

Cuba Offers The Development Solution

Rodriguez slams Brzezinski, calls for cooperation in Africa

“Cuban Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez told ABC News Correspondent Barbara Walters today that the CIA is lying to President Carter about Cuban activities in Africa, that Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski is dishonest and that Cuba will not bow to any pressure from the United States or its allies. He called Brzezinski an enemy of all the progressive peoples of the world.

“Rodriguez proposed that the United States consider cooperating with Cuba in assisting the underdeveloped countries of Africa...,” reported an ABC News release on May 30.

Selected portions of the interview, from ABC News’ transcript, follow:

Q: Mr. Vice President, last Thursday President Carter accused Cuba of training and equipping the rebels who invaded Zaire....

A: I do not like to call the President of the United States a liar...it is not my intention. What I might say is that in the incident in the Gulf of Tonkin, what happened in the Bay of Pigs, what happened also recently in Angola...so I am not telling that the President is lying but they made him to have false statement about these problems. I would like to emphasize that Cuba is not responsible for what has been happening in Shaba...we have not been participating valiantly or invaliantly...we have not sent troops or even isolated men. We have not given them equipment...we have not trained them for the operation, as the President has told, and are not even linked politically with the group that took the responsibility for this....I am giving word of honor that we have nothing to do with Shaba’s operation, that we are not linked with this operation, that we are not politically related to the people that took responsibility for this, and we have nothing to do at all with this operation.

Q: You said that the American CIA is deliberately giving false information, which they are aware is false to the President of the United States. Is that right?

A: It is my opinion...it is my opinion. It is not the first time that the CIA does that.

Q: Do you think that the President knows this information is false?

A: I would like to know myself whether the President knows or not. What the President knows from the beginning...the position of Cuba. He had the official news of the Cuban government about the problem. So he had to balance the information...it is his duty.

Q: Secretary of State Vance has said that President Carter was fully and accurately informed about Cuban activities. On Sunday National Security Advisor Brzezinski again said that there is proof that the Cubans have responsibility, is the word that he used,....now are you saying that these two men are also being lied to by the CIA?

A: Well, I believe they are entirely wrong. I believe that Brzezinski is acting on behalf of his own ideology...anti-Soviet, anti-Communist, anti-Cuban. I say that if they have proof...let’s have the proof here before the public opinion. Give the proof to the Senate. Senator McGovern is asking and the Public (sic) Relations Committee are asking for the proof. So — why don’t they give the proof on the face of the public opinion?...

Q: Mr. Brzezinski has said that he will give proof. Do you have any idea what kind of proof he might have?

A: I cannot because there cannot exist any kind of proof about that?...

Q: Do you doubt his honesty?

A: I believe that he is for the sake of policy telling false things...

Q: Do you doubt President Carter’s honesty?

A: I don’t doubt President Carter’s honesty...

Q: Why would the CIA do this?...

A: There are people in the CIA that are engaged in this kind of operations...and they are linked to people like Brzezinski...it is a pity that the United States at this moment has these kind of people at the head of the Council of National Security...because I remember how many of these informations and lack of informations led the United States to operations like Bay of Pigs or Vietnam. And I feel sorry for the community of the President of the United States. I don’t doubt his personal honesty, but I am doubting the possibility he has to judge properly what is happening around the world...

Q: There is a report now that President Carter and the French President...France and the United States will join in an attempt to preserve the integrity of the leaders of Africa, while giving them some kind of aid?

A: What leaders? Is Neto asking for help of that kind? Is Kaunda asking for help of that kind?....etc....

Q: You’re saying none of these leaders want help from the West?

A: No...They are going to help Mobutu. Mobutu is another. Everybody knows...Mobutu is responsible for the rest of Lumumba...everybody knows that. Mobutu has been cooperating with the most reactionary people in the African colonization. Everybody knows that.

We would cooperate in Africa . . . Western powers. Western people . . . Soviet Union . . . Cuba. I invite the President of the United States to mediate about the possibility of cooperation for the development in Africa. There is room for cooperation. We have spoken with very important business people. I know you are aware that Oliver Friedman was in Cuba with some of the more important national leaders in the world . . . and we had long talks about the possibility of cooperation . . . but not

through the private interest to take over the economies of these countries . . . but through a cooperation for progress . . . for development. That is what we would like to do. We have not the money, but we have the people that could help. But you have the money and the French have the money . . . and perhaps the Soviet Union is willing, too. I cannot commit them but I am willing also to cooperate in this. Why not cooperate instead of fighting each other?

