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FEAR FLOW TO TRUE DEMOCRACY
**Fulbright's Soft Line on Cuba
Stirs 'Deal' Talk in Panama**

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PANAMA, March 28.—The speech of Sen. J. William Fulbright (D-Ark.), reported here as a plea for co-existence with Castro's Cuba, is viewed with consternation and alarm as a disastrous blow to the struggle for emergence of true democratic elements throughout Latin America.

Such pronouncements from the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations committee have provoked a sudden re-examination of a rumor in Panama political circles, previously discredited as malicious.

This rumor suggests that the meeting between President Johnson and President Adolfo Lopez-Mateos involved a "deal" between the United States and Cuba with Mexico as intermediary.

The "deal" was said to be that the United States would not press for implementation of Venezuela's proven charges of aggression against Cuba, if Cuba would cease to aid, financially and otherwise, the leftist element in Panama.

SUPPORT CLAIM

Responsible sources refuse to connect President Johnson himself with the "deal."

But it is now being asked if such bargaining did not indeed take place on "intermediate levels" and if these levels did not "sell a persuasive line" to Sen. Fulbright, even without

revealing the exact picture of the "deal."

In support of this it is pointed out that the United States has not been pressing for implementation of the OAS condemnation of Cuba and that implicit in the Fulbright speech is the implication that U.S. should not press for hemispheric action against the Cuban aggressor.

There is speculation as to the significance in this connection with the presence in Washington now of Castro-supported Panama Assemblywoman Thelma King, who is generally suspected of being a liaison officer for Castro in Panama.

Although Panamanians expectedly applaud Sen. Fulbright's suggested treaty capitulation, responsible non-communists are alarmed by his remarks on Cuba, especially since evidence here continues to mount as to Castro's involvement and infiltration here.

Most recently reported was a meeting held near the Costa Rican border in December to plot the "future revolution in Panama," outlined in written

instructions signed by Blas Roca, one of Cuba's chief Soviet-directed commissars.

Meanwhile, among Americans familiar with Latin American problems or with Communist strategy as well as with military and intelligence groups, consternation is unanimous.

Further, there is great confusion as to how such remarks could have emanated from a man in Sen. Fulbright's position, a man who should have had access to fully documented reports on the Communist conspiracy in Latin America.

This once again gives rise to the alarming question of what happens to intelligence reports.

SEPARATE STEPS

Sources here then explain that intelligence must be broken into separate steps:

The gathering. The analyzing. The interpretation in relation to U.S. interests. The use.

Sources here claim that American intelligence failures have seldom been in the gathering.

Greatest failures, they charge, have been in the interpreting, and even more in the use. Or rather, they claim, in the failure to use.

Sources here fear Washington roadblocks prevent intelligence information from reaching quarters where it can be effectively used.