

equipment which has already been supplied. They are equally careful in their continuous statements on Guantánamo, which have been more strident of late following on the mysterious death of a Cuban worker in the base, to emphasize that they eschew any resort to violence to regain possession of this territory.

15. At present the Cuban-Soviet relationship would appear to be a happy one with, in general, satisfaction on both sides, even though the Russians must have cause for periodic concern at the Cuban tendency to act precipitately. However, in the longer run there is room for doubt. Although both countries share the common interest in reducing United States influence in the hemisphere, Cuba by virtue of its Latin American background and geographical position has particular interests which may not always coincide with those of the USSR. Moreover, if its over-close identity with the Soviet bloc, combined with the bilateral problems which to one degree or another Cuba has with all Latin American countries, should lead to further estrangements and in the end to Cuba becoming a continental pariah, then this country might well prove to be more of a liability than an asset to the Soviet Union.

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