

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Memorandum

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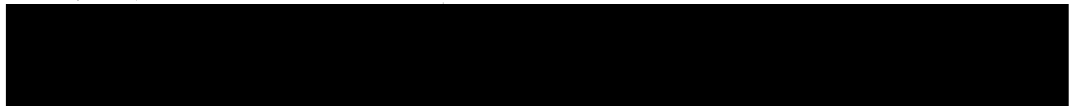


THE CRISIS
USSR/CUBA

Information as of 0600

10 November 1962

PREPARED FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL.
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~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

10 November 1962

SOVIET SHIPPING FROM AND TO CUBA

Information available as of 0830 EST indicates that all nine of the ships identified by the USSR as assigned to remove the ballistic missiles and their associated equipment from Cuba now are en route to the USSR.

Alongside and overhead inspection by US naval units has established that eight of these ships are carrying a total of 42 canvas-covered missiles and transporters as deck cargo. The last five missiles, out of the total of 42 Kuznetsov says were in Cuba, are aboard the IVAN POL-ZUNOV, according to preliminary observation at daybreak today. The USSR is using the ninth ship listed by Kuznetsov and two other freighters to remove missile-associated equipment.

In the verification procedures being followed, US naval vessels come alongside the Soviet ships for visual inspection of the deck cargo. If necessary--and in most cases this is being done--overhead photographs are taken from helicopters. The Soviet ships are required to remove the outer canvas covering of the missiles but are not being asked to remove the inner covering, apparently a rubber jacket. The Soviet ships are not required to stop, and US naval forces are not boarding these freighters.

Soviet personnel--presumably at least some of the ballistic missile crews--also are leaving Cuba. Photographs of one of the missile carriers, the ALAPAEVSK, show 180 to 200 men on deck and cots and blankets in one of the holds. Similarly, the BRATSK was observed to have about 85 people on deck, including women. At least one other ship was photographed with personnel aboard.

There are at present 13 or 14 Soviet dry cargo ships en route to Cuba. Cargo information is available on five of these ships, which are carrying normal civil goods such as fertilizer, lumber, wheat and motor vehicles. Five Soviet tankers also are en route to Cuba. In addition, the passenger ship GRUZIA, with a little more than 100 passengers on board, also is en route to Cuba. This ship has a normal passenger capacity of more than 1,000 and may be scheduled to return still more Soviet personnel to the USSR.

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SOVIET SHIPS REMOVING MISSILES FROM CUBA
(as of 0830 EST, 10 November)

<u>Ship</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Cargo</u>
LABINSK	Under way	2 missiles and trans- porters
METALLURG ANASOV	Under way	8 missiles and trans- porters
BRATSK	Under way	2 missiles and trans- porters
DIVNOGORSK	Under way	4 missiles and trans- porters
VOLGOLES	Under way	7 missiles and trans- porters
IVAN POLZUNOV	Under way	5 missiles and trans- porters
FIZIK KURCHATOV	Under way	6 missiles and trans- porters
LENINSKY KOMSOMOL	Under way	8 missiles and trans- porters
ALAPAEVSK	Under way	Associated equipment
ALMETEVSK	Under way	Associated equipment
ALEKSANDROVSK	Under way	Associated equipment
		<hr/>
		42 missiles and trans- porters

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DIPLOMATIC DEVELOPMENTS AND BLOC REACTION

First Deputy Foreign Minister Kuznetsov yesterday protested to Ambassador Stevenson and Mr. McCloy, on instructions from his government, over "very unpleasant events" which had taken place with respect to Soviet ships sailing from Cuba to the USSR. The masters of three Soviet ships--the ALEKSANDROVSK, DIVNOGORSK, and VOLGOLES--had reported to Moscow that they had been asked by US destroyers to open their hatches under threat of force if they did not comply with this "illegitimate demand."

Kuznetsov complained that such action on the part of the US vessels was in "gross contradiction" with the US-Soviet understanding on inspection. He further emphasized that the interference had occurred outside the quarantine zone.

