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Papers of Lyndon Baines Johnson  
President, 1963-1969

National Security File

Country File  
Latin America- Cuba

Box 20

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NATIONAL SECURITY FILE  
Country File

Cuba  
Strategic Missiles in Cuba . . .

Box 20

FOLDER 2



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Directorate of Intelligence  
23 February 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Central Intelligence  
Director, Defense Intelligence Agency

SUBJECT : Joint CIA-DIA Team Report on the Military  
Posture in Cuba As It Pertains to  
Strategic Weapons

1. Since the CIA-DIA Team Report of 17 January 1967,  
we have received no intelligence which changes our conclu-  
sions that there are no strategic weapons or nuclear war-  
heads in Cuba.

2. Press reports precipitated by the 12 February  
newsletter of the Citizens Committee for a Free Cuba, a  
privately-sponsored anti-Castro organization, have revived  
rumors that Soviet long-range ballistic missiles have been  
reintroduced into Cuba. The newsletter bases its allega-  
tions primarily on information provided by a Cuban refugee,  
Manuel Vidal, who claims to have seen, in mid-December 1966,  
"an enormous trailer truck with a huge missile lying beside  
it" overturned on a road 30 miles west of Havana. (We  
have established that the name of the refugee is actually  
[REDACTED]  
been in the US since late 1962.)

3. The newsletter mentions another refugee source,  
Daniel Figuera Borroto, who reportedly helped to build  
"missile launching platforms, silo blocks and tubes to  
house wiring for missile installations" in Cuba.

4. Aerial photography of the Havana-Mariel area  
since 13 December has not been sufficient either to con-  
firm or refute reports of the accident west of Havana.

**SANITIZED**

Authority NLJ 94-225 and  
NLJ 001-020-2-1

By icc NARA, Date 7-10-01 ~~NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~

~~SECRET~~



Aerial photography of Cuba since that date has amounted to 89.3% of the island covered in interpretable, good quality photography of 25% or less cloud cover.

