

**SPEECH PRONOUNCED BY MISS JUANITA CASTRO ON MONDAY,
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MEMBERS OF LOS ANGELES WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL**

Distinguished members of the Los Angeles Council for World Affairs:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity you have given me to come to this meeting and speak of the heart-breaking facts which my country is facing. I am also taking advantage of this occasion to present my personal testimony on the now historical treason which has been perpetrated against my homeland, a treason which continues even now trying to stamp out all democratic forces on the island of Cuba as well as those of all other nations of this American continent. The United States, indirectly, is the very special target of this carefully conceived action.

The full realization of the goals of my brother, Fidel, came to me very slowly while I was still in Cuba. But, as I watched the monstrous plans being put into effect, first against defenseless Latin American countries and then against the United States itself, I could not stand the torment which took hold of me for I could see the tragic destiny which had befallen my country and was now threatening other peaceful and trusting peoples.

I suffered through endless days and nights of indescribable anguish. I was only able to share my fears with my poor, late mother, and her pain was indeed great as she watched her sons (and I watched my brothers) dragging our nation to the brink of destruction, betraying our people, and preparing to do the same to other nations.

As I listened to their planning and watched how things developed and I realized the inhumanity and treachery which existed, the decision that I had to make became extremely clear. My Christian upbringing certainly aided me greatly in making my choice. And what were my alternatives? God and my country or an aggressive military bloc (such as is the Sino-Soviet one). The traditional feeling of brotherhood which has always existed among all the nations of this Continent is being threatened by a sinister conspiracy which flows simultaneously from Moscow, Havana and Peking. From these strategic positions the intrinsically perverse nature of international communism, which was, is and always shall be one and the same, regardless of what form it may take or of how peculiar circumstances may tend to conceal the ultimate goal which is world domination. To most, it seems that this goal is being attained through two methods: the Soviet Union's coexistence and Red China's violence. The target of either one, however, is the Christian civilization of democratic countries.

I make these statements because I have ample and well-founded reasons. I was an eye-witness to the facts and plans that substantiate my conclusions.

This is the story I wish to tell you and all people for, from the moment that I became fully aware of the monstrosity which was being perpetrated, I swore to denounce this fact on all corners of the Free World... anywhere where someone is willing to listen to me, willing to consider this lethal danger which threatens humanity. My efforts will not cease until both the governing classes and the people wake up from their lethargy which is based on an erroneous confidence in a strategy inadequate to combat the monstrous Marxist-Leninist conspiracy.

I trust in God for our salvation. I trust in the history of mankind which shows that somehow visionary leaders always appear to enable victory over the forces which would retrograde humanity to a barbarian or slave state.

I believe in the strength of democracy in which I have placed my trust along with millions of souls and this is why I appeal to its moral and material reserves.

Humanity has just lost one of those "visionaries" who, after offering his people "blood, tears, sweat and sacrifices," led them on to victory. But many years before the unfortunate day of his death, he clearly identified the new totalitarian menace which he dubbed "The Iron Curtain." Behind this iron curtain... as is

well known to me and millions of people who have had to live under its slavery. . . . mass killings are an everyday occurrence as are the premeditated and relentless preparations for the death of even more innocent victims and the burial of universal democracy.

Let us do something to stop this crime which hides behind a mask of ideology to confuse those naive souls who search Utopian formulas, those useful idiots and those who have been misguided in the placement of their trust.

Let us do more than we are doing because, and I can assure you from personal experience, any effort is too small, only thus can we overcome the monstrous plans which are being formulated to destroy our Christian civilization.

These plans include all countries, both great and small. International communism has prepared a mortal trap for every category, for every nationality, for every power. . .

He who doubts this, he who thinks that I exaggerate, let him observe and study a map of the world and see the subversive movements and the frontal attacks which international communism has made on the face of that world. There he will find the evidence. In less than half a century, the Sino-Soviet Empire has ensnared 38 nations and 1,260 million people who are desperately awaiting liberation but who are impotent to do the job. The Kremlin and Peking, like armed fanatics, thrust their power against nations who desire nothing but peace and co-existence but not the "co-existence" which the treacherous communists describe, for they do not use the definitions that our Christian doctrine or our grammars have taught us.

