

STATINTL



Fulbright and Cuba

By Henry J. Taylor



SENATE Foreign Relations Committee Chairman J. William Fulbright (D., Ark.), fire in his TV eye, tells critics of the Kennedy Cuba policy not to rock the boat. Riddle: What boat?

The Cuba policy is not a policy, it is a disaster.

Sen. Fulbright's current rebuff to inquiring people typifies exactly the kind of speech-making that has us trapped and allows such manipulated news to function.

It takes advantage of the fact that our public's memory is short. Sen. Fulbright's tragic wrong-headedness about Cuba was widely publicized at the time of the Bay of Pigs. How many remember it today?

Whatever we are doing in Cuba is making more leeway than headway in bucking the wind. And any politician in either party who says "Don't Rock the Boat" as if we were securely meeting this peril is performing a distraction from our drift onto the shoals.

Sen. Fulbright's part in all this is sadly typical. Right about the Nazi menace, but never equally right about the Soviet, he has been dead wrong about Cuba from the very beginning.

He opposed any kind of intervention there unless we could waltz in with a group of Latin-American states, as if our country could order such a tidy state of affairs. In the absence of "collective security," Sen. Fulbright preferred to take his chances on Castro. That is the record.

However, we do not have collective security in Latin

America. We have collective insecurity. We are wise to be attached to the principle, as in NATO. But there is no NATO in Latin America and depending on collective security whenever this involves numerous weak and shaky countries means we flounder into exactly what Sen. Fulbright helped to give us in Cuba.

When the Arkansan discovered that even a trickle of intervention was moving toward the Bay of Pigs he, among others, demanded that the White House stop our indispensable part in it, call off the U. S. air cover over the beaches, and back away from even the incredibly fragile plans. Sen. Fulbright, who now says, "don't rock the boat," has much to answer for in this.

He is on record as follows: "I am sure that if American armed forces were used unilaterally the reaction elsewhere in the Western Hemisphere would be so severe that we would lose more in other countries than we could gain in Cuba."

How could America conceivably lose more in other countries than we have lost thruout Latin America and by the subsequent Soviet military lodgement 90 miles from our shores?

The whole perilous situation, nevertheless, has been reduced to a well-planned press campaign devised and carried out to achieve a clearly defined psychological end, viz., that all is under control.

Khrushchev is not being fooled. Cuba-based Red subversives in Venezuela, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, etc., are not being fooled.

Our "Don't Rock the Boat" politicians are cooling to the world's most dangerous dove.