

Thurmond Tells of Subs From Soviet Base in Cuba

Washington

Senator Strom Thurmond said yesterday there are indications the Soviets are sending nuclear missile submarines out on patrols from Cuban bases—a violation of a 1962 agreement between Russia and the United States.

The South Carolina Republican, a senior member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, cited intelligence reports in a statement reviewing the comparative strength of the Soviet and U.S. navies and merchant fleets.

In a single paragraph, and without elaboration, Thurmond said: "Current intelligence reports also indicate the Soviets have broken their 1962 agreement with the United States by deploying nuclear missile launching submarines at Cuban bases."

Thurmond did not disclose

the source of his information, but as the second-ranking Republican on the Armed Services Committee, he presumably has access to intelligence data from the Defense Department and possibly from the Central Intelligence Agency.

He could not be reached immediately for elaboration on his statement.

Thurmond's statement followed reports last year that the Russians were building a nuclear submarine base at Cienfuegos, a major port on Cuba's southern coast, after a Russian submarine tender was sighted at various points in Cuban waters.

Last October, Secretary of State William P. Rogers indicated the problem had been resolved with Moscow and the next month the Pentagon announced the tender had left Cuban waters.

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