

Castro's alliance with the U. S. S. R. was voluntary and planned in advance, that the sugar quota had to be cut because Cuba was no longer a reliable source of supply, and that the United States was entitled to retaliate against Cuban confiscation of American property.

Onrushing events have already proved that both parties to the dispute were at least partially mistaken. It is clear, as Sr. Fabela argues, that Cuba could have continued to supply the U. S. market with sugar, and that the barter deal for Soviet oil was understandable on an economic basis; and we now know that President Eisenhower had begun to equip and train a Cuban invasion force as early as April, 1960. Sr. Fabela, on the other hand, has placed too high a valuation on Castro's early insistence that he was not a Communist, that "this revolution is not red, but olive-green." Cuba's leaders are now quite frank about their position in the "Communist camp." This volume is useful, therefore, chiefly as an index of Latin American sentiment and as a reminder that Latin America "will no longer blindly follow the United States."

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History Will Absolve Me. By FIDEL CASTRO. New York, 1961. Lyle Stuart. Pp. 79. Paper. \$1.00.

This is an excellent translation of one of the basic documents of the Castro revolutionary movement. The original of the document was prepared in prison while Castro was awaiting trial after his ill-fated effort of July 26, 1953, to overturn Batista, and was used as the defence speech at the trial itself. A long list of misdeeds of Batista and his henchmen is presented as evidence that rebellion against the dictatorship was legal under the Cuban Constitution of 1940, Article 40 of which stated: "It is legitimate to use adequate resistance to protect previously granted individual rights." Not

content to rest his case solely on constitutional grounds, Castro cited an imposing array of writers to justify the right of revolution—John of Salisbury, Thomas Aquinas, Martin Luther, Juan Mariana, François Hotman, John Knox, John Poynt, John Milton, John Locke, Jean Jacques Rousseau, Thomas Paine—followed by quotations from the American Declaration of Independence and the French Declaration of the Rights of Man.

The address also contained an outline of the reform program Castro had planned to institute—which plan he has used since in his successful rebellion. This program was based on the long overlooked Articles 88-90 of the Constitution of 1940 which provided for state ownership of mineral resources and of natural resources in general, for the use of all property for the public good, and which made provision for the expropriation of large estates. The title of this volume bids fair to become a source of embarrassment to the Fair Play for Cuba Committee which sponsored it, to say nothing of the contents of the work itself, for Castro has become a dictator himself, and more and more of the accusations leveled at the malodorous Batista regime are being hurled at his own dictatorship.

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Sartre on Cuba. By JEAN-PAUL SARTRE. New York, 1961. Ballantine Books. Pp. 160. Paper. \$0.50.

Sartre, writing essentially as a political journalist rather than as a philosopher, has produced a pro-Castro book based upon his two visits to Cuba in 1960. About two-thirds of his account is devoted to a description of the revolution and a discussion of its inevitability, mainly the result of U.S. imperialism and its Cuban accomplices. Sartre believes that the revolution began without a well-formulated ideology, moving from political, to economic, and finally to social reform, which was the most fundamental of all. This proc-