

At It Again

EXTENSION OF REMARKS  
OF

HON. STEVEN B. DEROUNIAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 1961

Mr. DEROUNIAN. Mr. Speaker, some weeks ago I pointed out how Richard Goodwin, presidential White House assistant, was running a one-man State Department on Latin America and about his "chance meeting" lasting almost 3 hours—with Guevara, Castro's Communist economic minister. It seems that Mr. Goodwin has not learned his lesson as yet and is now holding diplomatic hands with one Rodriguez, another outstanding Communist member of Castro's revolution.

The American people have a right to demand that the President put his house in order and one way to do that is to squelch these puerile undertakings by Mr. Goodwin and let Secretary of State Rusk be in fact the Secretary of State.

The article by Robert S. Allen and Paul Scott in the September 25 issue of the Long Island Daily Press elaborates on the subject:

GOODWIN AGAIN ON THE PAN

(By Robert S. Allen and Paul Scott)

WASHINGTON.—Richard Goodwin, 29-year-old White House expert on Latin America, is still operating like a one-man State Department.

He is carrying on his own secret negotiations with Communist leaders in Cuba despite howls of protest from the State Department.

Goodwin, who held a chance meeting with Ernesto (Che) Guevara, Castro's Communist economic czar, in Argentina last month, had an unannounced rendezvous with Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, editor of the Communist newspaper Hoy.

Neither Goodwin nor Rodriguez are talking about their mysterious meeting although it has already produced some very explosive results.

For instance, Rodriguez, on returning to Havana, narrowly escaped assassination by a group of assailants that shot up his car while he was traveling along the Via Blanca.

The Castro government blames the Central Intelligence Agency for the attempt on Rodriguez's life. However, reliable U.S. intelligence sources claim that the assailants were anti-Castro underground fighters.

Word of the Goodwin-Rodriguez meeting has caused a group of responsible Senators to consider the recall of Goodwin for a second round on his one-man foreign policy operations.

A Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee headed by Senator WAYNE MORSE, Democrat of Oregon, already has questioned Goodwin about his meeting last month with Ernesto (Che) Guevara, Castro's Communist economic czar, at the recent Inter-American Economic Conference at Punta del Este Uruguay.

During the private Morse inquiry, Goodwin passed off his conference with Guevara as a chance meeting when both men met at a diplomatic reception.

However, Goodwin's followup meeting with Rodriguez, along with new evidence that the conference with Che was anything but a chance get-together is causing the Senators to take another look at Goodwin's activities.

One Senator's inquiry at the White House brought back word from President Kennedy that Assistant Secretary Robert Woodward is the responsible officer on Latin American affairs.

Meanwhile, at the State Department an aid to Woodward reports that "the situation is intolerable. Something is going to have to give pretty soon." He reports that Goodwin continues to take on problems of Latins who bypass the State Department and come directly to him.

Note: Rodriguez, a Havana University professor, is the senior official of the Integrated Revolutionary Organization (the nucleus of Cuba's new, single party) in addition to being editor of Hoy.

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