



Dr. Fred Schwarz

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Communist China Acting Like Communist China

by Bill Gertz

China's "troubling" military buildup coincides with new efforts by Beijing to block the Navy from international waters near its coasts and field new missiles, submarines and cyberweapons, the commander of US forces in the Pacific told Congress on Tuesday.

Navy Adm. Robert F. Willard said during a hearing of the Senate Armed Services Committee that China's intentions behind its decades-long buildup remain hidden and are undermining stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

The four-star admiral said the arms buildup is understandable because of China's economic rise, but "the scope and pace of its modernization without clarity on China's ultimate goals remains troubling."

"For example, China continues to accelerate its offensive air and missile developments without corresponding public clarification about how these forces will be utilized," he said.

Chinese officials, in meetings with their US counterparts, have refused to explain the pace or goal of the arms buildup, defense officials have said.

Adm. Willard said Chinese weapons that pose concerns include a growing arsenal of ballistic and cruise missiles, including anti-ship missiles and advanced radar-evading stealth combat aircraft.

Also, "China is pursuing counterspace and cyber capabilities that can be used not only to disrupt US military operations, but also to threaten the space- and cyber-based information infrastructure that enables international communications and commerce," he said.

"Absent clarification from China, its military modernization efforts hold significant implications for regional stability," the admiral said, noting that states in Asia, along with the United States, are becoming alarmed over what he termed "new anti-access and area-denial weaponry."

China's government insists that the arms buildup is defensive but will not provide details on any of its most advanced weapons.

On Chinese cyber-attacks, Adm. Willard said, a "sizable percentage" of the large number of attempted computer intrusions detected daily come from China.

"We are defending our networks every day, not solely against Chinese intrusions, but against many intrusions that come from a whole host of global sources," he said. "And I depend entirely, nearly, on cyberspace for the command and control of the broader Asia-Pacific, of our forces there."

Chinese military statements indicate that the country would use cyberwarfare attacks against information systems and command-and-control networks in a conflict. "So there's no doubt that there's a need to be able to defend cyberspace," he said.

China's aggressiveness near its coasts also was singled out as increasing the potential for a miscalculation that could lead to confrontation.

Official Chinese statements and actions indicate growing encroachment by Beijing in "near seas" around China, posing "a direct challenge to accepted interpretations of international law and established international norms," Adm. Willard said.

Adm. Willard was referring to China's threats against Navy exercises in the Yellow Sea last year and earlier incidents of naval harassment against US surveillance ships in the South China Sea.

China also threatened Japan after a naval confrontation between Japanese coast guard ships and a Chinese fishing

vessel near the Senkaku Islands between Okinawa and Taiwan.

The Chinese maritime encroachment includes areas of international waters in the Bohai Gulf, the Yellow Sea, the East China Sea, and the South China Sea, Adm. Willard said.

He said recent statements from senior Obama administration officials at regional conferences in Asia prompted China to back off somewhat from the near-seas aggressiveness.

Adm. Willard also said China's first aircraft carrier, a refurbished Russian ship, will begin sea trials as early as this summer, a development viewed with concern by nations in Asia.

China's military has made advancements in numbers and capabilities for its submarine forces, which Adm. Willard described as a "sizable fleet" that is prompting other states in Asia, including Australia, Vietnam, Indonesia, and Malaysia, to invest in their submarine forces.

Asked about the recent assessment of Director of National Intelligence James R. Clapper Jr. that China poses the greatest threat to the United States, Adm. Willard said he disagreed. North Korea is a more "imminent threat," while China's military buildup is a "great challenge."

"If I were asked what biggest challenge I face as the Pacific Command commander, I would tell you it's the relationship between the United States and China, in order to advance that relationship to ultimately become a constructive partnership, if that's possible," he said.

On North Korea, Army Gen. Walter Sharp, commander of US Forces Korea who appeared with Adm. Willard, told the hearing that he does not think North Korea will give up its nuclear arms—"not without a whole bunch of pressure from really everyone around the globe."

Asked by Sen. John McCain, Arizona Republican, about the nuclear talks, Gen. Sharp said, "To answer your question directly, no, I do not see that [North Korean leader Kim Jong-il] will give up his nuclear capability."

