

# Chapter 17-4



- **Cold War Around the World**
  - I) Confrontations over Developing Nations
  - II) Postwar Face-off in Latin America
- **Intro Question – If you were the United States, how would you deal with Cuba gaining nuclear weapons?**

# I) Confrontations over Developing Nations

- The US and Soviet spy agencies (**CIA** and **KGB**) engaged in a variety of secret (covert) activities, ranging from spying to assassination attempts.



## II) Postwar Face-off in Latin America



- A young lawyer named **Fidel Castro** led a successful revolution in Cuba, and he turned to the Soviet Union for economic and military aid.
- President Kennedy decided to send CIA trained Cuban exiles to invade Cuba and overthrow Castro, but Castro's forces defeated them at the **Bay of Pigs**.

# 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; /ellibrary.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 Cuban 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 been killed; another 1,197 were taken captive.

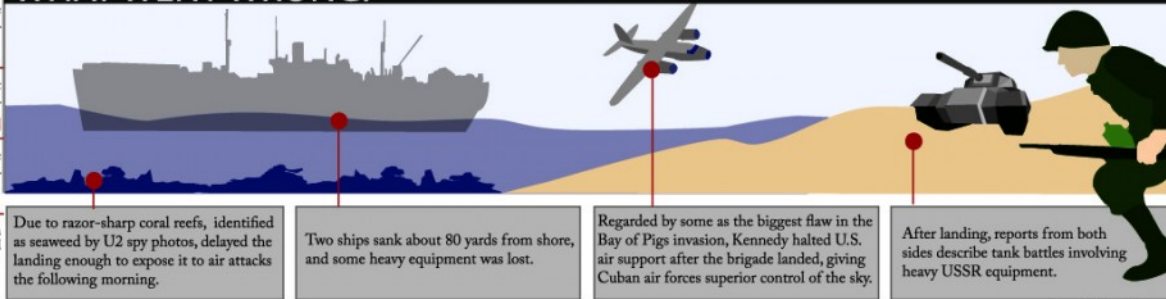
### 5 THURSDAY, APRIL 20TH 1961

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:



## BY THE NUMBERS

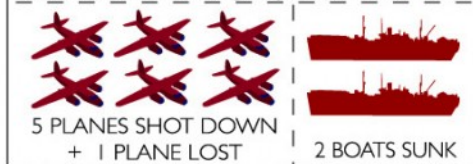
**FOUR** | **1,511**  
2,400 TON TRANSPORTS LANDED | AMERICAN SOLDIERS