They cynically classify the dictatorship of a group of opportunists who have developed from the new ruling class as a "dictatorship of the proletariat." For them, tyrannies are "popular democracies." And so on and so forth. . . . We thus can see how the Marxist-Leninist dictionary has completely changed the accepted meanings of words and how the system does not respect human rights.

He who doubts or believes that I exaggerate should try to find an explanation for the Cuban case. How could this have happened? A little island like the island of Cuba. . . . Six years ago it was militarily insignificant, its population, only seven millions. And look at it today. . . . An arsenal of nuclear weapons aimed at the very heart of the American continent. That Cuba only 90 miles from the U. S. mainland, has been transformed into an aggressive power by communist imperialism was clearly demonstrated in the October, 1962 crisis, when the late President, John F. Kennedy, ordered a blockade of the little island.

He who doubts or believes that I exaggerate should ask himself if six years ago he would have believed that this little island would one day have one of the most powerful and aggressive Armed Forces in all of Latin America and that its government would be cynical enough to state that it would be willing to place all resources at the disposal of forces bent on the destruction of democratic institutions in all the nations of the Americas, thus turning them into carbon copies of the Cuban drama.

I personally was a witness to the formulation of those plans. I shall relate to you some of the facts which came to my personal attention.

With all sincerity, with the clearness of vision necessary to recognize the truth, with the valor which is needed to meet the challenges of the enemy, with the crudeness which the inhumanity of these plans has forced me to use in my efforts to denounce this treason on all corners of the earth, I must say that those who doubt the danger that this aggressive, communist imperialism holds cannot in any way be a part of the victorious legion who believed in the vision and courage of Winston Churchill. These will pass into history along with Chamberlain's umbrella.

Let us study these plans that I will now explain to you. Let us evaluate the facts and try to draw practical conclusions so as to save this Continent and its citizens.

In the month of October of 1960 I "located" Fidel in one of the many houses which he had "appropriated" for his personal comfort and which he used as "hideouts" in which to plot against those whom he had decided were not being blindly obedient and should be removed. This characteristic of Fidel's is well-known to all of his intimate followers. It is a pathological affliction. This particular house was a most elegant one, situated in Cojimar, which is a few miles out of Havana. Fidel let it be known that he lived in this particular house but very few people actually knew where he would spend any particular night.

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Around this date, Fidel no longer even trusted his own personal guard which had been with him since his Sierra Maestra days when the revolution was still on Cuban mountains. The guard was composed of poor, young peasants to whom he despectively referred as "the little donkeys" because during his many hikes through the mountains they had been forced to follow him, first of all to protect him, and secondly to carry Fidel's knapsacks.

He dropped these young men as soon as he reached Havana and started to choose militant Communist Party members in their place. This, of course, was necessary because the new guard was going to hear only that which would please a communist. This would not have fallen well on the ears of these farmers who had been promised "justice, bread and liberty."

One day I observed with great sadness how those peasants who had guarded my brother while he was in the Sierra Maestra Mountains were cast aside. I commented on this to Fidel and he answered: "These little donkeys have to be indoctrinated so that they may learn Marxism. This is why I have given them scholarships and sent them off to study."

That was not Fidel's first inhuman action nor would it be the last. I had seen many signs of it before and the world is now witness to the many which have followed.

I was able to find out that Fidel was silently plotting to turn over all key positions of the Revolutionary Government to Communist Party agents. Thus he set about, systematically, to displace all veterans of the Revolution in military and government positions.

And so it was that Fidel's "partners" in arms, his friends who faithfully served under him during the many years of the revolution, those men who had risked their lives within the cities and on the mountains, those who made victory possible on that January 1st, 1959, were periodically replaced, upon Fidel Castro's direct orders, by militant members of the Communist Party. These changes were usually made very secretly. The men who were thus advanced into top government jobs had neither sacrificed themselves nor risked their lives during that revolutionary war which took so many.

On that day and in that Cojimar mansion, Fidel was meeting with the international adventurer known as "Che" Guevara and other "old" communist leaders; Blas Roca, Carlos Rafael Rodríguez and Lázaro Peña. Both the civil and military structure was being re-arranged to fit the Soviet mold.

I was amazed to see how meekly Fidel accepted the proposals of the Communist Party leaders as they indicated just what steps should be taken by Fidel and the revolution. "Che" Guevara and Carlos Rafael Rodríguez were explaining the facts to Fidel and urging his "continental" future.