—*The Washington Times*, April 18, 2011, p. 23



Jimmy Carter does Havanna

by Humberto Fontova

Embracing a recent invitation by the Castro brothers, Jimmy Carter visited Cuba. "We greeted each other as old friends," gushed the former president after his meeting with Fidel Castro.

"In 2002, we received him warmly," Fidel reciprocated. "Now, I reiterated to him our respect and esteem."

"Jimmy Carter was the best of all US presidents," gushed Raul Castro, while personally seeing off his American guest.

Jimmy Carter earned all this warmth, esteem and joviality from Cuba's Stalinist rulers by doing everything within his power to dismantle the so-called embargo against them. "The embargo of Cuba is the stupidest law ever passed in the US," he said in 2002. And yet, as president, Mr. Carter imposed more economic sanctions against more nations than any other American president in modern history. These sanctions were against Chile, Iran, Rhodesia, Nicaragua, South Africa, Paraguay, and Uruguay. Mr. Carter was extremely selective in imposing his sanctions—let's give him that. He was careful to punish only US allies.

In Cuba, Mr. Carter also took time to visit and console some bereaved Cuban families. According to the *Black Book of Communism* (no tome of the vast, right-wing conspiracy, much less of the "Miami Mafia") Mr. Carter's Cuban hosts murdered 12,000 to 14,000 Cubans by firing squad. According to Freedom House, more than half a million Cubans have suffered in the Castros' various gulags, dungeons, and torture chambers, an incarceration rate higher than Josef Stalin's. According to the scholars and researchers at the Cuba Archive, the Castro regime's total death toll—from torture, prison beatings, firing squads, machine-gunning of escapees, drownings, etc.—approaches 100,000.

So Mr. Carter would seem to have little trouble in finding bereaved Cuban families to meet. And he did meet the grieving families of some Cuban-born prisoners. But these prisoners were serving time in US prisons, after being convicted by US juries for espionage against the nation that elected Jimmy Carter president and for conspiracy to murder fellow citizens. These Cubans, you see, are the ones who tugged at Mr. Carter's heartstrings.

Some background: On Sept. 14, 1998, the FBI uncovered a Castro spy ring in Miami and arrested 10 people.

Five were convicted by US juries (from which Cuban-Americans were scrupulously excluded) and became known as “the Cuban Five” in Castroite parlance.

According to the FBI’s affidavit, these Castro agents were engaged in, among other acts:

- Gathering intelligence against the Boca Chica Air Naval Station in Key West, the McDill Air Force Base in Tampa, and the headquarters of the US Southern Command in Homestead, Fla.
- Compiling the names, home addresses and medical files of the US Southern Command’s top officers, along with those of hundreds of officers stationed at Boca Chica.
- Infiltrating the headquarters of the US Southern Command.
- Sending letter bombs to Cuban-Americans.
- Spying on McDill Air Force Base, the US armed forces’ worldwide headquarters for fighting “low-intensity” conflicts.
- Locating entry points into Florida for smuggling explosive material.

One of these Castro agents, Gerardo Hernandez, also infiltrated the Cuban-exile group Brothers to the Rescue, who flew unarmed Cessnas to rescue Cuban rafters in the Florida straits, also known as “the cemetery without crosses.” Estimates of the number of Cubans who have died horribly there run from 30,000 to 50,000. Brothers to the Rescue often would drop flowers into the sea for those they had been unable to rescue.

These pilots risked their lives almost daily, flying over the straits, alerting and guiding the Coast Guard to any rafters, and saving thousands of these desperate people from joining that terrible tally. Before the Castro Revolution, Cuba was deluged with more immigrants per capita than the United States.

In February 1996, Castro agent Gerardo Hernandez fulfilled his mission by passing the flight plan to Castro for one of the Brothers’ humanitarian flights. With this information in hand, Cuba’s top guns saluted and sprang to action. They jumped into their MiGs, took off, and valiantly blasted apart (in international air space) the utterly defenseless Cessnas. Four members of the humanitarian flights were thus murdered in cold blood: MiGs against Cessnas, cannons and rockets against flowers.