He also noted that the DIVNOGORSK and VOLGOLES were missile-carrying ships and had been visually observed by US vessels prior to the incident. The ALEKSANDROVSK, he said, was not carrying missiles and not included in the Soviet list of ships subject to visual observation.

Late yesterday Mr. McCloy advised Kuznetsov that while a complete report was not available, the interpreter involved in at least one of the incidents was not well qualified in Russian, and that any misunderstanding regarding the opening of hatches probably resulted from poor translation.

He then pointed out that since some of the Soviet ships carried a different number of missiles than the US had been advised, the Soviets should be liberal with us as to what ships are observed.

U Thant's new proposal for on-site verification, as was suspected, turned out to be use of the five Latin American ambassadors still in Cuba. Bunche on 8 November showed the US delegation the draft of a letter from the Secretary General to Castro suggesting these ambassadors be invited to serve as an inspection team. The Cuban UN delegate asked for and received a copy of the draft letter, but made no comment on its contents.

Mass demonstrations to express support of Cuba continue "across the breadth and length of China," according to the Peiping press. The Chinese may keep up the popular rallies while Mikoyan is in Cuba, with a view to encouraging Castro to resist Soviet pressures.

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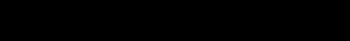
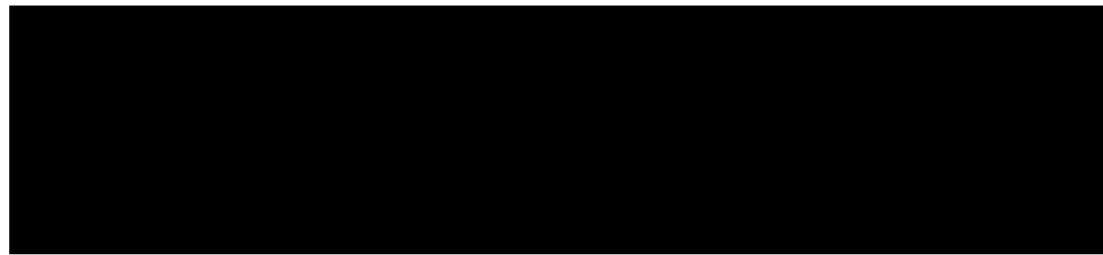
THE SITUATION IN CUBA

Results from the ten low-level photographic missions flown over Cuba on 9 November were not available as of 0800 this morning. Delivery to Washington was delayed yesterday afternoon and evening by bad weather. Preliminary analysis will be available this afternoon.

No high-level missions were flown on 9 November.

The official silence on the Castro-Mikoyan talks continues. 

There is still no solid information on the date of Mikoyan's departure from Cuba. A Reuters correspondent in Havana claims a "reliable source" says Mikoyan will leave today. 

 First Deputy Foreign Minister Kuznetsov told Ambassador Stevenson yesterday that he had no information with respect to Mikoyan's return from Havana. 

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Meanwhile, Cuban UN delegate Lechuga is reported to have declared in New York that Cuba regards the IL-28 bombers as its property and has no intention of giving them up.

Some Cubans may have been trained to fly the IL-28s, but Soviet military personnel are probably still needed in Cuba to oversee assembly and perhaps to conduct further training of Cubans. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

A CIA source who has just left Cuba reports that Soviet military personnel in Pinar del Rio province were overjoyed at the prospect of leaving Cuba when news of Khrushchev's missile withdrawal announcement reached them. Many of them got drunk to celebrate. They sold watches, boots, and even eyeglasses to raise cash for liquor. Liquor stores nearby were sold out.

[REDACTED]

TOP SECRET [REDACTED]

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At a KLM board meeting in The Hague on 8 November, the airline decided not to resume service to Havana. Pan American Airways, Mexicana, and Iberia have also decided against resuming service to Cuba for the time being or have delayed a decision. This leaves only the Czech, Soviet and Cuban airlines serving Cuba. Czech and Cuban service has been drastically restricted by the shortage of adequate aircraft and recently by maintenance problems.

