Cuba and the United States

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United States Fixation on Cuba

“The annexation of Cuba to our federal republic will be indispensable to the continuance and integrity of the Union itself.” John Quincy Adams, 1823

“The possession of Cuba has been the dream of American statesmen ever since our government was organized. Cuba is at our doors – at the gateway of the Panama canal – a few hours from our southern coast. Our title to it is as good as that of anybody.” Chicago Tribune 1906

“The Cubans need big brothers and sisters in the people of the United States to enlighten them in the principles of democracy and freedom, and to help them straighten up after centuries of groveling under severe Spanish masters.” Havana Post, 1916
Historical and Theoretical Overview

Geography
1. staging point
2. prize possession
3. geopolitics

External Domination
1. long period of Spanish colonial control
2. United States protectorate - Platt Amendment
3. Soviet influence after Revolution
From Center to Margins and Back
Spanish Fleets
Sugar Plantations
Ten Years’ War 1868-1878
Proximity
Spanish-Cuban-American War
US Imperialism: Platt Amendment

“I RATHER LIKE THAT IMPORTED AFFAIR.”
Lessons from Uncle Sam
Cuban Revolution
Spark of Revolution
Bay of Pigs, April 1961
U.S. IMPOSES ARMS BLOCKADE ON CUBA ON FINDING OFFENSIVE-MISSILE SITES; KENNEDY READY FOR SOVIET SHOWDOWN

U.S. Judges Given Power to Require Vote for Negroes
High Court Upholds Order Forcing the Registration of 56 in Alabama County

Chinese Open New Front; Use Tanks Against Indians
Nehru Warns of Peril to Independence—Reds Attack Near Birmese Border and Press Two Other Drives

U.S. Bids U.N. Bar China; Denounces Attack on India

SHIPS MUST STOP
Other Action Planned If Big Rockets Are Not Dismantled

President Grave
Announces His Action: President Kennedy speaking to the nation last night on radio and television. He told of moves to keep offensive equipment away from Cuba.

TRAFFIC DELAYED AT BERLIN BORDER

MOSCOW SAYS U.S. HOLDS ‘ARMED FIST’ OVER CUBA

By SKYNNER TOPPINO

Moscow, Tuesday, Oct. 23—In a broadcast before President Kennedy's speech on the missile build-up in Cuba, the Moscow radio said that the unusual activity in Washington was “just a gesture” and that there was “real hysteria.”

BIG FORCE MASSES TO INVADE CUBA
Che in Bolivia

[Images of Che Guevara and comrades in Bolivia]
Thousands of Cubans packed aboard boats of all kinds and made the journey to a new home in the United States in 1980. The exodus was dubbed the "Mariel Boat Lift". photograph credit Miami Herald
Cuban Internationalism
Transfer of Power 2006-2008
Opening of US Embassy 08-14-2015
Fidel Castro Funeral Procession, December 2016
Celebration in Miami
What Lies Ahead?