Three of these murdered men were US citizens, one a decorated Vietnam veteran. The other was a legal US resident. No record exists of Jimmy Carter ever meeting with their families. But in Havana, Jimmy Carter smilingly met with the families of the man convicted in US

courts of helping murder them, and with Raul Castro himself, who personally gave the order to shoot down the defenseless planes.

“I had the opportunity to meet the families of the five Cuban patriots (Hernandez’s among them),” Mr. Carter said during an interview with Castro media apparatchiks, “with their wives and with their mothers. . . . I’m well aware of the shortcomings of the US judicial system [but apparently not the Cuban] but hope that President Obama will grant their pardon. He knows my opinion on this matter, that the trial of the Cuban Five was very dubious, that many norms were violated.”

In the Castros’ fiefdom, people are sent to the firing squad and prison based on Che Guevara’s famous legal dictum: “Judicial evidence is an archaic bourgeois detail. We prosecute and execute from revolutionary conviction.”

So during an interview in Havana, Jimmy Carter saw fit to castigate “the shortcomings of the US judicial system,” and hailed the Castros’ KGB-trained and US convicted spies as “patriots.”

No wonder P.J. O’Rourke famously dubbed Jimmy Carter, “that most ex of America’s ex-presidents.”

Humberto Fontova is author of *Fidel: Hollywood’s Favorite Tyrant* (Regnery, 2005).

—*The Washington Times*, April 11, 2011, p. 34

Greece Going Red

by Takis Michas

Greece’s public debt may reach 150% of GDP this year, an alarming possibility that has captivated outside observers. But in the final analysis, the major issue confronting Greece may not be its solvency, but its governance.

The country is at the mercy of militant activists who are inspired by various factions of the hard left. The heaviest hitters are Greece’s Communist Party and the anarcho-Stalinist Coalition of the Radical Left, which is composed of the Ecosocialists of Greece, the “Roza” Radical Left Group, and the Internationalist Workers’ Left, to name a few. With total impunity, their followers have taken to harassing citizens and destroying public property—even taking over whole villages.

In one case last year, a group of militants badly beat a former center-right New Democracy minister in front of television cameras. No arrests were made. In another case, a group of thugs accosted a leading Greek journalist while he ate in a restaurant. A similar incident happened last month, the victim that time being a minister of the governing Panhellenic Socialist Movement. No arrests were made in those cases, either. In May 2010, three employees of the private bank Marfin suffocated to death when a hard-left mob firebombed their offices during a riot. Again, no arrests.

Then there are the various movements of “civil disobedience” organized by Greece’s hard left. These include the “Den plirono” (“I won’t pay”) phenomenon, which amounts to supposedly brave refuseniks lifting barriers at motorway toll-booths and driving through without paying. This, even as their co-ideologues destroy bus and metro ticket machines.

These acts of theft and vandalism have also gone unpunished, though to combat fare-dodging on public transport, the government has dispatched a new team of inspectors. This week one of them was shot twice in the stomach by a bus passenger, and he remains in critical condition.

Last summer, the Communist Party organized hundreds of union members to block tourists from boarding ferries to Greek islands. Yet even after the courts ruled that the move was illegal, no arrests were made.

Is it any surprise, therefore, that there exist today areas of Greece where the government no longer exercises sovereignty? One such area is the village of Keratea, near Athens International Airport. Keratea’s inhabitants, supported by anarchist “freedom fighters” from the greater metropolitan area, have been engaged for two months in near daily pitched battles with the police, using firebombs, stones and rubble. Their complaint is the government’s decision to construct a landfill near the village.

“If the Keratea model becomes accepted as a method of protesting,” writes Alexis Papahelas in the daily *Kathimerini* newspaper, “then the country will enter a very disquieting phase.”

What stands out in all these incidents is the authorities’ inability or unwillingness to enforce the law. “Even if we arrest them, they will be out in no time,” a police officer in Athens told me on condition of anonymity. “Their political patrons will see to it.”

