

# **PPT: Cold War Foreign Policy**

How did the United States use the CIA to fight the Cold War?

# The CIA

- **Created by the National Security Act of 1947**
  - **Mainly responsible for intelligence abroad.**
- **Two parts:**
  - **collection and analysis of data**
  - **covert operations**

**During the Cold War CIA covert operations became the “hidden hand” of U.S. foreign policy.**



# The U-2 Incident



- **May 1, 1960: CIA agent Francis Gary Powers' U-2, was shot down by Soviet missile.**
- **Powers was unable to activate plane's self-destruct mechanism before he parachuted to the ground, right into the hands of the KGB.**
- **When US learned of Powers' disappearance over USSR, it issued a cover statement claiming that a "weather plane" crashed after its pilot had "difficulties with his oxygen equipment."**
- **US officials did not realize:**
  - **Plane crashed intact,**
  - **Soviets recovered its photography equipment**
  - **Captured Powers, whom they interrogated extensively for months before he made a "voluntary confession" and public apology for his part in US espionage**

# 1953 Coup in Iran

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pW\\_Rbka6eZ8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pW_Rbka6eZ8)



Cuba gained its independence on Jan. 28, 1909, when U.S. troops marched out of Havana and most of Cuba (but retained the Guantanamo Bay naval base, which the U.S. still occupies today.)



In 1952, Fulgencio Batista overthrew the government and installed himself as dictator



in 1958, a young lawyer, Fidel Castro led a group of peasants and middle-class Cubans in a successful revolt against Batista.



- US ally, US businesses & US military base (Guantanamo)
- 1959, Fidel Castro overthrows Batista (US-backed dictator), establishing Communist government.
- Castro takes over US businesses.
- Increasing friction between the US and Castro's communist regime led President Eisenhower to break off diplomatic relations with Cuba in January 1961.

"All the News  
That's Fit to Print"

# The New York Times.

**LATE CITY EDITION**

U. S. Weather Bureau Report (Page 60) forecast:  
Mostly fair, seasonably cold today  
and tonight, Fair, warmer tomorrow.  
Temp. range 38—25; yesterday: 35—31.

VOL. CX. No. 37,601.

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Times Square, New York 20, N. Y.

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1961.

38 cents beyond 30-mile zone from New York City  
except on Long Island. Higher in air delivery cities.

FIVE CENTS

***U. S. BREAKS ITS DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH CUBA  
AND ADVISES AMERICANS TO LEAVE ISLAND;  
EISENHOWER CITES 'VILIFICATION' BY CASTRO***

# The Bay of Pigs Invasion

- an unsuccessful attempt by US-backed Cuban exiles to overthrow the government of the Cuban dictator Fidel Castro.
- Prior to the invasion, the CIA had been training anti-revolutionary Cuban exiles for a possible invasion of the island.
- On April 17, 1961 about 1300 exiles, armed with US weapons, landed at the *Bahía de Cochinos* (Bay of Pigs) on the southern coast of Cuba hoping for support from locals.



# The Bay of Pigs Invasion

- **Consequently, the invasion was stopped by Castro's army.**
- **The failure of the invasion seriously embarrassed the Kennedy administration.**
  - **Some critics blamed Kennedy for not giving it adequate support**
  - **Others blamed Kennedy for allowing it to take place at all.**
- **Additionally, the invasion made Castro wary of the US and was convinced that the Americans would try to take over the Cuba again.**



Cuban leader Fidel Castro watches events during the Bay of Pigs Invasion.



# THE BAY OF PIGS INVASION

The Bay of Pigs Invasion was perhaps one of the biggest failures of the United States. In an attempt to overthrow the government of Fidel Castro, the United States government planned an invasion that ended with decreased trust in U.S. Government and killed all Cuban-American relations.

## WHY:

The Bay of Pigs Invasion had been thought out long before the actual event occurred. Here are some of the events that lead up to Kennedy's invasion at the Bay of Pigs.

March 17, 1960

Eisenhower authorizes a CIA plan called "A Program of Covert Action Against the Castro Regime." Shortly thereafter the CIA begins recruiting and training a group of 1,400 Cuban exiles from Miami in Guatemala.

May 7, 1960

The Soviet Union and Cuba establish diplomatic relations.

