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RAC No. 007/63

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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY Office of Current Intelligence 20 February 1963

#### DAILY REPORT

SUBJECT: US Reconnaissance Activity over Cuba

#### 1. Today's Schedule (20 February)

a. Missions: BRASS KNOB 3434, off at 0538 EST;

BRASS KNOB 3437, scheduled to be off

at 1244 EST

b. Purpose: 3434 will cover targets in eastern Cuba;

3437 will cover targets in western Cuba.

c. Weather: Light cloud cover over the eastern third

of the island, moderate to heavy cloud over the remainder of the island. The outlook for tomorrow is moderate to light cloud cover over eastern and western portions of the island, with heavy cloud cover over central Cuba.

d. IPIR due: 22 February 1963

### 2. Yesterday's Activity (19 February)

#### a. Missions

flown: BRASS KNOB 3430 over western Cuba. Pilot

estimates 60% coverage of scheduled

targets.

BRASS KNOB 3432 over central Cuba. Pilot

estimates 45% coverage of scheduled

targets.

BRASS KNOB 3433 over eastern Cuba. Pilot

estimates 60% coverage of scheduled

targets.

b. IPIR due: 21 February 1963

c. Reaction: No significant air defense reaction to

these BRASS KNOB missions was noted.

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#### 3. Shipping Summary

a. Soviet Bloc ships confirmed en route to Cuba 1600 EST 19 February:

Tankers 4
Passenger 3
Dry Cargo 11
Total 18

b. Soviet Bloc ships in Cuban ports 1600 EST 19 February:

Tankers 3
Passenger 1
Dry Cargo 32
Total 36

- c. Dry cargo ships now in Cuban ports which were photographed while inbound to Cuba by low-altitude or surface cameras: 29
  - d. CIA has received photos of 23 of these ships.

#### ANNEX TO DAILY REPORT

#### Significant Shipping Developments

The following five Soviet merchant ships, each of which received an "extremely urgent" encrypted message from Moscow on 16 February, may be involved in an impending withdrawal of additional Soviet personnel and/or military equipment from Cuba:

Ship	Last Located							
Khimik Zelinsky	Nuevitas							
Labinsk	Isabella de Sagua							
Leninsky Komsomol	Nuevitas (11 February)							
Slutsk	Santiago (departed for							
Sovetsk	Cienfuegos on 16 Feb.) Possibly Havana							

The Deputat Lutsky, reported to have departed Moa for the USSR, may also be involved in the withdrawal of personnel.

The Soviet passenger ship Baikal, now in Havana harbor, may be there to pick up Soviets. We have had no information on what she carried to Cuba from the USSR.

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#### BRASS KNOB COVERAGE OF COMOR HIGHEST PRIORITY TARGETS IN CUBA

During 12-18 February 1963

				<del></del>						
		Dates							Totals	
		<del>                                     </del>								Days
	Targets	12	12	η <u>μ</u>	15	16	17	18	Sorties	Covered
				1		1	_			
1.	Siguanea Cruise Missile Site					•			0	0
2.	Banes Cruise Missile Site		7					1	2	2
3.	Santa Cruz del Norte Cruise Site		-		-			-	0	0
4.	Camilo Cienfuegos Airfield							1	7	1 7
5.	Camaguey Airfield						1	1	2	2
6.	Holguin Airfield							1	1	1
7.	San Antonio de los Banos Airfield								Ö	0
8.	Mariel Naval Base	1		-					ì	ì
9.	Banes Naval Base		7					ī	2	2
10.	Cienfuegos Naval Base	1	_					ī	2	2
11.	Santiago de Cuba Port		_				7	ī	2	2
12.	La Isabella Port	1						-	1	<del></del>
13. 14.	Caibarien Port	1		,				-	2	2
14.	Cardenas Port	2			7				3	2
15. 16.	Casilda Port	7			<del></del>		7	1	7	5
16.	Matanzas Port	7						-	7	
17.	Havana Port						_		0	0
17. 18.	Guantanamo Area	_					7	-	2	2
19.	Pinar del Rio Military Camp								0	6
19. 20.	Artemisa Military Camp								0	0
21.	Holguin Military Camp					-		-	—— <del>У</del> ——	1 7
22.	Remedios Military Camp								Ö	ö
23.	Santiago de los Vegas Military Camp								0	ŏ
23. 24.	Lourdes (Torrens) Army Camp								0	Ö
25.	Limonar Military Camp	-							<u> </u>	1
25. 26.	Camaguey Military Camp	$\vdash$ $\vdash$ $\vdash$			<del></del>		<del></del>		1	1
27.	Mayari Arriba U/I							-	<del></del>	7
27. 28.	Managua Staging Area								0	0
29.	Bejucal Staging Area								0	0
30.	Manicaragua Staging Area							<del>                                     </del>	<del>- '\</del>	1
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During the period 12-18 February 1963, 70 percent of the total land area of Cuba was covered by photography with 25 percent or less cloud cover. This included oblique photography up to 70 miles on either side of the flight line.

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