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Letters to the Editor of The Times

Past Errors of Policy

To the Editor:

Please permit me to question the statement in your July 29 editorial "This Is Really War" "It is fruitless at this stage to argue over errors of past policy . . ." If you mean there should be no public washing of dirty linen while our men are dying, then I agree.

But we were led into the Bay of Pigs disaster and the Vietnam cul-de-sac by faulty information and poor evaluation. This despite the enormous sums we spend on the C.I.A. and the several service intelligence units (with one of which the writer once served).

So I suggest we should try and determine how the highest executives of the land were brought to these errors of past policy, not with the idea of fixing personal responsibility or finding scapegoats, but because the world is full of potential Bays of Pigs and Vietnams and we should be reasonably sure we are not gulled into another.

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CPYRGHT