June 8, 1960

The United States suspends the Cuban sugar quota, effectively cutting off 80 percent of Cuban exports to the United States. The following day, the Soviet Union agrees to buy that sugar.

September, 1960

A large Soviet Bloc arms shipment arrives in Cuba along with advisors and technicians.

October 6, 1960

In response to the sugar situation, Castro nationalizes U.S. private investments in Cuba worth about \$1 billion.

December 6, 1960

Cuba openly aligns itself with the domestic and foreign policies of the Soviet Union, pledging Sino-Soviet Bloc solidarity.

January 2, 1961

Soviet Premier Khrushchev denies the existence of a Soviet military base in Cuba.

January 3, 1961

The United States and Cuba sever diplomatic and consular relations.

January 20, 1961

John F. Kennedy is inaugurated as the thirty-fifth president of the United States.

Early April, 1961

Kennedy discusses issues of deniability with regard to U.S. participation in the planned invasion of Cuba. Arthur

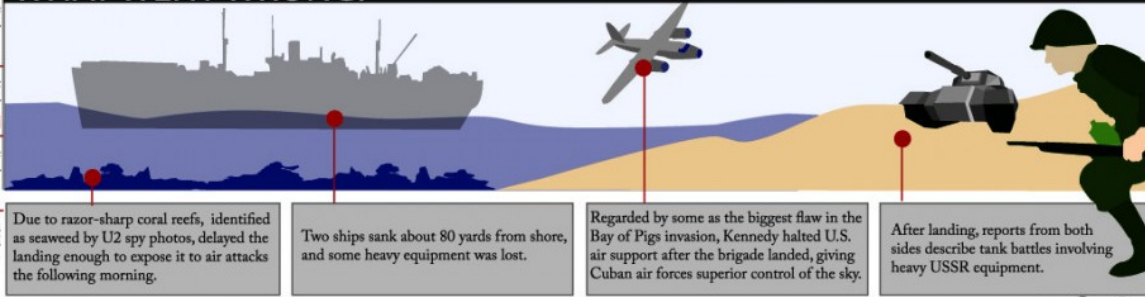
Sources: bayofpigsmuseum.org, historyofcuba.com, iklibrary.org, opb.org, wikipedia.com, thinkquest.org



## THE INVASION:

- 1 SATURDAY, APRIL 15TH 1961**  
Air Force B-26 Attack Bombers began flying bombing and strafing missions against Castro's airfields near the Bay of Pigs and the Zapata swamps. Castro was prepared and had dispersed some obsolete, unusable planes to fool the attackers and draw the bombs.
- 2 SUNDAY, APRIL 16TH 1961**  
Two battalions came ashore at Playa Giron and one at Playa Larga. However, due to razor-sharp coral reefs, identified as seaweed by U2 spy photos, delayed the landing enough to expose it to air attacks the following morning.
- 3 MONDAY, APRIL 17TH 1961**  
By 3 a.m. the next morning, Castro knew about the landing, and the Cuban government responded immediately, taking a superior position in the air. Since world opinion was against the U.S., Kennedy decided not to provide further air coverage and Cuba forces had complete control of the air.
- 4 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19TH 1961**  
A final attempt for U.S. air support resulted in the loss of four pilots. That afternoon, the U.S. invaders surrendered. More than 200 people were killed; another 1,197 were taken captive.
- 5 THURSDAY, APRIL 20TH 1961**  
Kennedy told the American Society of Newspaper Editors that the episode was Cubans fighting Cubans and that the U.S. had not been involved.
- 6 THE AFTERMATH**  
The Brigade prisoners remained in captivity for 20 months, as the United States negotiated a deal with Fidel Castro. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy made personal pleas to pharmaceutical companies and baby food manufacturers, and Castro eventually settled on 53 million dollars worth of baby food and drugs. The Invasion not only tainted the Kennedy administration, but left a tense relationship with Cuba to this day.

## WHAT WENT WRONG:



Due to razor-sharp coral reefs, identified as seaweed by U2 spy photos, delayed the landing enough to expose it to air attacks the following morning.

Two ships sank about 80 yards from shore, and some heavy equipment was lost.