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



75,000 CUBANS vs. 1,511 AMERICANS

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

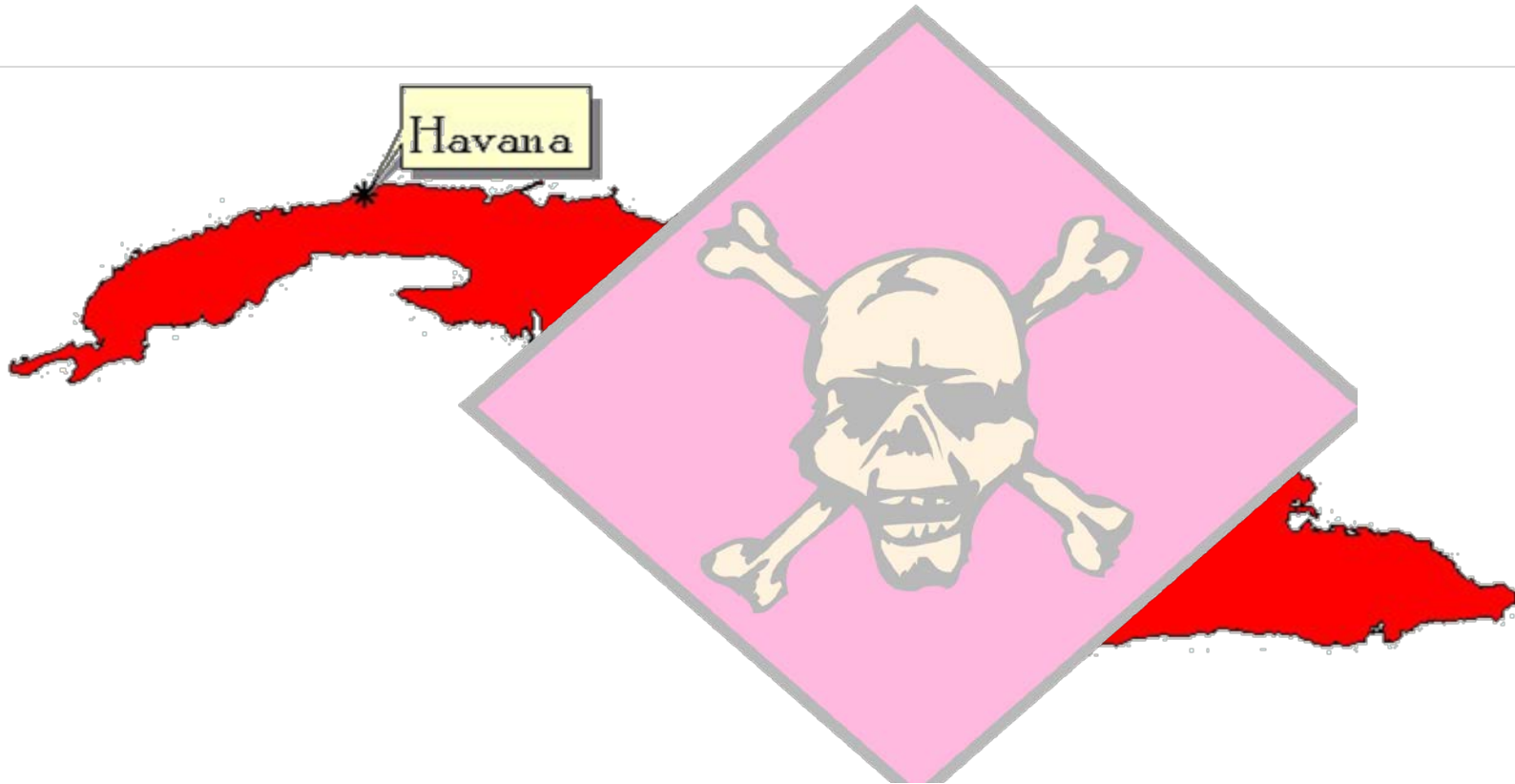
A THOUSAND AND ONE HUNDRED CAPTURED

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



# CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS

AUGUST TO NOVEMBER 1962



THE CLOSEST THE WORLD HAS COME TO FULL SCALE NUCLEAR WAR

**US intelligence begins receiving reports of Soviet missiles in Cuba.** A U-2 flight on August 29<sup>th</sup> confirmed the presence of surface to air missile batteries in Cuba. These missiles were designed to shoot down enemy aircraft.