Many argue that Greece’s disintegration is the unavoidable consequence of the government’s attempt to enforce fiscal austerity. This seems doubtful. This meltdown can be seen as the product of the totalitarian left’s

open attempt to exploit the economic crisis and destroy Greece’s existing democratic and economic institutions. What we are witnessing is not a descent into chaos, but a descent into organized lawlessness. Sowing pandemonium and forcing Greece to default will, according to Greek Stalinists’ analysis, bring the revolution nearer.

What makes the situation worrisome is not so much the political strength of this movement. After all, the Communist Party and the Coalition of the Radical Left together claim no more than 13% popular support.

The problem, rather, lies with the political and ideological passivity of the parties that do represent Greece’s broader middle classes. The tolerance these democrats have shown toward their totalitarian counterparts has allowed the latter to play a leading role in shaping Greek public discourse. Do they imagine the favor would be returned if the Coalition of the Radical Left were in charge?

Unless Greece’s political elite realizes the seriousness of what’s happening and acts now to re-establish the rule of democratic law, their efforts to deal with Greece’s economic problems will have been in vain.

—*Wall Street Journal*, April 13, 2011, p. A 15

Fueling the Revolution While the West Sleeps

by Liz Blaine

“A revolution is an insurrection, an act of violence by which one class overthrows another.” ~ Mao

We are currently in the midst of a battle for the heart and soul of America. This war is being waged in our schools, the workplace, and in our communities. States struggling to moderate impossible debt and balance budgets are examining ways to free themselves from the fiscal and political shackles imposed by labor unions whose exorbitant pensions and benefits comprise the bulk of their debt. With the economy tanking and the fight over public union benefits and collective bargaining spreading across the United States, a totalitarian minority recognizes this as their make-or-break moment—their time to seize control of the social and economic environment by force rather than individual choice.

Hiding behind the labels of progressive, labor, and social justice, this totalitarian minority is intrinsically linked with Communist, Socialist, and Marxist ideolo-

gies. Their goal is to dismantle the foundations of our government and force the revolutionary transformation of America into their worldview. The Democratic Socialists of America (DSA), whose membership parallels the Congressional Progressive Caucus roster, describe their objective: “To achieve a more just society, many structures of our government and economy must be radically transformed through greater economic and social democracy.” [Sound familiar?]

To accomplish their goal, Socialists infiltrated leftist organizations to the highest levels of leadership. The US labor movement has a strong history of Socialist leadership, but in recent decades members of the DSA gained control of the largest US labor unions, AFSCME, SEIU, and the AFL-CIO, creating a resurgence of militant communist/socialist views among their ranks. AFL-CIO Chief Richard Trumka recently admitted his main goal is using unions to fundamentally change America into his progressive vision.

The enemy is within and poised to destroy America. While speaking this past weekend in a closed session at the 2011 Left Forum, an annual gathering of Marxists and hard-left radicals that included Barbara Ehrenreich, Cornel West, and Frances Fox Piven, former SEIU banking and finance director Stephen Lerner detailed the Left’s secret plan to “destabilize” the country. A full length video reveals the depths to which the left are willing to go to seize control over the American economy.

There are actually extraordinary things we could do right now to start to destabilize the folks that are in power and start to rebuild a movement. . . .

For example, 10% of homeowners are underwater, right? Their home, they are paying more for it than its worth. 10% of those people are in strategic default, meaning they are refusing to pay but they are staying in their home. That’s totally spontaneous. They figured out [that] it takes a year to kick me out of my home because foreclosure is backed up.

If you could double that number you could put banks at the edge of insolvency again.

Students have a trillion dollar debt.

We have an entire economy that is built on debt and banks so the question would be what would happen if we organized homeowners in mass to do a mortgage strike? If we get half a million people to agree, it would literally cause a new financial crisis for the banks, not for us. We would be doing quite well. We

wouldn’t be paying anything. . .

We have to think much more creatively. The key thing. . . . What does the other side fear the most? They fear disruption. They fear uncertainty. Every article about Europe says that when they rioted in Greece the markets went down.

The folks that control this country care about one thing—how the stock market goes, what the bond market does, how the bonuses go. We have a very simple strategy:

- How do we bring down the stock market
- How do we bring down their bonuses
- How do we interfere with their ability to be rich. . .