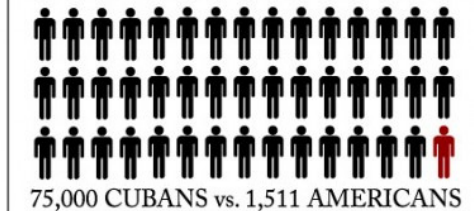
Regarded by some as the biggest flaw in the Bay of Pigs invasion, Kennedy halted U.S. air support after the brigade landed, giving Cuban air forces superior control of the sky.

After landing, reports from both sides describe tank battles involving heavy USSR equipment.

## BY THE NUMBERS

**FOUR** | **1,511**  
2,400 TON TRANSPORTS LANDED | AMERICAN SOLDIERS

**23** | THE AVERAGE AGE OF THE U.S. SOLDIERS



The Cubans outnumbered the Americans 50 to 1. Each figure represents approximately 1,500 soldiers. The black figures represent the Cuban soldiers and the red figure represents the American soldier.



**400** | AMERICAN SOLDIERS LOST

A THOUSAND AND ONE HUNDRED CAPTURED

**\$53,000,000,000**  
OF FOOD AND DRUGS IN EXCHANGE FOR THOSE CAPTURED

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8qXZp8bxpNY>

Cuba & Bay Of Pigs

2:47

1:17 / 5:34

How close have we come to nuclear war?



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**In April 1962, Soviet Premier Khrushchev deployed missiles in Cuba to provide a deterrent to a potential US attack against the USSR.**

**Meanwhile, Fidel Castro was looking for a way to defend his island nation from an attack by the US. Ever since the failed Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961, Castro felt a second attack was inevitable. Consequently, he approved of Khrushchev's plan to place missiles on the island. In the summer of 1962 the USSR secretly installed the missiles.**