It was hard for me to contain my amazement but I did manage to maintain my serenity sufficiently so as to be able to analyze the magnitude of the plans which were being traced by the old Cuban communist guard. Fidel was becoming more and more enthusiastic as they successfully goaded his ego and I realized that day just how great his ego really was.

I still recall the exchange of conversation between Blas Roca and Fidel, words which I was not fully able to believe until some time later when I had accumulated other corroborating facts.

Blas Roca, one of the top Cuban communists told Fidel:

"Whatever you do in Cuba via a Marxist-Leninist revolution, our organizations in Latin America will take care that it is presented as the only possible social solution for those countries. With the help of Russia and Red China, you will become a continental hero. We shall place all resources in your hands. First we must start out with psychological propaganda. This will then be followed by sufficient material to make it possible for you to carry out whatever revolutions are necessary to deliver all Latin American nations into your hands."

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I confess that, upon hearing these words, I thought that they were kidding Fidel or that perhaps they were staging a little comedy. Soon, however, my doubts vanished. Fidel presented the following arguments, very seriously:

"That plan is exactly what I want. While I was up in the Sierra Maestra "Che" and Carlos Rafael gave me a rough idea of how it could work. I know that you are aware of this but, of course, I needed to have assurances of Russia's backing. I now see that I have this."

The old-guard communists, Moscow's trusted agents in Cuba, answered: "It is an absolute fact."

"Che" Guevara then gave a detailed account of how conditions in the different Latin American nations favored a revolution.

I was awed by the information that the "Che" had on each Latin American country and especially by the way he presented his material, cleverly adapting the general panorama so as to build up Fidel's ego. After quite a bit of time, my brother spoke and I noticed that he had been thoroughly convinced of his ability to obtain what they had described as a "continental" objective. He said:

"This continental action must begin with the two countries where conditions are the most favorable, i. e. ; Venezuela and Brazil. It will take about ten or fifteen years to get all of the other nations into the fold. When all countries have socialist governments we will be able to place them under one single military and civil head. This is when I shall be able to assume the leadership in the name of 'the Latin American revolution.'"

Then Blas Roca smiled cynically and said: "Those nations will be called 'The Union of Socialist Republics of the Americas' (USRA) and they will become part of the communist bloc."

Fidel's enthusiasm was uncontrollable. His eyes were popping out of their sockets as he paced back and forth among the group, once suddenly stopping to say:

"I am willing to do anything and I will not be satisfied with this little island. But, in order to get territorial advances I must have military help as soon as possible."

This was immediately promised, in Russia's name, by Blas Roca, Carlos Rafael Rodríguez and "Che" Guevara.

On one point Fidel insisted: "I must keep Cuba armed with the most modern equipment so that the United States and some of the Latin American nations can be restrained until the moment that we are able to launch our continental plans. In order to do this I need hundreds of thousands of light and heavy infantry weapons, planes and I. R. B. M. 's. Every nation of this Continent must be within our range, from New York to Washington, from Santiago de Chile to Buenos Aires. If I do not have this I will not be able to act from a position of strength, I will not be able to unleash revolutions, for I would immediately be dealt a crushing blow. This must be understood by the Soviet Union for, it is she who possesses the arms and projectiles that I need."

I confess and repeat that, even though I had already come to believe Fidel capable of the craziest of schemes I never thought that his monstrous plans would be on such a large scale and much less ever even dreamed that these would come true. But I had further opportunities to confirm the fact that the matter had indeed been referred to the Kremlin. Towards the end of 1962 I found out that Russia had placed the I. R. B. M. 's in Fidel's murdering hands. He now had the American Continent within his gunights.

From that moment on I was to learn, through very bitter experience, that Fidel and communist imperialism were capable of anything in their drive to dominate all humanity.

But there are other important details which clearly show that Fidel and international communism have not given up their ambitions.

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Anastas mikoyan was forced to tell Fidel that Russia had to withdraw its missiles because of the October crisis.

Why did Fidel finally approve the measure? It was not only because he was forced to do so because I know that in return for his cooperation both Russia and Red China (which is even more aggressive than Fidel) agreed to continue to aid him in his plan to conquer Latin America through subversion, terrorism and a strategy which was aimed at the immediate crumbling of all democratic institutions in Latin America so as to permit the colonial expansion of communism into the American Continent.

