

SECRET

22 November 1962

Memo for the record
From [REDACTED]

25X1A

25X1A

1. On 21 November, because of bad weather, only 1 Brass Knob mission was flown over Cuba, and ops reduced the objectives to a single target: [REDACTED] Santiago de Cuba Port. Only one mission is scheduled for today, 22 November, because the bad weather continues. The two targets selected by ops are [REDACTED] Holguin A/F; and [REDACTED] Holguin Military Camp.

25X1A

25X1A

25X1A

2. The meager coverage of the past few days has not been entirely a result of bad weather: to minimize risk to the vehicle, ops has started to run short-range missions across the island rather than along the coastal routes which would give best coverage to our recommended targets. [REDACTED] and I discussed whether we should recommend that Brass Knob missions be run 5 miles off the northern and southern coasts. Even a first oblique would be preferable to the average results of the past few days. We decided to sound out our respective COMOR members on this proposal and perhaps raise the issue if coverage fails to improve.

25X1A

25X1A

3. [REDACTED] suggested that we refine the basic list we agreed to on 21 November by arranging it in orders of priority, so that when and if we are granted more missions we would be more likely to get what we want. His proposed grouping, which I agree with, was as follows:

a. Highest Priority Targets (in order of importance)

25X1A

- [REDACTED] Havana Port
- [REDACTED] Matanzas Port
- [REDACTED] Mariel Port
- [REDACTED] San Julian Airfield

b. Major northern targets (in order of importance).

25X1A

- [REDACTED] La Isabella Port
- [REDACTED] Cardenas Port
- [REDACTED] Caibarien Port

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

~~SECRET~~

c. Major southern targets (in order of importance)

25X1A



Casilda Port
Casilda Staging Area
Cienfuegos Naval Base
Holguin A/F
Santiago de Cuba Port

d. Tactical Targets (in order based on time since most recent coverage)

25X1A



Santiago de las Vegas Military Camp
Artemisa Military Camp
Remedios Military Camp
Holguin Military Camp
Baracoa Port

25X1A

4. The above listing would constitute our basic Brass Knob objectives until improved coverage or changing circumstances suggested modifications. [REDACTED] if missions are resumed, would be based primarily on the results of Brass Knob coverage.

5. Information on recent missions, which usually can be described as completely inadequate, today was nonexistent. NPIC gave its couriers the day off.

~~SECRET~~