**October 14, 1962, US U2 spy plane takes photos of suspected USSR missile sites on Cuba**

1 NOVEMBER 1963

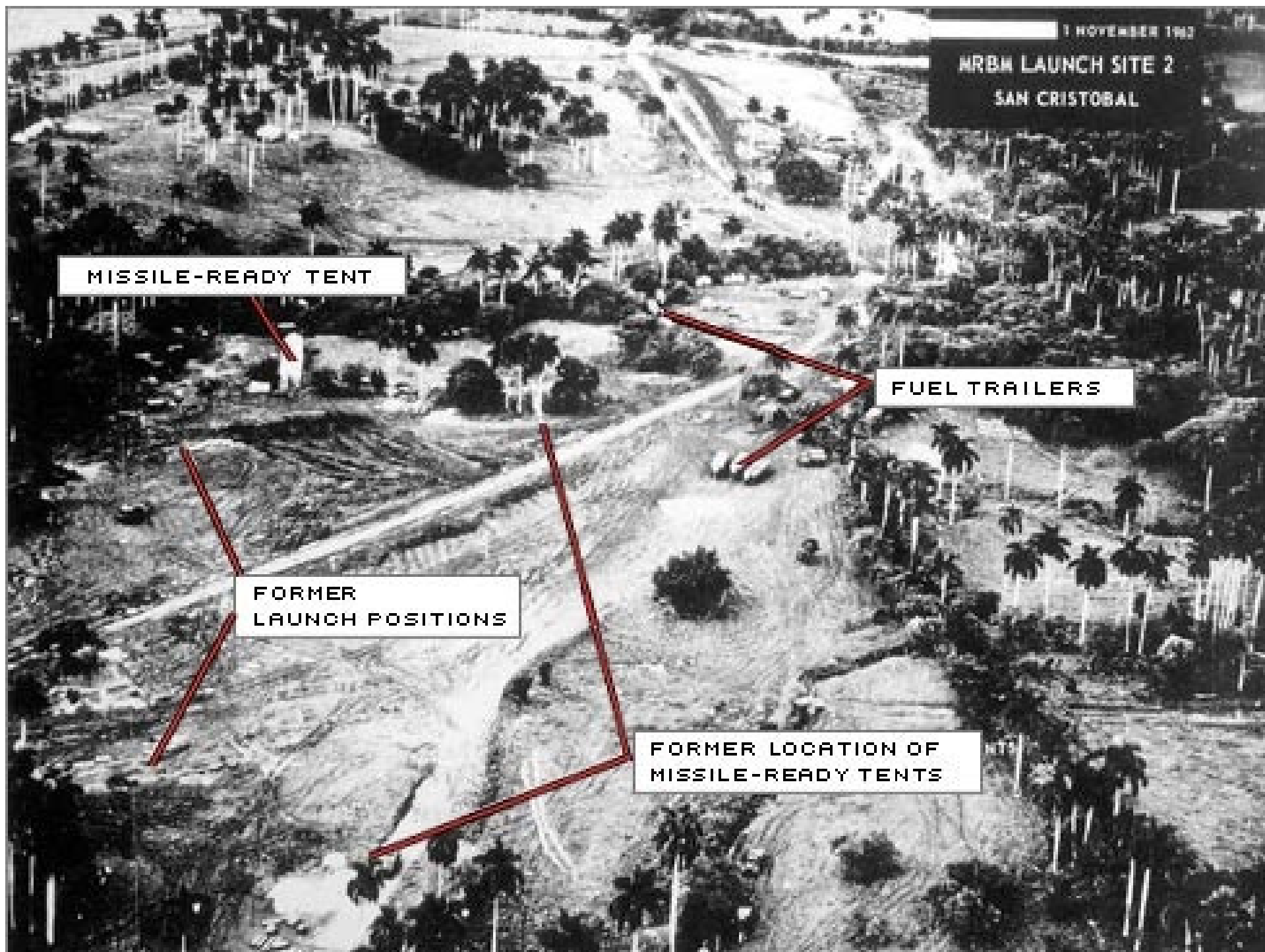
HRBH LAUNCH SITE 2  
SAN CRISTOBAL

MISSILE-READY TENT

FUEL TRAILERS

FORMER  
LAUNCH POSITIONS

FORMER LOCATION OF  
MISSILE-READY TENTS



13 Days  
Oct 16-28



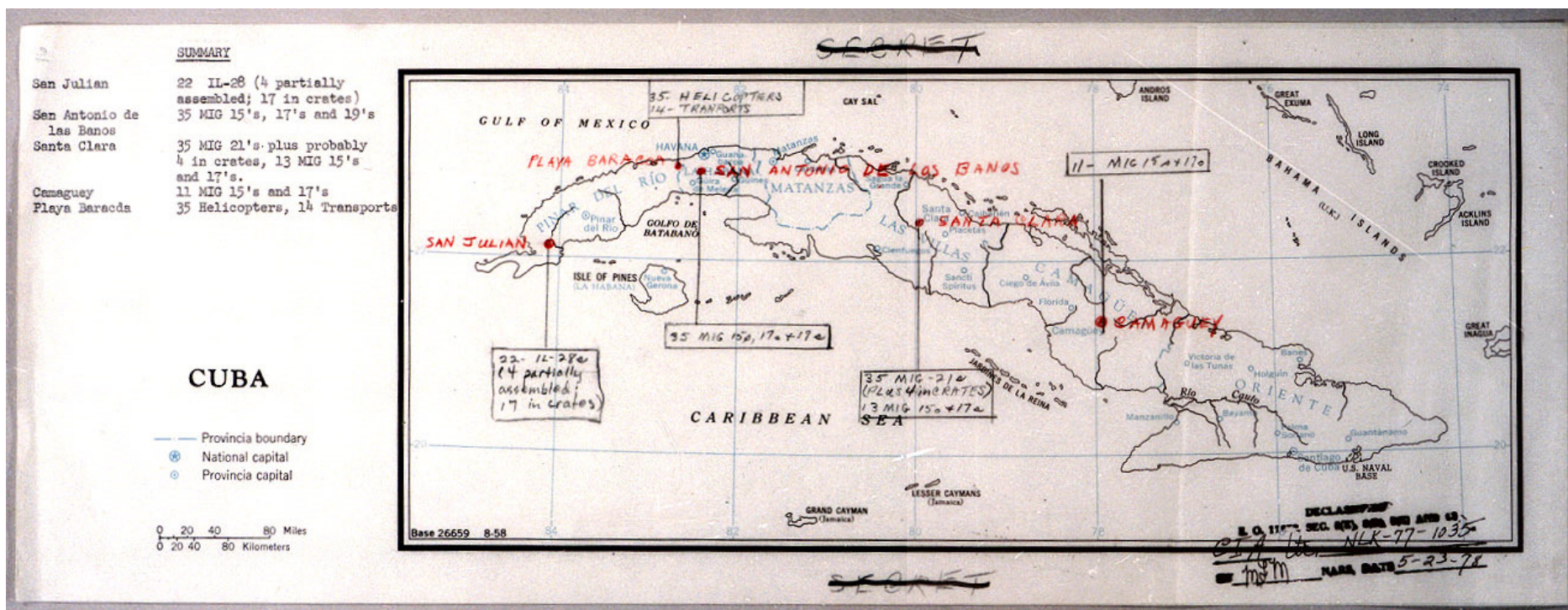
~~TOP SECRET~~  
NO FOREIGN DISSEM  
DECLASSIFIED  
E.O. 11652, SEC. 1(E), 1.60, 1(K) AND 11  
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BY *my m* NARA DATE 5-23-78