During Mikoyan's visit to Cuba, at the time of the October crisis, I learned of the details of the new plan which, I assure you, in no way eliminated the possibility that Cuba would once again have her nuclear warheads if the Western powers dared to "doze" off again, as Fidel insisted they would. Fidel was most insistent with Mikoyan on the point that the missiles should be returned to Cuba the very first minute that the democratic countries showed the slightest signs of relenting.

Later on, Fidel started demanding loudly that the anti-aircraft rockets which were in charge of the Russians be put in Cuban hands. This has now been accomplished.

Fidel was quite indignant in his conversation with Mikoyan. "The United States has forced me to shelve my plan temporarily but some day we will drop bombs on the United States and this will be my revenge."

I can assure you that his madness knows no limits. All those of us who know him no doubt in this matter. He most decidedly would not hesitate to drop bombs on the heads of millions of human beings. It would make no difference to him whether this be on a North American or South American city. The reason I can make this statement is that Fidel is very open about his plan when he is around his followers. He makes no effort to conceal these thoughts from his intimate circle.

After studying Fidel closely I am sure that we are in the presence of another Hitler. If Fidel had at his disposal the enormous resources which were Hitler's, Humanity would already be deeply entrenched in World War III.

Fidel's hatred is aimed not only against the United States but also against all of his fellowmen. It does not matter to him that he may bring catastrophe to the nations of the Hemisphere so long as he is able to satisfy his brutal ambition of conquering and dominating the Continent.

On another occasion I heard Fidel say: "The power of the United States must be immobilized. This can be done by conquering Latin America so as to have them fight the North. The strategic encirclement must come from below. It's just like taking a rebel hill by controlling all the flanks. This operation would be tantamount to crushing an inverted pyramid. The material backing needed to bring down this pyramid will be found in Russia, Red China or anywhere I can get it." (This is the way he talks to his inner circle).

Fidel has not abandoned this strategy. Although he has been set back by failures such as that he found in Venezuela and Brazil which, somehow, managed to escape from his hands when civic and military forces joined to produce a coup that deposed the Castro-communist instruments who had been in power, Fidel's tenacity is dangerous. He is determined to reach his ambitious goals. He is backed by Asia and is maneuvering the African countries so as to blackmail Moscow. This will probably give him more military and economic aid.

Since 1960 Cuba has been the Latin American Technical Institute for the destruction of democracy and massacre of human beings.

Cuba "graduates" thousands of young Latin American youths who have become "masters" in the art of terror and guerrilla warfare. Upon their "graduation," they return to their homelands as agents of Soviet imperialism to foment disturbances and create rebel zones.

These young men, whom the Marxist-Leninist poison has turned into fanatics, will not be pioneers in the reconstruction and social progress of their countries but will be, much to their own and their countries' sorrow, the criminal agents who will carry

out the plans for continental domination which have been conceived by treacherous Fidel Castro.

Fidel's deadly robots continue to travel using Mexico as a pivot for their operations. Mexico, a nation which is loved by all of us who belong to the Latin American family of nations, and each one of us would like to see her back in the fold and a part of the defensive action which seeks to keep Cuba's aggressive regime out of Latin America and to help restore the right to self determination to Cuba.

Referring to this training of Latin American youths, I heard Fidel utter these words:

"If we train but three hundred men to act as group leaders in each country, we will have enough to explode the Socialist Revolution volcano in Latin America. If to this we add the militant and/or non militant Marxis-Leninists in all Latin America who will act as a Fifth Column as well as the other elements which through contagion, economic or social frustration, political ambition. . . . either left or right. . . . are conditioned to join an insurrectional movement, Soviet rockets will not be needed in the takeover of the entire Continent. "

These were his words. The facts now clearly demonstrate that Cuba has met and passed the goal which Fidel set four years ago. More and more guerrilla fighters have been trained and the results can be evidenced in any morning newspaper. Several heads of state and continental newspapers are ever decrying the active presence of the Castro-communist guerrillas.