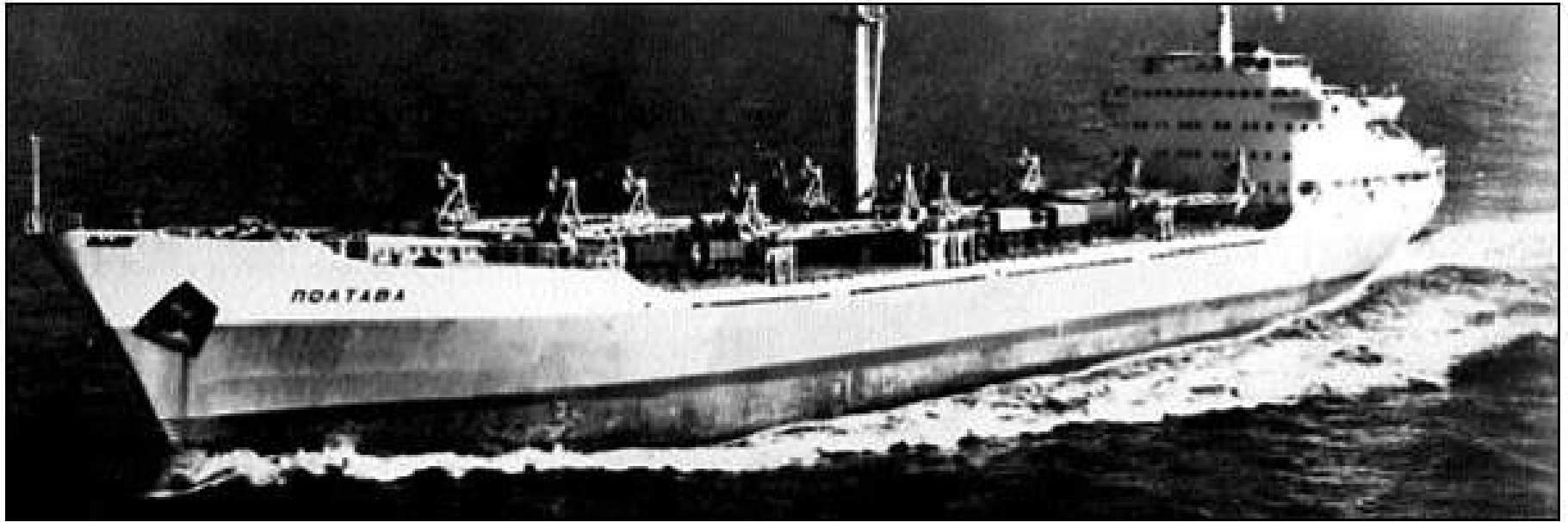


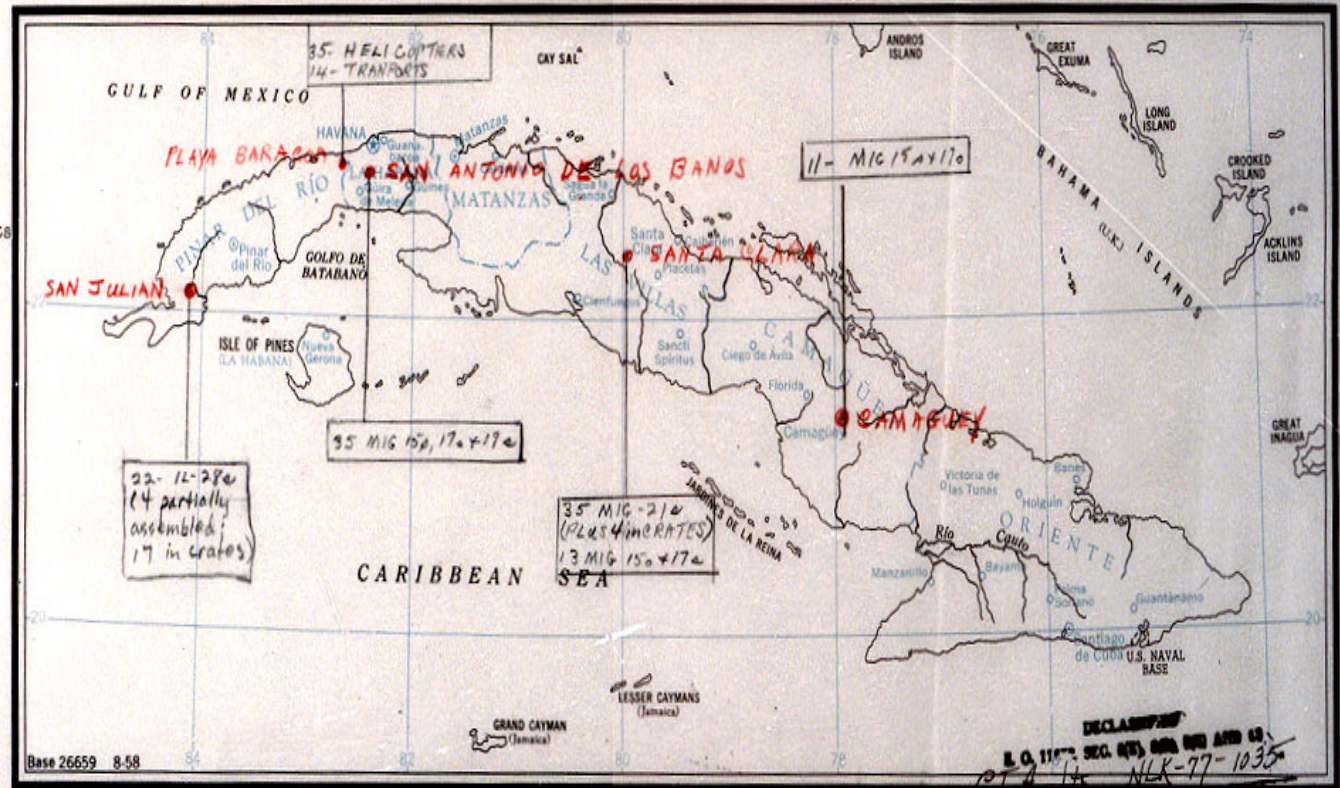
Figure 2. Soviet ship carrying medium-range ballistic range missiles in its hold.

