

November 25, 1963

Cable from the Chinese Embassy in Vietnam, 'Cuban Ambassador to Vietnam Discusses America's Plan for Latin American Nuclear-Free Zone'

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Summary:

The Chinese Ambassador to Vietnam reports that the United States is working through the United Nations to prevent Puerto Rico, Guantanamo, and its others holdings in Latin America from being included in any "Latin America Nuclear-Free Zone." The Ambassador suggests that this is an attempt to distract Latin American citizens from their campaign against American military bases in the region.

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

Cuban Ambassador to Vietnam [Mauro Garcia] Garcia told [Chinese] Ambassador Zhu [Qiwen] that America is now acting through the United Nations to carry out a so-called "Latin America Nuclear-Free Zone" plot; according to America's plan, Puerto Rico, the Panama Canal, Guantanamo, etc., are American territory and therefore not included in the "Latin America Nuclear-Free Zone." Currently, there is strong opposition from the people of Latin American countries to the American imperialists' military bases all over Latin America. America has raised the "Latin America Nuclear-Free Zone" issue in order to distract the Latin American people and defuse the Latin American people's struggle against the American military bases.

The Cuban ambassador's words may [represent] the Cuban government's view of the "Latin America Nuclear-Free Zone," and can serve as a reference for us as we research and comment on this issue.

[Chinese] Embassy in Vietnam
25 November 1963