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Letter to the Editor:**Obscured?**

CPYRGHT

The concentration of the world's news on Vietnam, India and Pakistan has almost obscured the rising tide in Latin America towards military dictatorships. The view is extensively retailed by South American business, industrial and military groups that a Communist is more resourceful and cunning than any 10 ordinary men and thus can guide and steer any society without assuming direct command. Such groups loudly warn against continual Red infiltration into every facet of Latin American society.

Probably a more realistic view is that the Communists are just as inept, and undisciplined, as riven by petty jealousies and ideological differences as any other political group. The most pessimistic estimate available from the CIA claims a Communist party membership of fewer than 285,000 in a Latin American population of more than 200 million. Recently when 35 Communities held elections in the State of Rio Negro where Communist candidates were permitted to run, the total vote was 61,000 and the total Communist vote was 259.

The objective of Latin American military dictatorships is to preserve a feudal way of life rather than to crush the growth of Communism.

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