

# HUMAN EVENTS

June 16, 1961

MAIL YOUR PETITION TO:  
NATIONAL COMMITTEE AGAINST CASTRO BLACKMAIL  
POST OFFICE BOX 64  
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN STATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Petition submitted by:

(Name)

(Street)

(City)

## *What We Think of 'Tractors for Tribute' An Open Letter to President Kennedy*

Dear Mr. President:

We respectfully wish to inform you that, as Americans dedicated to freedom and justice in a world beset by Communist tyranny, we stand diametrically opposed to the Castro tractor deal which you have unofficially endorsed.

We believe that to pay tribute in any form to a Communist dictator constitutes the height of international immorality. We believe also that this deal with the bearded blackmailer is as politically unsound as it is immoral. The peoples of Latin America—indeed of the entire world—must be taking a long and questioning look at the nation they were taught to believe to be the strongest and proudest on earth.

Can this tractor deal—especially since it came on the heels of your retreat in Laos—enhance the American “prestige” you worried so much about during the Presidential campaign?

We have the utmost compassion for the brave men now languishing in Castro's prisons; men who, incidentally, might well be free today if your Administration had allowed their invasion attempt proper air and logistical support. But what will it profit the cause of Cuban liberty if these men are freed in a deal which would solidify Castro's hold over Cuba and her eight million people?

Could you not have pursued other means, such as a blockade of the Island of Cuba, before endorsing the Eleanor Roosevelt-Walter Reuther-Milton Eisenhower “Tractors for Freedom” Committee? Will it be the continuing policy of this Administration to “talk loudly and carry a small stick”?

In your City of Boston, at the time of our Revolution, a handful of Yankee farmers, many of them armed only with squirrel rifles, stood against 3,000 crack English regulars and exacted a terrible toll of the enemy. The stand of the outgunned Texans at the Alamo was a signal event in the Texas fight for independence. These are things men will do for liberty, Mr. President.

And so ask us not what we can do to further entrench a half-pint Communist tyrant like Castro. Ask yourself and your advisors whether our nation can long survive if it is to abandon the principles, pride and honor which have made ours the greatest nation in the world. We want no New Frontiers of appeasement.

Respectfully submitted,

Name

Address

City

State

There are more lines for signatures on reverse side. Add more pages if necessary.