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Rockefeller Says Cuba Issue Shows Deterioration of U.S. Leadership

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 7 (UPI)—New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller said today that the Castro government's action in turning off water to the Guantanamo Naval Base in Cuba is "one more than of the deterioration of U.S. leadership in world problems."

Rockefeller, on a busy two-day campaign in Oregon, opened a news conference with a statement expressing "deep concern" over the latest Cuban crisis.

The Republican presidential hopeful said: "Our problem is to fill the leadership gap in Washington. We must restore the United States to a position of leadership and respect in the world."

Rockefeller, replying to a suggestion by Arizona Sen. Barry Goldwater that a detachment of U.S. Marines be sent to turn the water back on, said, "We cannot act lightly."

He said, "I doubt it is militarily feasible to send the Guantanamo Marine force to turn the water back on."

"I am not familiar with the Marine force at Guantanamo. The Soviet forces have ground-to-air, ground-to-sea and ground-to-ground missiles there."

He said this country should firmly enunciate a policy to (1) Remove all Russian Communists from Cuba; (2) Bring

an end to the Communist-inspired sabotage and warfare being conducted by Cuba against other Latin American nations, and (3) Reestablish trust and confidence in the United States.

Rockefeller also said today that Americans are living in a "Promised Land"—with "more promises out of Washington than in any comparable period I can remember."

But promises have not solved the unemployment problem or kept the country from "fresh retreats and impending disasters in virtually every corner of the world," he said in a speech at a lunch sponsored by the Portland Board of Realtors.