

## YOUR VIEW

### Soviets' woes little comfort

To The Editor:

On June 8, The Sun featured an article whose theme was that the Red Army may not be such a menace as we imagine. The Soviet military forces, it seems, are plagued by a host of problems ranging from drunkenness to defective equipment.

We should not take too much comfort.

It is doubtful that the U.S.S.R. plans to engage in direct military aggression against any major power. Except on her own borders against much smaller countries (Poland 1939, Finland 1939-40, Eastern Europe 1945 and subsequently; Afghanistan now), the Soviet Union has never employed her military forces for direct aggression against anyone.

However, several Soviet satellite-colonies far from the U.S.S.R. have come into being, and more are on the way. Ethiopia, Angola, Mozambique, South Yemen and Cuba are examples. Grenada, Surinam and Nicaragua are close to that status, and El Salvador may be next.

If no Soviet armed forces are involved, how does this happen?

It happens because native guerrillas and political-civic leaders, enraged by social injustice and often inspired by Marxist rhetoric, under-

(Colorado Springs Sun, June 13, 1983, p. 10)

take revolts against infamous dictators, appalling socio-economic conditions, or both. Upon victory or before it, alert and determined Marxists who are usually quite numerous in such countries, take over the revolutionary movements and the new governments. Though blaming the United States or other major "imperialist" powers for their actions, they quite naturally turn for friendship and assistance to the U.S.S.R., which despite China is still the leading Marxist regime in the world. Very quickly, they enter into economic and military arrangements which soon turn them into satellite-colonies of the Soviet Union. Whatever their populations might think about this turn of events, the Marxist leadership in such countries is willing and enthusiastic about the whole arrangement.

The ultimate possible step is well illustrated by the Cuban missile crisis of October, 1962. Prematurely as it turned out, the U.S.S.R. was secretly installing missile bases in Cuba which would have become operational in a matter of weeks. Had this attempt not been discovered, and had President John F. Kennedy not acted decisively to put a stop to it, the U.S.S.R. would soon have been in position to wipe the whole southeastern United States, including Washington, D.C., off the

face of the map.

It is useless to ask ourselves whether or not the Soviet Union would have actually taken such action. The action or the threat of it would have had the same effect: Namely, the elimination of the United States as an independent nation.

It is notable that the 1962 negotiations over the missiles were conducted directly between the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. Cuba had nothing to do with them. Even at that early date, less than four years after the Castro victory over Batista, the leaders of both sides knew that Cuba was no longer an independent republic.

Unless this process of Soviet satellitization is stopped

and reversed in the Caribbean and Central America, more Soviet colony-satellites will emerge, each one closer to our frontiers. In this process, no Soviet soldiers will be directly involved; but the final threat to our continued existence as a free nation will be far more terrifying than the Cuban missile crisis of 1962.

Almost all the Red Army can go on a prolonged drunken binge without affecting the inexorable Soviet advance in this hemisphere. Inexorable, that is, until we wake up to the fact that aggression of this kind is not carried on by national armed forces.

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