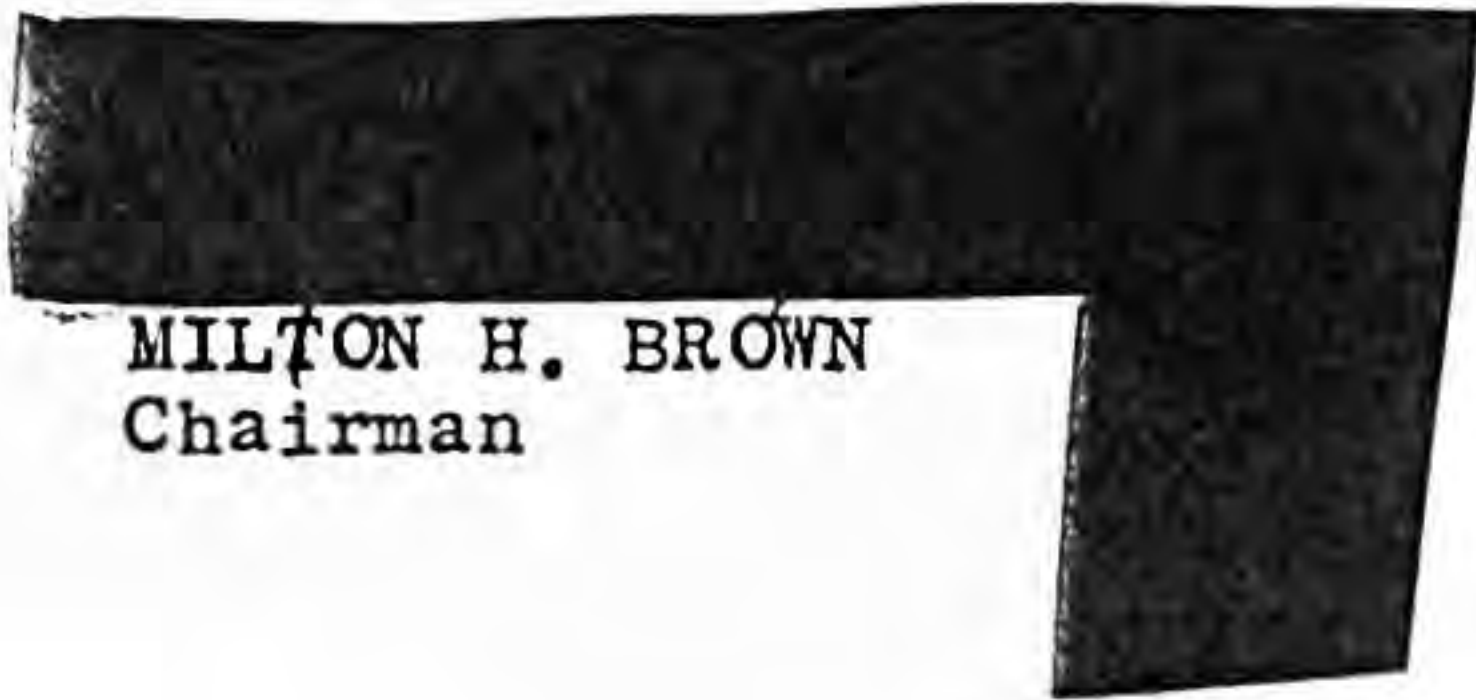
5. A careful review of reports from several refugees indicates that a loaded missile transporter traveling from east to west on the Central Highway overturned outside the town of Caimito de Guayabal, 30 kilometers west of Havana, early on the morning of 13 December 1966. Descriptions of the missile itself and of the "yellowish-orange vapor" it gave off strongly suggest that it was an SA-2 Guideline surface-to-air missile (SAM) probably in transit to the SAM site at Mariel 25 kilometers away. A SAM or a liquid-fueled Styx cruise missile, the type associated with the KOMAR patrol boat, could leak their red fuming nitric acid if damaged in an accident. No known Soviet strategic missiles would be transported in the fueled condition and thus could not leak the distinctive oxidizer vapor. The two other types of cruise missiles in the Cuban inventory could not emit colored vapor since both are air-breathing turbojets and not liquid-fueled rockets. If the refugee's report that the missile was carried by a trailer truck is accurate, the Styx cruise missile could also probably be ruled out since it is not normal Cuban practice to transport the Styx on such a vehicle. Thus, the evidence concerning the accident indicates that the missile was most likely a SAM and not a "long-range Russian ballistic missile."

6. [REDACTED] the other source mentioned in the Committee's newsletter, is a 20-year old Cuban with only 2 years of formal education. During his formal interrogation on 7 February he admitted that he never visited, saw, or knew the location of any missile installation. He stated flatly that he was merely repeating rumors he heard from co-workers at a factory where concrete blocks are made. His memory was demonstrably poor. His reporting has therefore been largely discounted.

7. In discussing the Citizens Committee for a Free Cuba newsletter in a 20 February syndicated article, columnist John Chamberlain raised the question: "What does the recent visit to Cuba by Igor Morokhov, the first vice president of the Soviet State Committee on Atomic Energy, mean? Did it have anything to do with the reappearance of missiles on Cuban roads?" The January visit



of a team of 4 Soviet specialists led by Dr. Igor Morokhov, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Peaceful Utilization of Atomic Energy, received wide publicity in the Cuban press, radio, and television. The Cuban press agency explained that the group had been invited to Havana by the Cuban Academy of Sciences "to discuss matters pertaining to collaboration in the peaceful uses of atomic energy." A photographic exhibit on the development and peaceful uses of atomic energy in the Soviet Union was inaugurated in Havana by Morokhov and other Soviet and Cuban officials on 25 January. We have no reason at this time to believe that Morokhov was in Cuba for any purpose other than that stated by the Cuban press.



MILTON H. BROWN  
Chairman