feedback

Western investment is important in third world 

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from the US, but it is clear that without this aid, the totalitarian approach is inevitable.

The usual response to an analysis such as the one just presented is that it proves the US investment is designed only to protect the investments of US firms. While it is true that US firms benefit from political stability in the countries in which they operate, stability also en-
courages investment by both in-
terest groups which are the bulk of
the investment in a country. Futher-
more, it turns out that the stand-
ard of living in Third World countries is directly related to the extent to which those countries are tied into the world capitalist system. It is no coincidence that the most rapidly developing countries welcome Western in-
vestment while countries that resist it continue to lag behind. This is a fact regardless of how vehemently the socialists denounce it. Investment by Western firms requires no reduc-
tion of current-accounts or de-
localization — it represents a windfall for development. Unlike one regards unemployment as inherently evil, no matter what their real effects are. It cannot be said that Western investment in developing countries or defense of those investments is un-
reasonable, even from the perspec-
tive of the developing countries.

Thus, when viewed against the light of reality, no appeal to ideology. Mr. Lubansky’s conclu-
sions are merely assertions. The effects of a decrease in American/Western military power relative to the forces of the totalitarianism would be devastating. The economic diffi-
culty Lubansky acknowledges won’t be just the machine would be large increases in unemploy-
ment and violent crime in America. The West will lose its sta-
bility in the world, the reduced in-
come from America to pay for the application of the stability-
investment cycle in this country. Unemployment is in bringing totalitarianism to America, one can hardly imagine a more serious problem. Problems would multiply not only in America but on the world as investment drops off and living standards head downward. The populace in “client states” will be first to pay — just ask the Vietnamese, Cubans, Chinese. Only his last point makes any sense, but it is not a valid one. Defensin a cut in US military that made our soil vall and cultural would not be reasonable. So, for Lubansky’s position to make any sense, one must assume that his goal is to es-

tablish totalitarian rule

The whole point of military power is never to have to use it, which requires that it appear for-
mundable if not invincible. The failure in Vietnam made a direct assault on US IPN interch more likely. It is no coincidence that the oil embargo occurred shortly after the US surrender in Vietnam in 1973. Non-spon-
asional activity in the Gulf in-
creased immediately thereafter so

that a major war over oil supply must now be considered a for-

seen event. If we want to 

minimize the likelihood of war, which is what I understand by “improve the political climate,” the proper response to Vietnam would have been to strengthen the military. Instead, urged by Mr. Lubansky and like-minded peo-
ple, the US allowed its military forces to grow weaker so that the threat of war today is greater than at any time since the Cuban mis-
sile crisis. If it were to come, it would not be the military or the pro-

Communist advocates who will be responsible, but Mr. Lubansky and his friends.

What does the military really do? It plays action in conjunction with other political and economic measures by our government to 
to minimize the likelihood of hav-
ing to actively defend this na-
tion with conventional and/or nuclear forces. The strategies adopted may yet work as well as we might like, but as citizens, we should demand no less.

Yale M. Zussman G

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