

INVASION PLANS?

by Lowell Ponte

Does the United States government have "any plans now to invade any other country in the foreseeable future?" Senator William Fulbright asked that question recently of Admiral Thomas Moorer, newly-selected Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff...

Odds are the President is considering a totally unexpected new war as one possible remedy for a lot of his troubles. That war, I suggest, could start at any time and would be against Cuba.

.....

In the Cuban refugee community a rumor echoes with increasing loudness these days. According to the rumor, some refugees plan to land on Cuba, stage a bombardment of the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo, kill as many Americans as possible, and trust that President Nixon would use the situation to demand a declaration of war against Cuba from Congress.

The timing of such an act would be adjusted to panic Congressmen, to make the position of the doves and moderates untenable. It would also need to catch the Soviets off-balance, although some would say they have been Caribbean-shy since the Cuban Missile Crisis. In short, it would be a gamble by the refugees, the CIA, and the President.

But the potential rewards are great. A declaration of war would turn all dissent into sedition, all disruption into treason. It would legitimize any military escalation against "communism" anywhere - Cuba, Indochina or Red China. It would give the President direct control over all those little annoyances like the economy in general and labor unions in particular. And it would "mobilize" the American people behind their President, even if his name is Nixon.

All of this is speculation, of course - nightmarish speculation.....

(Clipping filed Misc II - Cubans.)