OTHER WESTERN HEMISPHERE DEVELOPMENTS

Cuban radio broadcasts to other Latin American countries during the past several days have given particular attention to Venezuela. The broadcasts vigorously deny any Cuban complicity in the recent sabotage in the Venezuelan oilfields, calling it the justified action of a Venezuelan people fighting the Betancourt "dictatorship" which has adopted a policy of "shameful submission to the dictates of North American imperialism." "When the people arrive at the conclusion that all paths to freedom have been closed," one broadcast declared, "they become exasperated and resort to the only path which is always available: that of armed protest and violence."

In Canada, a prominent Conservative party leader has publicly recommended that Canada cut off diplomatic and trade relations with Cuba. George Hogan, who has been Prime Minister Diefenbaker's campaign manager for three years, also proposed that Canada give the senior Canadian Air Force officer in NORAD authority to place Canadian defenses on the alert. He said these actions would indicate Canada's solidarity with the US and restore the confidence of Canada's allies and "perhaps our own self-respect."

The Mexican government has apparently decided not to break with the Castro regime for the time being. Although it had been clearly preparing the public for a break, the official line to Mexican newspapers during the past few days has been that the crisis appears past. [REDACTED]

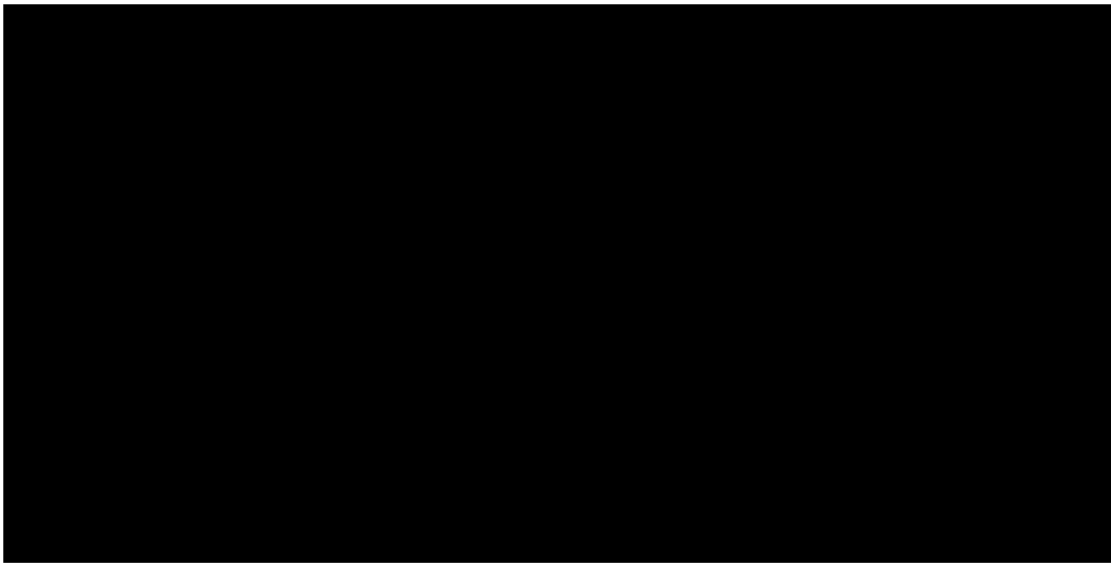
[REDACTED] some Mexican officials are reverting to the thesis that Castro should be allowed time to "wither on the vine." The officials agree that the US has made very substantial gains as a result of the crisis. Mexican ambassador Bosques appears likely to return to Havana after several months in Mexico.

BLOC MILITARY FORCES

General: There has been no significant change noted in the status of the bloc armed forces. [REDACTED]

Air defense forces have maintained a high state of readiness as is customary during holiday periods. A US reconnaissance flight in the Black Sea area on 10 November prompted more fighter reaction than usual. [REDACTED]

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