

## in the magazines

One of the few periodicals to devote considerable space to the implications of the overthrow of the Bosch regime in the Dominican Republic was *The New Leader*. Its October 14th issue carried a number of articles on this subject including a statement by the deposed President himself.

Bosch made no allegations about foreign involvement in the *coup d'état*, but in a subsequent article John P. Roche placed some of the blame for the success of the military takeover on the irrationality of U.S. policy towards Santo Domingo. Questioning why "Washington refused to take decisive steps" when "word was first flashed that Juan Bosch was a prisoner in the *Palacio*," he answers:

"Although we live in the post-isolationist era, we still seem to be hypnotized by the old slogans of intervention or non-intervention, slogans which were based on the assumption that there was a difference between the two positions. The Dominican case exemplifies the absurdity of this framework of analysis:

"We sustained Trujillo, we armed his syndicate with tanks and aircraft, we dominated the Dominican economy, we allegedly connived in Trujillo's murder, we prevented by a show of force the retention of power by his family, we welcomed the formation of the Bosch government and gave it assistance, we embody our aspirations for the Americas in the Alliance for Progress which, if successful, will alter the internal structure of every Latin American nation—and then when our ally, one of the few genuine democrats in Latin America, is overpowered by the Dominican version of *Cosa Nostra* we initiate all steps short of action to help him. And he is once again in enforced exile, destroyed by United States policy."

The resumption of diplomatic relations with Santo Domingo on December 14 has put an end to speculation about how long the U.S. would withhold recognition of the new Dominican government and to what effect. One such conjecture may be equally interesting as a postmortem to recognition, for it deals with the author's impression of the general American attitude toward the overthrow of constitutional governments in the Southern Hemisphere.

Karl E. Meyer, in an article which appeared both in the *New Statesman* (October 4) and *The New Leader*, noted that "in the case of Argentina, Peru, Ecuador and Guatemala, the U.S. has seized on some tattered mitigating circumstance to justify later acceptance of the usurpers." The "*coup d'état* in the Dominican Republic lacked even a tatter. . . ."

But, he wrote, "the junta is betting that Washington will weaken and will rely on the 'Lesser Evil Doctrine.' The chief tenet of this doctrine, favored by the State Department hierarchy, is that the military are a stable, anti-Communist force and are

increasingly enlightened as a result of associating with U.S. military missions. Given a choice between a wobbly, idealistic democrat and solid soldiers, it is better to take the lesser evil and scuttle principle."

Meyer predicted that "acquiescence in the murder of one democracy would be an invitation to wholesale slaughter of the rest—beginning with Venezuela, Honduras, El Salvador and perhaps including Columbia and Costa Rica." He contends that "a holy alliance of military dictatorships ringing Cuba: such is the pleasant vista the Lesser Evil Doctrine opens. Nothing could be better to serve Dr. Castro. The liquidation of the democratic left would be taken as confirmation of the Castroist thesis that elections are a sham and that the only path to change is the one blazed by violence."

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The *Sudeten Bulletin*, a "Central European Review" published in Munich by the Sudeten German Archives, contains a very brief examination of "The Colored Student in East Bloc Countries" (November 1963). Adolf Tosch's study focuses on Czechoslovakia (CSSR). It is based on official newspaper accounts of non-native student life in the country and, in addition, on reports of nation-wide cultural and political policies which, the author feels, reveal the true nature of the students' training.

Tosch presents some Czechoslovak press accounts of inter-cultural amity and cooperation and finds that government to be "acting more wisely" with regard to the social treatment of its African students than Bulgaria, where demonstrations by such students received publicity in the West.

But it is in the indications of "the CSSR's increased political rapprochement with Moscow," and the consequent stress on educational policies whose aim is "to make the educational product a ready tool for use in collectivist economic planning," that the author finds evidence of a program which will be unsatisfactory in meeting the needs of students from underdeveloped nations. Tosch concludes:

"Comparing the two types of aid for growing colored countries—that employed by the Communists who seek primarily to turn out lower cadre tools for the collectivist, socialist-type society with limited emphasis on training that will benefit natural industrial growth, and that of Western countries which gives the student, in addition to vastly greater freedom of choice, the possibility of carrying back to his native country the techniques and knowledge needed to achieve national independence based on political self-determination, further comment as to the merits of the two systems would seem superfluous."

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