The U. S. Under Secretary of State for Latin American Affairs, Mr. Thomas C. Mann, recently stated:

"Cuba continues to train agents in guerrilla warfare and to send them out into Latin America to carry out their activities. Guerrilla groups exist in Venezuela, Colombia, Honduras, Guatemala and in the central region of Bolivia. And I believe," added Mr. Mann, "that this threat to Hemispheric peace will continue for some time to come. "

It has given us great satisfaction to see the solidarity of the labor movement in Latin America which has resulted in the taking of effective measures against the ships and the countries which feed the communist Cuban regime. We quite deliberately state that they only feed the regime because the industrial and agricultural products which capitalistic countries send to Cuba do not reach the starving Cuban people. This only serves the regime's privileged bosses or is re-shipped to Moscow, the metropolis of Soviet imperialism. In the meantime, blockade or no blockade, the Cuban people will continue to suffer from want and hunger.

Now let us be alert to the latest maneuver which has been conceived by the diabolical minds of Fidel and his followers.

I can assure you that this is a fact. When Fidel considers that he is lost and is about to be overthrown by the patriotic Cuban people. . . and such an attempt is apt to be tried at any moment because internal dissention exists within the ranks of the Havana regime, and besides the fearless and harassing landings from outside which will continue -he will not leave without carrying out the plan which he has prepared for such an emergency.

This plan calls for immediate action, even to the extent of provoking war with some Latin American country, in order to avoid being toppled by an internal uprising. Should this moment come, Fidel will be more dangerous than ever.

I heard Fidel say on one occasion: "If I ever find that I have lost, thousands of men will have to fall with me because any armament that I have at my disposal will be fired against the United States or against any neighboring country on the Continent. I shall thus force collective action against us for one thing, I will not have the world think that we have been destroyed by the people. "

Fidel has never kept one single constructive promise. This was true when he lived with us in our home and is still true now that he keeps his homeland in a state of agony. But Fidel has kept most of his warlike threats and he has never been particularly shy about confessing this, sometimes privately, sometimes in public.

I would like to alert all countries on this Continent, whether these be small or large, to the fact that Fidel does have sufficient resources to produce a most disastrous catastrophe, something which must be avoided and can only be avoided if steps are taken in time. His plan is similar to that of Nero when he set Rome afire. His plan calls for a retreat to some mountainous Cuban region where he will entrench as long as it is possible for him to survive but, in the meantime, he will not cease his efforts to produce a retreat which will be catastrophic not only to Cuba but also to all neighboring countries.

If the democratic countries of this Continent feel... as those of us who know Fidel do... that he is a definite menace to continental peace, let us all do something quickly so as to prevent the execution of his diabolical plan for a bloody retreat.

Let us take strategic action before he has a chance to put his plans into effect.

Let us take preventive measures so as not to have to regret, later on, for not having taken adequate action in the face of what Fidel is planning at present, plans which will have disastrous effects on Cuba and all of her neighboring countries.

Let us remember that a malignant tumor must be cut away the moment it is discovered and not after it has spread all over the organism.

Let us remember that there exists a communist conspiracy that has sworn to bury us and is rocking the foundations of our democratic institutions.

Let us remember that that aggressive and treacherous conspiracy is but ninety miles away from this great nation on whose shoulders rests the burden of preserving western civilization.

Let us remember that the democracies of the Continent... those which they plan to destroy... do have the resources and means to act before it is too late.

Let us remember that when we are forced to be on the defensive, the offensive action of the enemy becomes even more dangerous.

Let us remember that almost seven million inhabitants and a sister nation, which tomorrow could be your own and today is Cuba, are nailed to the cross of martyrdom.

Let us think about what those who today idly stand by and watch this crime being perpetrated and what they would do if tomorrow -and I pray to God that he deliver them from such a fate- they themselves were the victims.

Let us not forget that a sister nation is being crucified right in the heart of the Americas.

In the name of Christian charity, help us!

Help us so as not to prolong the agony which my martyred nation suffers while it anxiously looks to the Free World for its salvation!

We, the people of Cuba, are not asking that you sacrifice your brave sons who are risking and sacrificing their lives every day in the defense of Christian civilization!

We are more than willing to sacrifice our lives!

My country is now ready to fight the necessary and justified war.

Me people ask only that there be solidarity among the democracies on the Continent and that this be evident in the form of material resources!

The rest of the task is ours and God's and we trust in Him to guide us on the road to liberation.