

See 1-01, 2 *Thousand Days*

SCHLESINGER NOTES
U.S. '62 CUBA STAND

Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr., a former Presidential adviser, says that if Nikita S. Khrushchev, then Soviet Premier, had not backed down in the 1962 Cuban missile crisis, the United States was prepared for "some action against Cuba" the following week.

Mr. Schlesinger gives an account of the October, 1962, crisis in Life magazine's fifth installment of his book, "A Thousand Days." The installment is entitled "Cuba: To the edge of the Nuclear Abyss."

On Saturday, Oct. 27, a message was given to the Soviet Ambassador in Washington which, Mr. Schlesinger says, warned that "unless we received assurances in 24 hours, the U.S. would take action by Tuesday."

Mr. Khrushchev's cablegram of assent started coming into Washington Sunday morning.

"If word had not come that Sunday, if work had continued on the [Soviet missile] bases," Mr. Schlesinger writes, "the U.S. would have had no real choice but to take some action against Cuba the next week."