Day 1, Oct 16

**ExComm – Executive Committee of the National Security Council  
Discussions begin on how to respond to the challenge. Two  
principal courses are offered: an air strike and invasion, or a naval  
quarantine with the threat of further military action.**

Day 2: American military units begin moving to bases in the Southeastern U.S. as intelligence photos from another U-2 flight show additional sites; and 16 to 32 missiles.



Two big questions must be answered, and in conjunction with each other:

1. Which military action, if any:
  - Limited air strike: Rusk, probably Ball and Johnson, Acheson originally
  - Fuller air strike: McNamara and Taylor (who convinced Acheson) ↗  
Bohlen's 2nd choice
  - Blockade: Bohlen, Thompson, probably Martin, probably McNamara and Taylor 2nd choice
  - Invasion: McCone, maybe Nitze
2. Should political action -- in particular a letter of warning to Khrushchev -- precede military action?
  - If blockade or invasion, everyone says yes
  - If air strike
    - Yes: Bohlen, Thompson (also K. O'Donnell)
    - No: Taylor, McNamara, presumably Acheson
    - Undecided: Rusk

These questions could be focussed upon by considering either the Rusk or the Bohlen approaches.

Rusk favors the limited or "surgical" air strike without prior political action or warning. This is opposed by 3 groups.

- By the diplomats (Bohlen, Thompson, probably Martin) who insist that prior political action is essential and not harmful
- By the military (McNamara, Taylor, McCone) who insist that the air strike could not be limited
- By advocates of the blockade route

Bohlen favors a prompt letter to Khrushchev, deciding after the response whether we use air strike or blockade

- All blockade advocates would support this, and some of the air strike advocates
- Taylor would oppose this, unless the decision had already been made to go the blockade route
- If you accept the Bohlen plan, we can then consider the nature of the letter to K.

Also ask Pentagon to develop:

1. Extent to which military problems are increased by the advance warning a note to Khrushchev would touch off
2. Hard necessity of follow-up sortie to initial "surgical" attack
3. Possibilities of commando-type raid by parachute or helicopter

**Day 3, By October 18, the president and his advisers weighed only two options: blockade or invasion.**

Day 7, October 22

Kennedy announced the discovery of the missiles and his decision to blockade Cuba and that any attack launched from Cuba would be regarded as an attack on the US by the USSR and demanded that the Soviets remove all of their offensive weapons from Cuba.

The Weather  
Since World War II, the weather has been the most important factor in the success or failure of military operations. The weather is a major factor in the success or failure of military operations. The weather is a major factor in the success or failure of military operations.

# The Washington Post FINAL

Since World War II

10¢

## Kennedy Orders Blockade of Cuba As Reds Build Nuclear Bases There; U. S. Will Sink Defiant Arms Ships

### Navy to Stop And Search Cargo Craft



### U. S., Russia Now Facing Test of Will

### President Heeds History's Lesson

### Hemisphere Held Peril By Missiles

### President Calls Off All Campaign Trips

### Crisis Sends Stock Prices Plummeting

The Washington Post, October 22, 1962. This is a reproduction of the front page of the newspaper, showing the main headline about the Cuban missile crisis and several smaller headlines and a portrait of President Kennedy.

