Fidel Castro Ruz

"Fidel is not an easy figure to define: rather he is exceedingly complex. First of all, it must be said that he is not just a genius; rather he is many geniuses. He was first known as a genius in guerrilla fighting. Then he also revealed himself as a genius statesman of his time, standing out over all of them for having governed for so many years with great ability or if you like great success facing down the largest power in the world under such unequal conditions. It must be added also that he is a genius orator- perhaps one of the great orators of his time and perhaps all of history. It is astonishing to see how he captivates his audiences at home and abroad for hours at a time, without having written speeches and at times without even preparing them; completely improvised. Unlike U.S. Presidents, who Gore Vidal said cannot write their own speeches if they do not have somebody write them for them, and who sometimes like GW Bush can't even read them.

"He is also a genius for his great volume of knowledge. He has extensive knowledge of issues of agriculture, medicine, economy (perhaps greatest expert in the world on foreign debt), electronics, energy resources and many other things. He is notably brilliant for his memory and for his faculty for retaining numbers and making constant accurate mental mathematical calculations.

"He is known by all to be affectionate, soft spoken, courteous and tender. He is renowned for becoming familiar with anybody from the first moment. He is witty, clever and he always makes people laugh.

"When Fidel eventually does pass on it will be a huge loss for Cuba but also for humanity in general."

> Noam Chomsky -American Author & Anarchist

NB In his teens years Fidel was the perennial Cuban debate and public speaking champion. In Jr. College he was MVP in basketball as well as the Cuban 800m middle distance champion.

What couldn't this guy do.