

Sen. Buckley Asks A National Debate On Ties With Cuba

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 1 — Senator James L. Buckley, Conservative-Republican of New York, called today for a national debate before the United States improves relations with Cuba.

"Before we plunge ahead and make concessions to Cuba, we should have a national debate to highlight the issue," Mr. Buckley said in an interview. "We seem to be caught on a drift moving us uncritically toward a relaxation of sanctions against the Castro regime."

"I have been concerned that practically no one has called attention to serious hemisphere security problems posed by the special relations between the Soviet Union and Cuba," he said.

Mr. Buckley said that any United States concessions to Cuba should be conditional upon the Cuban Government's termination of "a special relationship with the Soviet Union."

He cited what he called "mounting evidence of Soviet participation in political terrorism in Latin America." He said that establishment of Soviet submarine-tender basing facilities on Cuba would enable the Soviet Union to vastly expand its nuclear-submarine presence in the western Atlantic on short notice.