

U. S. Seen 'Blackmailed' in Cuba Deal

FOIA b3b

Republican Joe Baker, running for Congress from Maryland's Fifth District, charged last night that the Central Intelligence Agency has been "blackmailed" into offering "a minimum of \$3 million in taxpayers' money" to ransom Cuban prisoners captured in the abortive Bay of Pigs invasion.

Baker refused to disclose the source of his information, saying only that it came from a high government official and would be documented if negotiations are completed.

Speaking to the Anne Arundel County Young Republican Club, he also asserted that "food surpluses, bought with tax money, are being used as a negotiating point by James B. Donovan," who is conducting the negotiations for exiled Cuban refugees "in name only."

Actually, Baker said, Donovan was commissioned by Attorney General Robert Kennedy to represent the United States, and the public has a right to know "our Government's part in giving Communist Cuba blackmail money."