**The purpose of this voyage would be several fold:**

1. To remind people of how close the world came to nuclear war during the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962, and to make the parallel connections to the US-Russia standoff in Ukraine today.
2. To express our solidarity with the Cuban people, who are suffering from several recent catastrophes, including a hurricane that destroyed hundeds of homes in Pinar del Rio.
3. To call for an end to the US blockade of Cuba (an official VFP position) -- at least temporarily, as some Cuba solidarity groups are calling for, in order to facilitate the rebuilding after the hurricane.
4. To gain national and international attention to the voyage of VFP's Golden Rule peace boat, and a higher profile as we begin to approach the major cities of the northeastern US.

We hope to set sail on or about December 26-27, to arrive several days before the educational program, and to remain several days afterward, until about January 12.

**We will sail with about 6 people on the boat, including Ann Wright.**

**Possibly several people will want to fly to Cuba to join us.**  In fact, it would be great to have a VFP Board rep on this trip -- possibly you, Susan and/or you, Mike.

**We need the VFP Executive Committee to sign off on this trip.**  We will need written permission from Veterans For Peace, as the owner of the boat.