

Crisis Under the Palms

**Highlights of Special
Dominican Report**

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The crisis of the past two months in the Dominican Republic stirred remarkably sharp reaction and criticism of United States policies and actions at home, in Latin America and around the world. A major part of this reaction was engendered by a dispute over what the United States said it was doing and what it actually did.

In five pages of today's Outlook section, Diplomatic Correspondent Murrey Marder dramatically reconstructs the chaos and confusion in that Latin American nation and reveals new information about decisions in Washington and their effects in Santo Domingo.

These are among the highlights of his report:

- From the moment the revolt began, the United States was unsympathetic to the rebels who said they wanted Juan Bosch returned to power. This was partly because the revolt was launched against the man whom U.S. officials regarded as the Dominican Republic's "best chief of state so far," Donald Reid Cabral, and partly because Bosch was regarded as an ineffective leader.

- On the day before U.S. Marines were dispatched into the Dominican Republic, an opportunity was available to effect a settlement, thereby avoiding the use of American troops. It was disregarded.

- The contention that the Marines were sent into the Dominican Republic primarily to protect American civilians there is now in question. Before the troops were sent, the operational levels of government were talking more about the fear of a Communist takeover than about the dangers to Americans in Santo Domingo.

- Claims by the Administration that Communists "controlled" the rebel forces needlessly aroused fears throughout Latin America that the United States was reverting to the days it supported right-wing dictators. Most observers of the revolution believe that there were degrees of danger the Communists might take control of the rebel forces but never any evidence that they actually did so.

- The two juntas that have taken power in the Dominican Republic since the revolt began were both established with the encouragement of U.S. advisers on the scene under instructions from Washington.

- What may be the most important achievement of the entire affair was the creation and use in a hemispheric nation of an international peacekeeping force.

- The events of the last two months have underlined the limitation on the ability of the United States to work its will even in one of the smallest nations in