## SUMMARY

San Julian	22 IL-28 (4 partially assembled; 17 in crates)
San Antonio de las Baños	35 MIG 15's, 17's and 19's
Santa Clara	35 MIG 21's plus probably 4 in crates, 13 MIG 15's and 17's.
Camaguey	11 MIG 15's and 17's
Playa Baracda	35 Helicopters, 14 Transports

## CUBA

- Provincia boundary  
 Ⓢ National capital  
 Ⓞ Provincia capital



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MIA MARR DATE 5-23-78

Map used by JFK and his advisors to plot weapons in Cuba during the missile crisis



Declassified 1962 map showing the distances nuclear armed missiles would go if fired from Cuba. Almost all major US population centers were within range. Maps like this convinced JFK that the soviet missiles must be removed from Cuba.



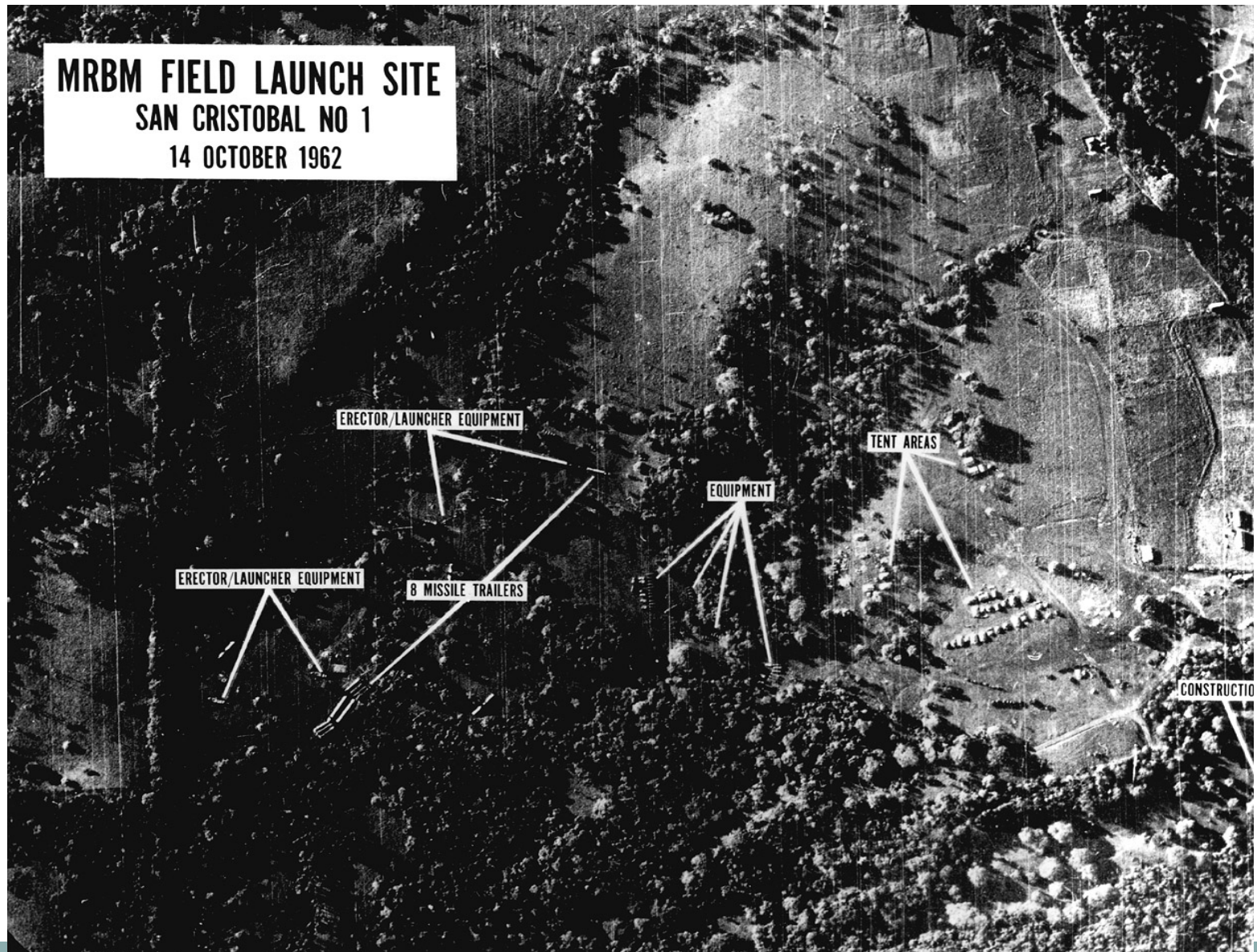
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Aerial photographs from U.S. Spy planes left no doubt that the Russians were installing nuclear missiles in Cuba aimed at the U.S.