We are going to look at a week of civil disobedience—direct action all over [New York] city. Then roll into the JP Morgan shareholder meeting, which they moved out of New York because I guess they were afraid because of Columbus.

There is going to be a ten state mobilization to try and shut down that meeting and then look at bank shareholder meetings around the country to try and create some moments like Madison, except where we are on offense instead of defense.

We have brave and heroic battles challenging the power of the giant corporations. We hope to inspire a much bigger movement about redistributing wealth and power in the country that labor can’t do itself, that community groups can’t do themselves, but maybe we can work something new and different that can be brave enough and daring and nimble enough to do that kind of thing.”

Did you hear that? The radical Left is plotting to create socioeconomic chaos to build political momentum to push their revolutionary transformation. As US debt nears the tipping point of insolvency, they intend to strike at the heart of American capitalism by nationally expanding the agitation that triggered Wisconsin’s M&I Bank to shut down to avert a run on the bank after union firemen withdrew \$192,000 in protest of the bank not succumbing to union demands to publicly oppose Gov. Scott Walker’s budget relief bill.

In other words, to force their will on the American people the Left is conspiring to commit extortion and economic terrorism by destroying the cash flow of banks nationwide in order to collapse the financial system. If

similar comments were said at a closed door Tea Party meeting, the speaker would be investigated as a threat to Homeland Security. Where are Eric Holder and Janet Napolitano? I hear crickets.

“It is not the gaining of power that is important, it is the KEEPING of power.” ~ Vladimir Lenin

The effect of obtaining power over others is stronger than any drug. Through decades of strikes, riots, protests and collective bargaining agreements, organized labor gained immense power over taxpayers. Under President Obama, the White House is forcibly strengthening and allocating economic power to the unions. The Heritage Foundation *Morning Bell* notes the President threw “the full weight of the White House, the Democratic National Committee, and his own Organizing for America operation” behind the union protests in Wisconsin, events that resulted in vandalism, death threats, and brazen acts of blatant intimidation.

In the history of America, Socialists have never been as close to controlling the “commanding heights” as they’ve attained in the last two years. And they are not going to accept a peaceful reduction of their power or meekly submit to the rule of law and the will of the people. In the aftermath of the showdown in Wisconsin the Left is building a resurgence of militant activism to recreate their days of rage on a national scale. Issuing the call to “escalate protests” modeled on the Wisconsin demonstrations are none other than Marxists Frances Fox Piven and Cornel West, attending strategists to the Left Forum.

Piven, whose decades of writings outline a strategy for radical revolution, is a strong advocate for the dismantling of capitalism and the transformation of America’s constitutional republic into a socialist state. Promoting social and economic change through the exploitation of misfortune and national crisis, she champions the use of violence and Labor as the means to achieving the idea of socialist revolutionary transformation.

For a century and a half progressives, socialists, and social democrats have relied on labor power—the idea of labor, the reality of labor—as really the pragmatic aspect of their theory. It was labor power that would create the force to realize both the social democratic agenda of governmental reforms

and the socialist agenda of revolutionary transformation.

In the December 2010 issue of *The Nation*, Piven openly called for the violent revolution in America she now orchestrates.

So where are the angry crowds, the demonstrations, sit-ins, and unruly mobs? . . .

Local protests have to accumulate and spread—and become more disruptive—to create serious pressures on national politicians. An effective movement of the unemployed will have to look something like the strikes and riots that have spread across Greece in response to the austerity measures forced on the Greek government by the European Union, or like the student protests that recently spread with lightning speed across England in response to the prospect of greatly increased school fees. We should hope for another American social movement from the bottom—and then join it.

West, a militant activist and proponent of black liberation theology, sees the American dream as a menace to actual American democracy and believes, “Marxist thought is an indispensable tradition for freedom fighters.” A frequent Featured Speaker at Young Democratic Socialists of America (YDS) conferences, West also appeared this past weekend at the 2011 YDS conference entitled “Their Crisis, Our Pain: The Democratic Socialist Response to the Great Recession.” This year’s topics echo the activist agenda being promoted widely by the Left to trigger the collapse of American capitalism.

