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Executive Registry

62-7998

31 October 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: CIA Positions During Current UN Negotiations

1. At a meeting of the Agency chiefs yesterday, we decided that in general the CIA intelligence positions should be as follows:

a. We must continue aerial reconnaissance and other means of intelligence gathering at all costs. We should not be placed in the position of denying our "right" to do so. This is the only way that we have any reasonable assurance of Cuban/Soviet actions as regards missile bases.

b. We must also not get ourselves tied down in any way as to espionage subversive activities and other clandestine chores. The President has already committed us to "no invasion" but certainly we must have freedom of action in covert activities. The reason for this is that the Soviets and Cubans will not pay any attention to any such agreement and moral commitments are such that we would and would thereby tie our hands.

c. We propose that the Soviets produce their inventory of shipments into Cuba, particularly of offensive weapons. This would help to put them on the spot and if they produced more than their stated inventory, or less, they could be considerably embarrassed particularly in light of the fact that we have a fair knowledge of just what they did put in in the way of missiles and corollary equipment.

d. We include as offensive weapons the MRBM's, IRBM's, and IL-28's. We would like to see included, but cannot hold out for, the SA-2's, the MIG 21's, and related heavy armor. We must also insist on the dismantling or destruction of nuclear storage sites and the removal of camouflage.

2. Attached for your information is the tabulation of weapons that was sent up to Ambassador Stevenson for United Nations use. You have

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already seen it, I know, but I include it in the event you need it this morning.

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