Q: Mr. Vice President, you feel very strongly that Mr. Brzezinski is not a friend of Cuba? Is he an enemy of Cuba, do you feel?

A: I feel it, and not only of Cuba, but of all the progressive people of the world...of the movement of the national liberation, of the Soviet Union, of Socialism? . . .

Q: You don't feel that he's trying to block Soviet influence?

A: I know Mr. Brzezinski's ideology. His ideology is not the ideology of the American people...not the ideology of the American people.

Q: You feel it is harmful advice he is giving the President?

A: I believe so. I am strongly convinced of that.

Q: And do you think that he lies to the President?

A: I have not known what he is telling to the President. I could tell you after you told me what he is telling the President.

Q: You also said that there is also a way of cooperation.

A: Yes, I think so.

Q: What is that way?

A: Well, we talked about this with Mr. Friedman, who is the president of Business International. There's a way. Africa needs financing, as every underdeveloped country needs financing. Not only in Africa, but in Latin America and in Asia. We could cooperate in the problem of development for these countries peacefully without fight. There are many things in which you can put your money and your equipment. It would be a good business for the United States, not through private enterprise. Private enterprise is doomed to failure, in the underdeveloped countries. They have shown through years that private enterprise wants to seek maximum profits and this is no longer possible, they don't want to be exploited that way. But we can cooperate. You can sell your (?), you can sell your equipments, you can contribute money in investments in financial terms. In proper time — you will receive the interest, you will receive the profits of the enterprises. If you give assistance to men who'd cooperate, the Soviet Union would put the equipments, it's a problem which...we are talking now of peace, of disarmament. Why not give a part of the money that is safe in disarmament to the cause of cooperation in Africa. It would be important. That is what founding fathers talk about, that is what Jefferson talked about, and it's the only way to see peace.

Q: I'd like to go back over one question. Mr. Rodriguez,

you said that you have not armed or in any way aided the Katangese. How can Americans believe that you would not help them when you helped the Angolans. What's the difference?

A: There's a lot of difference. You remember Barbara that we have long-standing relations with liberation movements. We felt that we owed this to Angola because they had been attacked by South Africa and by Zaire. And the difference is that we are against secession in Africa. We respect the African point of view about borders and frontiers. We are against any movement that will split African peoples. I will be happy if the people of Zaire...we are not doing anything to control Mobutu...we are not in Africa to overthrow government...this is our position. We have come to support the independence of Angola nothing more nothing less. And Angola is having our troops there in order to be able to prepare the armies that they are preparing. As soon as President Neto tells the people you don't need anymore we want these people out.

Japan's Sonoda: Fusion Power And Development Assistance

Exclusive to the Executive Intelligence Review

At the United Nations, May 30, Japanese Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda reported that U.S. President Jimmy Carter "has taken up the Fukuda fusion proposal at a cabinet level with the view of responding to it shortly." Sonoda was replying to a press conference question on the joint fusion project proposal made by Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda in early May.

Fukuda called for a \$1 billion fund for the crash development of fusion energy and joint initiatives by the United States and Japan in development projects in Third World nations, particularly Southeast Asia.

Sonoda indicated that the Japanese government is anxiously waiting for the U.S. Administration's response; in the meantime, he said, "we are developing the appropriate machinery to make the effort a success... I feel this is a very important issue bearing on the future of mankind. For this reason many countries, not just the United States and Japan, are invited to participate in this effort."

Sonoda also took the opportunity "to respond to criticism that Japan has had to face on its trade surplus. For my American audience I will say often the argument has been made that Japan should reduce its trade surplus. If we just reduce the surplus, it will lead to a contraction in the world economy. The world community desires an expanded world economy, let me say, and expanded world economy at an equilibrium." In this light, Sonoda suggested possible ways of "several surplus countries releasing their surplus for purposes of developmental assistance to Third World countries. We should explore multilateral framework to do this. In the past bilateral aid has not always achieved what the donor or the recipient have wanted, so we have to change past patterns of assistance."

Sonoda responded to the query on why Japan has been