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SPEECH BY

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to the

PLATFORM COMMITTEE
REPUBLICAN PARTY
MIAMI BEACH

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Mr. Chairman, distinguished members of the Platform Committee of the Republican Party, ladies and gentlemen:

I want to thank all of you for this kind invitation that reaffirms the traditional friendship between the United States and Cuba.

I was born in Cuba and I will testify here about the dramatic Cuban situation and the military build-up of the Soviet Union which has continued up to date.

Be assured that I come before you, as I have done seven times in the last two years to testify to the United States Congress and the Organization of American States about this matters, with representation of no one. I do not represent the Cuban people. I do not have the privilege of being elected by the Cuban people to perform this task. But I know thousands and thousands of my fellow-men support what I am about to say here today. And be sure also, that I do not come here to beg for Cuban freedom, because freedom can not be implored, but demanded.

As I told the Platform Committee of the Democratic Party in Atlanta, Georgia, last June 9th, up to now the dead ones have been from the Cuban people, before and after the Bay of Pigs Expedition.

Exceptions to this statement are a United States Air Force Mayor, who was shot down over Cuba by a Soviet Missile while flying a U-2 plane during the missile crisis of 1962, a number of Americans that were executed

by the red regime of Havana and four American flyers that were shot down over the Bay of Pigs because they did not want to abandon the Cuban freedom fighters on that beach. Today they are considered by the Cuban people as heroes of the Cuban fight for freedom.

My people are suffering now the worst tyranny ever imposed in the American continent.

In thirteen and a half years that the communist regime has been in Cuba, approximately 33,000 Cubans have been executed in front of the firing squad. There are about 85,000 political prisoners in Cuba, one million Cubans have been forced into exile throughout the world, out of which some 800,000 are living now in the United States, and seven million people are inside a big concentration camp called Cuba from one end of the island to the other.

My country was facing a less tyrannical situation at the end of the last century, but nevertheless the Congress of the United States produced a Joint Resolution in April 1898 saying, that the Cuban people had the right to be free and independent. After that came the war and Americans and Cubans joined together to fight for Cuban freedom. As far as I am concerned that Joint Resolution still stands since it has not been superceded.

On April 28th, 1969, I denounced that there was the beginning of a new Soviet military build up in Cuba. Three months later a Soviet Naval squadron anchored in Cuba, this was the first time something like this happened either in my country or in the American continent.

On July 27th, 1970, I denounced before the Congress of the United States that the Russians were building a naval facility on Cienfuegos Bay, in Cuba, for nuclear submarines. Two months later the Pentagon and the White House disclosed the same.

Since 1969 up to now eight Soviet naval squadrons have been visiting Cuba up to May of this year when a Soviet submarine anchored in Nipe Bay, in Oriente province, with three missiles called "Serb" with a range of 750 miles.

On May 22nd of this year, when President Richard Nixon was visiting Moscow it was announced that the last Soviet ship left Cuba. But the Cuban Patriotic Resistance in recent information disclosed to me that at least four Soviet submarines, two of them nuclear type subs, had been in Cuban waters in the month of June and July of this year. Two of the four were on the northern coast of Cuba, the other two in the vicinity of Cayo Largo, the Bay of Cienfuegos and the Bay of Pigs.

The Soviet surface ships left Cuba last May but the naval facilities for the Russian ships and subs remained in Cuba.

There are some 30,000 Soviet soldiers in Cuba plus an international communist brigade of several thousands hard core reds.

The Soviet arsenal in Cuba has Mig 15-17-19-21 and the most advanced model of Mig 21, plus major military airfields in three strategic locations, Havana, Santa Clara and Oriente, plus artillery and tanks.

Just a few days ago it was known that the Soviet Ambassador to Cuba inaugurated in Cuban territory, a military center to repair Soviet-built tanks.

The red regime of Havana, with the moral and material support of the Soviet Union and the communist block, is the second military power of the Hemisphere. Meanwhile the Cuban people, who are fighting for freedom, has only the moral support of the free world.

Time has come to change this situation...and now.

The red regime of Havana excluded itself of the Western World by declaring that they are marxist-leninist.

So, at least, Cuba should be excluded from the neutrality law of the United States, and then, the Cuban people should have the moral and material support of the majority of the American Continent, in their struggle for freedom.

I conclude by saying that the actual communist regime in Cuba has continued to export their so-called "revolution" to the rest of the hemisphere, has continued to intervene in the internal affairs of their neighbors, and their increased military ties with the Soviet Union is a real threat and a positive danger not only for the United States but for the entire Western Hemisphere.

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