

Castro. He may still be able to reach a compromise with the United States or the Soviet Union by which Cuba would be economically or politically compensated for withdrawing its troops from Angola. Such a concession, however, might still not satisfy the Cuban military or the Cuban population.

At this stage in the Cuban Revolution, Castro faces enormous domestic difficulties. Perhaps none is more serious than the consequences of Cuba's entanglement in Angola. While the relationship with the Soviet Union is undergoing realignment and new alternatives are sought to handle Cuba's economic problems, the Angolan war may become a catalyst in Cuba's domestic and foreign policy. Cuban troop withdrawal following Namibian independence may serve to diffuse domestic discontent over the prolongation of the Angolan conflict, or it may lead to a more profound questioning of the validity of Cuban internationalism in Africa.