

And Back Home, Too

Radio Free Russia For Ivan--In Cuba

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CONSIDER a 21-year-old Russian soldier on occupation duty in Cuba. How does he feel about it?



Miss Bellamy

He's 5,000 miles from home, among strangers who are largely hostile. Cubans don't speak his language. He lacks civilian friends, including girls.

The news he gets from home is Russian radio propaganda beamed to the "masses," not to him personally.

His number may range from 17,000 to 40,000, mostly sent to Cuba because of their technical skills or know-how in operating sophisticated machines of war — not because they are hardcore Kremlin stooges.

★ ★ ★

CAN THESE Russian youths in Cuba be turned into allies of freedom? Constantin W. Boldyreff and his colleagues think so. They're trying. Their Radio Free Russia talks to "The Russian boy in Cuba" for 15 minutes every night.

"Our broadcasts," Boldyreff explains, "are aimed at moving the decent Russian officers and men to take the honorable course of action. To turn their arms — when the time comes — against their oppressors. To fight for the freedom of the Russian people by helping the Cubans to throw off the hated yoke.

"Their behavior at the time of crisis will be of crucial importance for the cause of freedom. The downfall of communism in Cuba will deal a severe blow to the Communist rulers of Russia."

Boldyreff feels that only Russians have a right to fight on other Russians to fight for Russia.



Коммунизм — это произвол, колхозная барщина, концлагери, нищета.

Коммунизм — это порабощение человека.

За землю, за волю, за лучшую долю зовет на борьбу



За Россию!

HTC

Anti-Red Stickers Show Up Amidst Reds

... supplementing regular broadcasts

his co-workers in Radio Free Russia are the only Russians outside the Iron Curtain talking to the Russians in Cuba in their own tongue as fellow patriots.

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BOLDYREFF directs and edits the programs from an office outside Washington, D.C., where the recording is done. A radio station in the Dominican Republic beams the messages to Cuba.

Although Boldyreff's group is 33 years old, its Cuban venture did not begin until last Nov. 3, at the time of the Cuban missile crisis. The Kremlin's reply last March was to step up its propaganda to the Cuban garrison to four hours a day.

that garrison food for thought:

"Comrade, think — why are you here?" asks a Russian in Russian. "Why, in a 'liberated, brotherly' nation, are you confined to carefully guarded camps in isolation from the population which, allegedly, you are supposed to be helping?"

"Did it ever occur to you that Khrushchev and Castro keep you in Cuba because they hope to crush a revolt by the Cuban people with the use of your bayonets?"

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SUCH messages supplement RFR's main work. They are beamed to the Russians inside Russia.

"We feel a responsibility

In Cuba from having his hands reddened with the blood of innocent people," says Boldyreff.

He recalls that the Soviet garrison in Hungary refused to shoot freedom fighters there in 1956, and many of the troops joined the rebels.

"Twenty-three Russian soldiers are known to have joined the anti-Castro guerrillas in the mountains of Cuba," Boldyreff reports.

RFR's work in Cuba and inside the Soviet Union is sponsored by Narodno Trudovoi Soyuz, known in English as the National Alliance of Russian Solidarists. NTS claims "thousands" of members in 30 free world countries, plus an undisclosed number of underground members in the USSR.

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BROADCASTS to Russia go out from a radio station near Munich, West Germany. So do leaflets, booklets and other literature delivered by balloons and by other means.

RFR often waits for a long-winded Soviet speaker to pause for breath, then exclaims, on the same wave length: "Don't believe a word he says, the bum."

"This gives courage to the resistance through knowledge that we are able to get through," Boldyreff explains.

An NTS stunt denounced by Red Star was a duplicate of Komsomolskaya Pravda, mouthpiece of the Communist Youth League. The replica used the journal's masthead, the same headlines, even the same first sentence of each article. All the rest was "dynamite," according to Boldyreff. Agents dropped copies on stacks of Komsomolskaya Pravda at newsstands, to be bought by customers.

Instructions for anti-Communist action are sealed in plastic and floated into Soviet rivers and coastal waters.

In the last so-called election in Cuba, the U.S. urged voters to spoil their ballots by writing on them.

Continued

Cuba