- There Is Power In A Union—An Examination Of How Unions Are Fighting Back Against The Tea Party
- Resistance In A Time Of Crisis—The Progressive Response To The Great Recession

Marxism always requires victims to fuel the revolution. School children and college students are unwittingly indoctrinated into leftist ideology, becoming the Left’s fuel to fire their revolution. By aligning students with public employee unions the Left seeks to build an effective weapon to use against taxpayers and ideological opponents.

To spread their message and achieve organized domestic disruption in America “in the days, weeks, and months

The Schwarz Report Bookshelf

To see a complete list of books recommended by the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade please check out our website at www.schwarzreport.org. This site also has back issues of *The Schwarz Report* as well as other great resources.

ahead” Piven, West, and their Marxist associates are partnering with a wide range of labor, femo-marxist, and student activist groups: the AFL-CIO, SEIU, American Rights at Work, Student Labor Action Project (SLAP), United States Students Association (USSA), United Students Against Sweatshops (USAS), the Professional Staff Congress (an affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers), NOW, and a wide assortment of communist and socialist groups.

The objective is a multi-pronged attack to undermine America’s democratic process and its financial and economic stability using class and race warfare to agitate the Left’s useful idiots. They’re leveraging existing progressive efforts to galvanize the poor, unemployed, students, teachers, and union workers to rise up in a violent show of solidarity and force, thereby generating the appearance of “widespread crisis” across the nation.

Beginning April 4th, the AFL-CIO is planning a series of nationwide events encouraging local unions across the country to “stage shows of force.” Expecting to capitalize on the racial divisions fostered by the Obama administration, unions are instructing activists to “tie the Wisconsin issue to civil rights and Martin Luther King’s assassination” during their protests. Byron York, in the *Washington Examiner*, notes,

Whatever events take place on April 4, look for the effort to have the enthusiastic support of the Obama administration.

“Union rights are no different than civil rights,” Labor Secretary Hilda Solis told officials of the Communications Workers of America during a Wisconsin strategy conference call two weeks ago. “It’s a part of our history, it’s a part of our culture, it’s a part of what has made this country so great.”

April 5th, Piven and West will host a live web stream, a “National Teach-In on Debt, Austerity, and How People Are Fighting Back” with “nationally-known social justice experts and activists.” Preying on students trapped in classrooms with leftist activists, the duo will indoctrinate students on how to generate “widespread crisis” and “sacrifice the many for the few.” Students and teachers are asked to escalate protests modeled on the Wisconsin rallies by identifying,

Local actions and organizing efforts around student debt, home foreclosures, predatory lending, and other destructive actions by banks, increases in college tuition, the Dream Act, cuts in public services, day care cutbacks, teacher lay-offs, attacks on unions, etc.

As noted above, the first week in May the SEIU plans a widespread assault with the objective to destabilize the financial system and crash the stock market. Their attack targets the same domestic and banking institutions included in Piven and West’s April attack. The Left is coordinating the annihilation of our American capitalist economy so they can implement their version of a Marxist society. This is nothing short of treason.

We are seeing a dangerous pattern unfolding. Violence, vandalism, intimidation, extortion, and economic terrorism are not acceptable tactics in America, but this is the Left’s self-defined “new era in protest politics.” If Wisconsin serves as the template for the Left’s plans for America, expect the rule of law to be dismissed, the majority forced to suffer the consequences of the Left’s voracious greed and thirst for power and the vandalism, violence, and intimidation accompanying Obama’s New Tone of Civility to be coming to a state near you soon. The battle for the heart and soul of America has begun.

—newsrealblog.com, March 24, 2011

US Women Leaders Meet Raul Castro’s Daughter

by Peter Orsi

A group of US women leaders met with Cuban President Raul Castro’s daughter Monday for an exchange on topics including gender, reproductive health, and gay rights.

The delegation, which arrived in Havana on Sunday, includes Democratic political strategist Donna Brazile and former US Rep. Jane Harman, a California Democrat who resigned in February and now heads the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

“I believe that Cuba is our immediate neighbor and it is time to liberalize US policy toward Cuba,” Harman said.

