is happening to the Alliance for Progress? What is happening to all their so-called representatives in democracy? What is happening to all those puppet governments?

What happened to Froidberg, to Prado, to Arsenesman? What's been happening to them? What happened to Ydigoras? There are so many that we can't remember them all. What has happened to the imperialist policy? They are in crisis; they are in total bankruptcy. Do the nations progress with the Alliance for Progress? No. Reaction progresses, right-wing

military groups progress, and military coups follow one another with amazing speed, and the imperialist groups — the imperialist puppets — are split by their own contradictions, and so-called democratic institutions clash with military institutions.

The people of the State Department claim that they want to have free, democratic government. Free from what? Free like Froidberg? Free like Ydigoras? Free like Arsenesman, who because he said something unpleasant to a U.S. ambassador, was deposed next day? Free like Santo Domingo where the Trujillo generals overthrow the government less than eight months after it took office?

And thus they go from crisis to crisis. The military coup in Santo Domingo reveals the failure of imperialist policy, the insurmountable contradictions of imperialism which becomes more and more entangled as it stews in its own juice.

And now, some newspapers write editorials expressing their amazement and wondering what can be the cause of this crisis. However, this coup was predetermined. The Dominican revolutionaries, once again, were imperialist stationed its warships in port of Santo Domingo to block the development of the revolution, and executed a coup, and saved Trujillo's army — imperialism saved the army that had oppressed the people. What kind of democracy can be built on that basis? On that basis what security is there for any regime?

Hansstrang
It was logical that a government like that in Santo Domingo, which takes power and cannot get rid of those who took it, completely has strung if it even suggests a discreet policy, as was the case of Bosch.

Bosch deserves a little more respect than the others. Why? Because he is sane, perhaps? No, he had great weaknesses, he came to the government with the good will of the imperialists who thought he would lead a Revolution. Betancourt there. But they didn't have a Romulo. Romulo is in his own country. Romulo is not overthrown because Romulo has sold even his soul to the imperialists: he murders workers, murders students, persecutes the people. And why would the imperialists want to put a right-wing militarist in power there when they have Romulo who is more right-wing than all the militarists?

But that was not Bosch policy. His policy was not like that of the Somoza, the Romulos and the worst imperialist puppets, characterized by their hatred toward Cuba. Bosch was not known for his anti-Cuban policy; he devoted himself to the problems of his country. He had a discreet attitude, and that cost him his post.

And what did the Trujillo generals do? They said, "We are anti-communists, we are anti-communists, we have raised power to save our homeland." How these phrases reminded us of the 10th of March, which they reminded us of that proclamation by Batista. Always the same story, the same pretext.

And what are the imperialists going to do? They are stealing in their own juice and the right-wing militarists are taking power — supported, of course, by the U.S. militarists.

In the U.S. there are both civilian and military reactionaries: the right-wing military of the Pentagon support right-wing governments in military uniform; the reactionaries of the State Department support right-wing government in civilian clothes. They have their internal con-

Business Week on the Cuban Economy

"Far from being in a state of collapse, Cuba's Soviet-supported economy now is showing signs of an upswing. . . . This is the conclusion reached by a McGraw-Hill special correspondent who recently traveled to Havana and other parts of the island. . . . Cuba has put renewed emphasis on sugar in its planning, and Western observers believe that next year's harvest may climb to 4 million or 4.5 million tons. . . . Meanwhile, Castro boasts these achievements: the industrial front:

"About 25 light industry plants have been put into operation. . . . manufacturing everything from picks and shovels to sulphuric acid. More plants are under construction. . . . Despite a U.S. embargo on spare parts, the Cubans have managed to keep in operation all refineries. . . . and the Nycara nickel plant. . . . Cuba is rapidly expanding its commercial fishing industry. . . . Big new electric plants are being built near Havana. . . . This progress casts doubt on any notion that Cuba's economic situation can be counted on to generate all-out opposition to Castro. . . . no one is starving in Cuba. . . . and many Cubans — including students and peasants who form the backbone of Castro's support — are eating better than ever." — Business Week, Sept. 14, 1963.

traditions and these contradictions can be seen in the Latin American continent.

There we have the people of Santo Domingo once again under the thumb of a military dictatorship a reign of terror. But what a lesson, what a great lesson for the Dominican people and for all the people, that there is only one way, there is only one remedy: to liquidate the militarists, to fight the militarists to defeat the militarists and shoot their leaders.

