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If Senator Pell Had Prevailed

SINCE THE Cuba fiasco reports from Washington have President Kennedy interrogating envoys from Latin American nations. The President, interested in knowing what to do about the Castro problem, is said to assume that by picking the brains of South Americans he may get an idea.

The Kennedy interrogation of the diplomats does not contribute to the prestige of the United States, which should be telling the envoys what this nation intends to do.

It is true President Kennedy has shouldered the blame for the unsuccessful Cuban affair. It is also true President Kennedy could have been spared his current embarrassment if he had given attention to Senator Claiborne Pell, of Rhode Island. The United States News reports Senator Pell visited Cuba in December. He did not identify himself or his political status. When he came

back to the United States Senator Pell advised Washington officials the time was not ripe for the overthrow of Castro. Persons most concerned with the operation of our foreign policy and our Latin American relations should have given attentive ear to Senator Pell: He is no tyro in diplomacy. For seven years he was active behind the Iron Curtain in U. S. foreign service posts. He has long been active in organizations aiding political refugees.

Senator Pell views the Cuban fiasco as "a major setback. Now Castro looks better than ever in the eyes of the Cuban people." He also has a recommendation: Overhaul the Central Intelligence Agency, let Congress keep a constant eye on its operation. Hereafter, let the White House be ready with an attentive ear for informed Americans, such as the junior Senator from Rhode Island.