

November 22, 1962

Cable from the Chinese Embassy in Cuba, 'A Brief Report of the Conversation with a Cuban Artillery Commander'

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Summary:

A correspondence from the Military Attaché Office of the Embassy in Cuba to the Foreign Ministry and Military Intelligence Department describing their thoughts on the potential US military invasion of Cuba and the need for strengthening national defenses.

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[...]

A Brief Report of the Conversation with a Cuban Artillery Commander

To the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Military Intelligence Department:

On the 21st [of November], a Cuban artillery commander expressed [his opinions as follows]: [John] Kennedy could not be trusted: now he demanded the Soviet Union remove [IL-28] bombers; later he will perhaps invade [Cuba] right away, or perhaps invade with an army knocked together with mercenaries and [soldiers from] puppet countries. On one hand, our side should continue preparing, on the other hand, [we] should beware of constructing defenses secretly ([he] referred to secrecy and camouflage). On the 19th and 20th [of November], [we] conducted shooting at invading US naval airplanes. Because national defense needs to be strengthened, industry development is accordingly going to be slowed down. With respect to Sino-Indian border conflict, he believed that [the conflict] was created by [Jawaharlal] Nehru, whereas Indian people were still good.

Military Attaché Office of the [Chinese] Embassy in Cuba

22 November 1962