**Day 7, Oct 22**

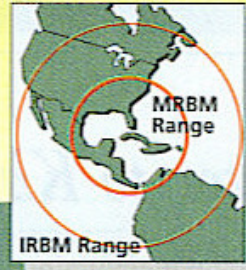
**Kennedy imposed a blockade around Cuba**



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W50RNAbmy3M>

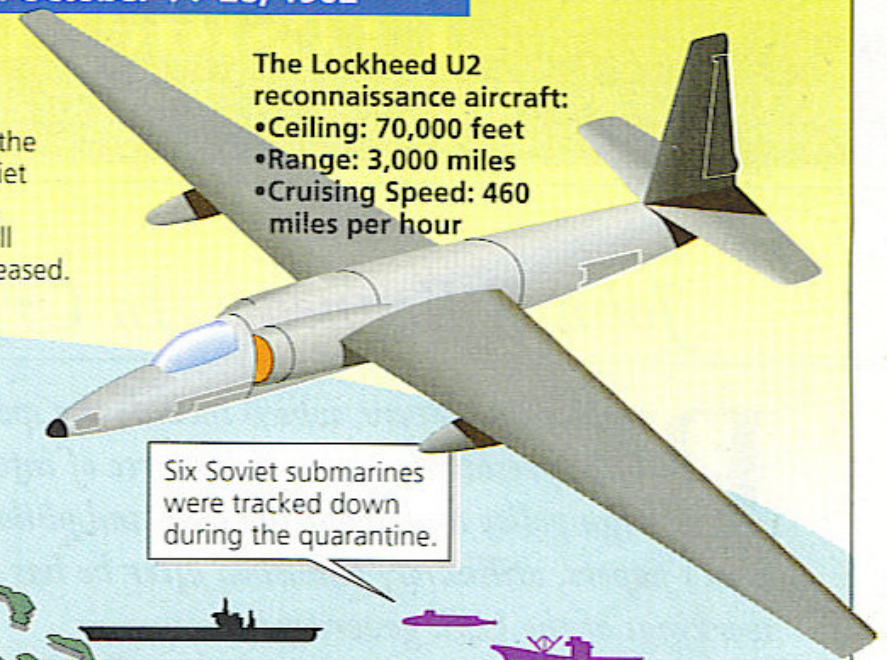
## The Cuban Missile Crisis: October 14–28, 1962

Forty Soviet MRBMs (Medium Range Ballistic Missiles) and eight IRBMs (Intermediate Range Ballistic Missiles) were placed at nine sites in Cuba. They were the oldest serviceable missiles in the Soviet arsenal.



This map shows the range of the Soviet missiles in Cuba. Their accuracy fell off as range increased.

The Lockheed U2 reconnaissance aircraft:  
 • Ceiling: 70,000 feet  
 • Range: 3,000 miles  
 • Cruising Speed: 460 miles per hour



Six Soviet submarines were tracked down during the quarantine.

Thousands of U.S. troops, including reserve units, were placed on alert and moved to Florida.

Twenty-three Soviet ships were en route when the quarantine began.

The U.S. naval base at Guantanamo Bay was strengthened. All civilians were evacuated.

Soviet missile  
 Soviet troops  
 Soviet submarine  
 Soviet cargo ship

U.S. base  
 U.S. troops  
 U.S. aircraft carrier

Enemy nuclear warheads positioned close to the United States posed an immediate danger to the

country and raised the specter of all-out nuclear war between the United States and the Soviet Union.



Nikita Khrushchev



Fidel Castro

## Day 11

### Castro's Letter to Khrushchev

- **What is Castro asking Khrushchev to do? What are the implications of his request for Cuba, the United States, the Soviet Union, and the world?**



Nikita Khrushchev



John F. Kennedy

**Day 12**

**Read Letters**



**Day 13, Oct 28**

**Radio Moscow announces that the Soviet Union has accepted the proposed solution and releases the text of a Khrushchev letter affirming that the missiles will be removed in exchange for a non-invasion pledge from the United States.**

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 28, 1962

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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THE WHITE HOUSE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I welcome Chairman Khrushchev's statesmanlike decision to stop building bases in Cuba, dismantling offensive weapons and returning them to the Soviet Union under United Nations verification. This is an important and constructive contribution to peace.

We shall be in touch with the Secretary General of the United Nations with respect to reciprocal measures to assure peace in the Caribbean area.

It is my earnest hope that the governments of the world can, with a solution of the Cuban crisis, turn their urgent attention to the compelling necessity for ending the arms race and reducing world tensions. This applies to the military confrontation between the Warsaw Pact and NATO countries as well as to other situations in other parts of the world where tensions lead to the wasteful diversion of resources to weapons of war.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H5ZzL9KsyPY>