The path of the Revolution, the path of the people, although it may be long and hard, is the only path that promises the people a secure future and a great future with stability. Because, how can there be a stable government, how can there be progress in any of those countries constantly shaken by revolts and coups, how can there be progress in under-developed countries, exploited countries, where sometimes the rate of illiteracy reaches 80 per cent, plundered by gangs of politicians and military?

How can there be progress in an economy that shrinks in relation to that population. And what is amazing, what should make us all feel proud to see how, although we have the great empire before us trying in vain to make us march forward, Cuba advances. Cuba is resisting, Cuba is building its future, while the other sister countries, the majority of those peoples, go from one crisis to another, from hunger to hunger, and follow the downward path of poverty without a future.

We are going through the difficulties of the present for a secure future. That is not the situation of the other countries. How can they even speak of industrial development with 79 per cent of the population illiterate — when the development of industry requires a nation of educated workers, with high technical level? And for that, the first thing is to learn to read and write — and that is our path.

In the last few days, the imperialists have said that we have abandoned our five-year industrialization. Of course, when they have told the world so many lies, when it's a dozen lies more matter to them — lies by inches for inches.

So we were not surprised to see a Palangst sheet from Barcelona with an article stating that Cuba has abandoned her plans and is going to concentrate on agricultural products. And so did some U.S. commentators, following our statement in which we said that in this decade we must, above all, encourage our agriculture, make a careful study of our

resources and invest them in those branches that would give a more rapid rate of growth. . . . — at precisely the right moment — a great industrial advance. We are not being an industrially developed country to become an agricultural country. And they publicized this. Of course, this is very far from what our country proposes to do.

What is really happening is that through the years, we have been acquiring much more experience, a much clearer vision of our resources, of our possibilities — an experience that all the people and the revolutionary cadres have shared in. We see things much more clearly. And now it isn't as if it was in the first years when subjectivity and personal tastes had an influence and not cold and objective analysis — the responsibility that can be seen today at all levels, the constant struggle against the irresponsible, the constant struggle against carelessness, against waste and against errors.

Clearer Vision
Today we have a much clearer vision of our possibilities and we know much better how to invest our resources. We know what sugar means for us as a source of foreign exchange; we know of the extraordinary possibilities of our agriculture which, with our climate, can surpass the agriculture of highly developed countries — it can greatly surpass them. And we can see this more clearly every day.

And here we have a source of resources, not only to satisfy our needs, but also to develop the whole economy, to develop our industry, starting from the principle of the most rational use of our human resources, of our economic resources, of our natural resources starting from the principle of the international division of labor, so as to guarantee a maximum of productivity from that effort. Because some industries will have first priority under these conditions over other industries. Some of which are very advanced. There is a whole program of de-

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...Free Castro on Cuba's Foreign Policy

(Continued from page 5)
velopment of hydraulic works and there is a whole program for the construction of industries.

Naturally, when the first plans were made at the beginning of the Revolution, there was not a 100 per cent rationalization in the employment of resources. It suffered from errors. These errors are being corrected along this way, so that when we study our investments each year, and the development plans, we apply more and more the policy of using each cent in a more rational and profitable way. But at the same time we discover the extraordinary and unbelievable possibilities of our country, which only require organization and technique, earnestness and responsibility.

And that is why we have to demand this constantly, because our possibilities are really extraordinary, and what we have to do is to know how to take advantage of them, to struggle unflinchingly for that, and we will see how we overcome our difficulties, and we will see how in a relatively short time we make extraordinary advances and strengthen our economy, which means to strengthen the Revolution, to strengthen our position against imperialism, against the enemies and the enemies of the Revolution, to strengthen the influence and prestige of the Revolution on the continent.

Some spokesmen for imperialism are beginning to admit that our economy is making progress; they are beginning to see signs of progress in our economy; they are beginning to see that we have already overcome the most difficult stages.

Soviet Aid

But we shouldn't be satisfied with this. Our people should only be satisfied when we exploit our possibilities and resources to the maximum; when we know how and do take advantage of them. Because during these years we have received great help, extraordinary help from the socialist countries.

But this does not mean that we should get used to that idea. That help has been decisive. It came in the most difficult moments, in the moments when we had least experience, but what we must keep in mind is not to solve our problems through trade imbalances. No. This would be worthy of us? This would really be shameful to us. A country with possibilities such as ours, with the natural resources of our country, cannot really be satisfied except when it is doing the maximum and does it well.

