

America's long standoff with Cuba

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TOPSHOT - Tourists walk next to a poster of Cuban President Raul Castro and US president Barack Obama in Havana, on March 18, 2016. US president Barack Obama touches down in Havana on Sunday to cap a long-unimaginable rapprochement with Cuba and burnish a presidential legacy dulled by Middle East quagmires and partisan sniping. As Air Force One rolls to a stop, Obama will become the first sitting US president to visit Cuba since Calvin Coolidge arrived on a battleship in 1928, before the discovery of penicillin or invention of the ballpoint pen. (Yamil Lage/AFP/Getty)

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"I do believe I will be having the honor of taking Cuba."

Those are the words of U.S. President Donald Trump spoken to a group of reporters assembled at the White House.

For more than a century Cuba has remained a fixation of American foreign policy. The U.S. has tried everything from buying the island to taking it by force.

Today the country faces the worst economic crisis in its modern history, and U.S. officials say Cuba could face a similar fate to Venezuela, where the Trump administration launched a military operation and removed its president from power. We sort through the history with our guest Peter Kornbluh, senior analyst at the National Security Archive and author of 'Back Channel to Cuba: The Hidden History of Negotiations between Washington and Havana.'

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