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# The President Repeats: 'I'm Responsible'

Washington, April 25 (AP)—President Kennedy has again made it clear that he takes full responsibility for whatever part the United States played in the ill-starred Cuban invasion.

The White House issued a statement last night which said:

"President Kennedy has stated from the beginning that as President he bears sole responsibility for the events of the past few days. He has stated it on all occasions and he restates it now so that it will be understood by all.

"The President is strongly opposed to anyone within or without the Administration attempting to shift the responsibility."

There was no elaboration to the White House statement but it apparently was prompted by sharp Republican reaction to a remark by Interior Secretary Udall tying in former President Eisenhower with early planning of last week's rebel landings in Cuba.

#### Fills Ins for Rocky, Truman

Gov. Rockefeller of New York and former President Truman were to be filled in today on President Kennedy's Cuban policy.

[The New York Times said today the Kennedy Administration is considering application of a total embargo on U.S. trade with Cuba.

[The question was taken up in the National Security Council Saturday as part of a search for a new policy on Cuba, but no decision was reached, a Washington dispatch added. The news noted that reports to Cuba already have been heavily censored and now consist largely of foodstuffs and medicines.]

President Kennedy invited the Republican Governor to the White House for a mid-afternoon briefing on the invasion and the problems of combating pro-Castro Fidel Castro's Cuban regime.

While the effect of these cross-party discussions may be to lay

said this was not the President's purpose.

These sources said President Kennedy had neither asked nor received commitments of support of any future Cuban action, and that he hasn't decided what specific steps he will take. The briefings were described as an exchange of views on what has happened.

With his statement last night reaffirming his responsibility, President Kennedy sought to stamp out any party-line row over the Cuban invasion and its failure.

The statement came after Senate Republican Leader Dirksen of Illinois protested a remark by Udall that the invasion had been conceived during the Eisenhower Administration.

Another high-Kennedy official said that while the plan had been drawn up while Gen. Eisenhower was in office, President Kennedy had ample opportunity to review it and choose alternatives before giving the go-ahead.

#### Nixon Rebukes Udall

The New York Herald Tribune quoted Nixon as calling Udall's remark "cheap and vicious partisanship."

Nixon was also reported to have suggested a shakeup of the CIA. The Washington Evening Star reported he advised President Kennedy to revamp the CIA by separating its spying activities from operations such as giving aid to anti-Castro rebels.

Sen. Mike Mansfield of Montana, Senate Democratic leader, backed Kennedy's choice of Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, former army chief of staff, to make an investigation with the aid of attorney general Robert F.

# Nixon for Guerillas, Backs JFK Policy

By WILLIAM THEIS

WASHINGTON, April 24 (UPI). — Former Vice President Nixon thinks the Cuban invasion fiasco means the U. S. must develop strong guerilla-type forces to smash Communist subversion in Cuba, Laos and Latin America.

Nixon strongly supports President Kennedy's decision to aid the anti-Castro rebels. But he feels it was a mistake not to decide in advance what the U. S. would do if the invasion failed.

It can be stated that Nixon now is convinced that:

**THIS GOVERNMENT** must find legal ways to act unilaterally with its own paramilitary forces when Communist subversion threatens freedom, particularly in this hemisphere. One such device might be to assert the right to act as a "trustee" under an existing pact until other allies join such anti-Communist efforts.

The intelligence and actual counter-subversion activities of this country must be divorced, either inside or outside of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Laos should not be written off as lost to the Reds, but a complete shift of direction is necessary to save it. U.S. support for a strong leader might work, as it did in South VietNam.

The Cuban invasion failure must not be allowed to frighten U. S. officials from developing covert forces to meet future crises brought on by the Communists. In short, it's a case of not doing less but doing more—and doing it better.

Multilateral action is impractical and mere economic assistance will never halt Communist subversion in Latin America. Many Latin leaders, he feels, will hesitate to act because of fear of Castroism and the threat of mob rule.

**KENNEDY HAS** displayed great courage and leadership in facing up to the Cuban threat and will not be frightened away from taking a firm future stand.

Russia's Nikita Khrushchev, with all his bluster, will not risk World War III over Cuba—or Berlin. Nixon thinks he might try a coup in Iran or elsewhere.