I am not referring to the people who are always willing to cooperate; I refer to each and every citizen at every level of administration.

Cuba, which has an imbalance of more than one hundred million dollars in its trade with the Soviet Union, must start thinking how to make the maximum effort so that in the shortest possible

time the imbalance is wiped out.

The difference between the mentality of a revolutionary and that of a parasite people is the difference between getting used to imbalance and getting used to producing, producing what we need and obtaining the resources for development.

It is well for us to receive such remarkable help in the most difficult and least experienced days; but it is well for us to start thinking about drawing the resources we need from our effort, our work, our soil, our intelligence, our organization.

Imperialist Blockade

It is true that we are still under the imperialist blockade. It is true that the imperialists try to tighten the blockade, and we do not know how long we will have to resist this situation. And we will resist — because we will never lower our Revolutionary flag; because the head of this nation, held high, will never bow; because we will face any risks that may be necessary as long as may be necessary. We will face any sacrifices that may be necessary, as long as may be necessary. Because we assume full responsibility for our conduct, our history, our Revolution, we had nothing to lose but our chains. Now we have broken those chains. And even though we may have the arms and officers made by these chains on our ankles, we will be able to walk.

I was saying that it is true that there is an iron blockade and that the imperialists are trying to apply more and more pressure; that it is also true that while the blockade on Cuba and try to make their blockade of Cuba even more ruthless. And it is evident that they have received this policy in recent months.

And thus we see how a shameless government such as the Greek government — in other words, a mere satellite of U.S. imperialists so many miles away — has had the cowardice to forbid its ships to come to Cuba.

Taliban Pact

This imperialism is trying to tighten its noose around Cuba, even when pressures are lessening in other parts of the world. Clearly this situation determines our conduct. Clearly we will not calmly accept a situation in which the tensions decrease while they increase for us. We do not want tensions to exist in the world. No, we are happy to see tensions decrease. But we cannot consider ourselves at peace with the imperialists, we cannot consider ourselves at peace with an imperialism that is increasing its efforts to strangle us.

And this situation will determine our international conduct. This is not a policy for war; it is a policy that is for peace. But we are not to be blamed for the war they are waging against us.

As a small country, attacked, blockaded, against such enemies, we are attacks, a policy of undeclared war, infiltration of saboteurs, smuggling of weapons and explosives, setting up of bases to attack and kill, we will be expected by no one to give a hostile smile to those imperialist enemies.

They are our enemies, and we will know how to be their enemies. This situation will determine our policy in the international relations, in the United Nations, everywhere, and will determine our attitude on the nuclear pact, and will determine our attitude with respect to the proposal of denuclearization.

And we will know how to resist, because there is sufficient pride, sufficient dignity, sufficient cour-



CUBA'S SECRET WEAPON. Huge throng at Havana's Plaza of the Revolution expresses militancy and solidarity of population and its demonstrated readiness to face any threat, no matter how grave.

age, sufficient heroism and sufficient spirit of sacrifice. If the imperialists try to intrude around the Cuban position, the Cuban position will be, above all, determined by imperialism.

What is our line? The line of consistent anti-imperialism; fundamentally, the line of anti-U.S. imperialism.

Line of Struggle

In other words, we are in a concrete situation. The enemy is there, 90 miles away, harassing us, blockading us, threatening us, trying to destroy us. Our line is the line of struggle against that enemy. That is our line. Cuba has its own line, which corresponds to the concrete conditions in which the Cuban Revolution arises in history, and the specific conditions of that place in the world where it arises — the closeness of U.S. imperialism and the brotherhood of a continent exploited by that imperialism.

These are the circumstances that determine our conduct and our line, the line of our party and of our people — which are and will be closely united, because we will know how to worthily represent this nation, the sentiments of this nation, the history of this nation, of this people, the grandeur and dignity of this people, because with a people such as ours we can well face any situation, no matter how difficult. With a people such as ours, we will well know how to face any problem victoriously.

Front Fight

And thus we are already veterans of a long and hard struggle, of which we are proud, and of which we will never feel ashamed. Because the people never repent or become ashamed of being dignified and brave, of being heroic, audacious and patriotic. And we will win, because this is the hour of the people, the hour of peoples' rebellion, when the peoples of all countries will shake off the yoke of empires and dig the grave of the exploiters.

And this is a problem of the struggle of the peoples, and the peoples are ready, marching and struggling. And the news we receive from everywhere — the news the rallies bring us of the growing struggle of the brother peoples of Latin America is more and more encouraging.