“It is very exciting to hear about some of the social changes going on in your country,” she added, apparently referring to a host of economic reforms initiated by Raul Castro to try to boost Cuba’s flagging economy.

The changes, which were approved by a Communist Party congress in April, have yet to be enacted into law but would loosen the government’s tight control over economic matters and allow some free-market activity.

The US group talked with Mariela Castro, head of the

island's National Sexual Education Center and a champion for gay rights. They were shown a report on Cuba's recent campaign against homophobia, though reporters were not allowed to remain for the presentation.

Castro, the niece of former President Fidel Castro, said such encounters can help improve US-Cuban relations, which have been in a deep freeze for decades.

"This strikes me as the healthiest thing there is," she said. "We want there to be transparent relations that respect our sovereignty and are not manipulative or based on conditions."

"I believe there is a great affinity between our people, that we have a great desire to transform the world and that we can work together to achieve it," Castro added.

The visit was organized by the Center for Democracy in the Americas, which studies US policy toward countries in the region and opposes Washington's decades-old trade embargo on Cuba. The delegation will be in Cuba through Thursday.

"Our hope is that we will learn from the Cuban women and that maybe we have something to offer in exchange," said Sarah Stephens, the group's executive director. "We look forward to many more meetings with women in the government, women in the religious community, ordinary women on the street."

—sfexaminer.com, June 6, 2011

Peru's Left Turn

Peru has been a rare Latin American success story, a growing economy in an Andes region deteriorating under left-wing populism. Peruvians have now taken a big gamble with that success by electing their own Peronist manqué, in the form of national-socialist candidate Ollanta Humala. We'll soon find out how far left his turn will be.

Mr. Humala narrowly defeated Keiko Fujimori, the daughter of former President Alberto Fujimori, who began Peru's economic reform from 1990 to 2000. His government ended hyperinflation and improved property rights and fiscal accountability. Peru's economic growth averaged 6.5% a year from 2002 to 2010, and poverty is half what it was 20 years ago. But growth can often be

taken for granted, and Mr. Humala tarred Ms. Fujimori with some of the rougher law and order practices that her father used to defeat Communist rebels.

The question now is which Mr. Humala will decide to govern in Lima. Until about two months ago he opposed the kind of democratic capitalism that has made Peruvians better off. In 2000, Comandante Humala, as he is sometimes known, led an unsuccessful military coup against the democratically elected Mr. Fujimori. In 2005 his brother Antauro led his own coup, which Mr. Humala endorsed from his post at the time as Peru's military attaché in Seoul.

Those incidents may seem like ancient history, but Mr. Humala's 198-page original party platform, dated December 2010, was in the same mold. It referred to market economics as "predatory" and called for the nationalization of strategic "activities." It also railed against "a foreign economic minority" that exploits natural resources and promised to "revise" free trade agreements that "oppose the exercise of our sovereign will." One of those trade deals is with the U.S.

Yet when Mr. Humala found himself in a runoff against Ms. Fujimori, he had some new advisers generate a more moderate, less detailed agenda. This agenda promised stable prices and responsible fiscal policy. It includes socialist vows to redistribute wealth and start a national airline, but it also promises to promote the rule of law, respect the division of government power and "reestablish public ethics and combat corruption and the squandering of public funds."

This pledge to govern with "honesty" seems to have been a deciding factor for many who associated Ms. Fujimori's father with graft. On election night, as it began to look like Mr. Humala had won, his spokesman told the world that private property would be respected.

Perhaps it will. The last decade has seen two kinds of left-wing populists come to power in Latin America. Those in the mold of Hugo Chávez—in Ecuador, Nicaragua and Bolivia—have politicized their economies and undermined democratic institutions to enhance their power. On the other hand, Brazil's Lula da Silva and Peru's current President Alan Garcia also had hard-left resumes, but they came to understand that free markets and property rights are crucial for growth that reduces poverty. Mr. Humala will now make his choice.

—*The Wall Street Journal*, June 8, 2011, p. A14