

# Voice of the People

## U. S. Intelligence 'Tragically Lacking'

STATINTL

How intelligent is our intelligence?

The United States has always been weak, has been dumb in the spy business, tragically lacking in its intelligence. The most heart-rending example was Pearl Harbor. While Japan was planning for months to strike, we not only did not know about it but we were bringing the cream of our fleet and putting it in a nice little trap. While carriers and warships were steaming to Pearl Harbor our ships and men were sitting like clay pigeons to be clobbered.

Then there was the "Battle of the Bulge." With victory almost in our grasp, it was to become a valley of death with thousands of our troops caught in a pincer action that could have been avoided by good intelligence work.

MacArthur, who was supposed to have had ace intelligence officials, insisted that the Chinese Communists were not taking part in the Korean war and refused to believe it until his armies were overrun and pushed back and had to retreat with heavy losses.

There is evidence that as far back as 1961, Soviet bases and Soviet troops were on Cuban soil. We have the blunder of all blunders when the CIA encouraged an invasion force to attempt the overthrow of Castro and convinced our government it would be a mere clambake to do so. This pitiful handful of invaders were met by a well-trained militia of over 25,000 with modern arms. The CIA had smoked up a pipe dream that the people of Cuba were ready to rise up and overthrow the Castro government.

The CIA spends a billion dollars a year and without having to account to Congress how and where it spends it. With its own lavishly equipped headquarters employing hundreds of employees, an army of "agents" and high-ranking top brass, it apparently has its information network working newsmen and their reports after the fact.

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