And we have to know how to respond to our concrete situation, and our special situation. And we must know what our duties are — our duties towards the economy

and the defense of the Revolution, we must know that now imperialism is trying to tighten the knot, when the imperialists are launching a counter-revolutionary offensive. They do not impress us. We are already veterans in this struggle. We know how to treat them, we know how to counter their attacks and their plans — plans that we know quite well. Their plans will fail, as they have all failed.

But we must know what our duties are in the struggle against the counter-revolutionary offensive of imperialism and in the struggle for the economy. With the rifle and the work-tool, the work-tool and the rifle, with these, with both, we must bring about our victory. With both we must build our future. With both we must build our history. With both we must know how to fulfill our duties and make efforts to do a better job by using the resources that we have and that we are creating. Because as always, you know the importance the Revolution places on the training of the younger generation.

You will remember that even in the difficult days of the invasions, when the enemy was attacking our coasts with their expedition of mercenaries, the first tens of thousands of students were gathered to begin the literacy campaign, and everything everything went into the struggle, everything went on a war footing, everything — except one thing, the literacy campaign.

Education, the training of cadres, industrialization, is not a thing of two or three years, be-

cause our engineers, tens and tens of thousands of technicians of all kinds are still going through the first years at the universities or at the pre-university schools, or at secondary schools. Of necessity, we must wait for them. We need time to reap the fruits of their effort. We must know how to think in terms of time.

We must think of the duties to be fulfilled by each of us, that means our duty, and the duty of the younger generations trained by the Revolution. We must think of the duty of the work, the continuity in time of the work of a nation, the continuity in time of the work of a Revolution, of what corresponds to each stage of this Revolution.

Cuba's Role

Let us feel satisfied and proud that the stage of struggle, of work, of hard and difficult struggle, fell to us because this will always be our greatest satisfaction and the pride of the coming generations, for whom, in essence, we are preparing the future. We must know how to fulfill our duties toward our country, know how to fulfill our duties towards the world, with the feeling of assurance that we are capable of fulfilling those duties, that we have a great people. And because the hope that many humble and exploited people have placed in us will never be disappointed. Because the role Cuba plays today in the global struggle in the face of the powerful U.S. empire, its example and stimulus to the whole continent, is a role Cuba plays because it is capable of doing so, because it has the qualities needed to fulfill it. It was not by accident but because of their extraordinary qualities that the Cuban people are playing this role.

Example of Courage

These are our people, let them never be confused with the cowards who flee, with those who sell out to the enemy — let them role Cuba plays today in the global struggle in the face of the powerful U.S. empire, its example and stimulus to the whole continent, is a role Cuba plays because it is capable of doing so, because it has the qualities needed to fulfill it. It was not by accident but because of their extraordinary qualities that the Cuban people are playing this role.

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Local Directory

- BOSTON: Boston Labor Forum, 28 Massachusetts Ave., Room 20.
- CHICAGO: Socialist Workers Party and Youth League, 212 South Dear St., Room 212, WE 3-3000.
- CLEVELAND: Eugene V. Dale Hall, Ohio St. 300, Cleveland 8, Room 212.
- DETROIT: Eugene V. Dale Hall, 1237 Woodward Temple 1-2121.
- NEW YORK: New York Labor Forum, 28 St. Marks Ave., New York.
- NEW YORK CITY: Militant Labor Forum, 118 University Place, AN 6-8888.
- OAKLAND-BERKELEY: Labor School, 2000 University Ave., Oakland 12, CA 8-2077.
- PHILADELPHIA: Militant Labor Forum, 300 Locust St., Philadelphia 5, PA 5-1997.
- SAN FRANCISCO: Militant Labor Forum, Second Second and Fourth Streets at Market, San Francisco 4, CA 4-1997.
- ST. LOUIS: Peace Hall 1-2000, Ash Park by Duke Circle.
- SAN DIEGO: San Diego Labor Forum, 1000 La Jolla Village Drive, San Diego 6, CA 5-1997.
- SEATTLE: 215 2nd Ave. S.E., Seattle, Wash. Open 12 noon U.S.A. Std. Wednesdays, Phone 421-2100.
- MINNEAPOLIS: Socialist Workers Party and Labor School, 724 Hennepin Ave. 2nd Fl., Federal Bldg., Open 12 to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
- MILWAUKEE: 130 E. Jackson Ave.
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