**MRBM LAUNCH SITE 1**  
**SAN CRISTOBAL, CUBA**  
**25 OCTOBER 1962**

ERECTOR

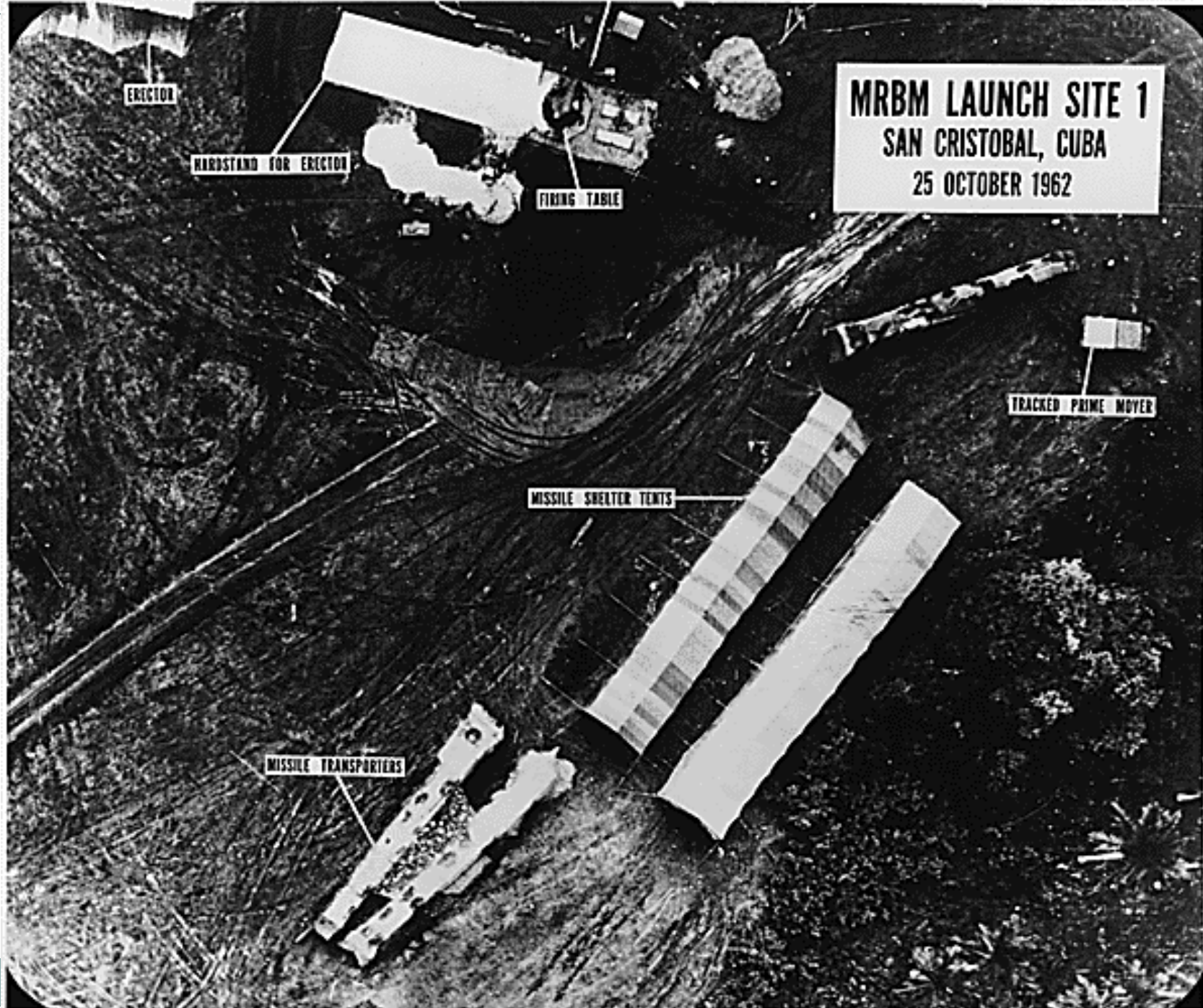
HARDSTAND FOR ERECTOR

FIRING TABLE

TRACKED PRIME MOVER

MISSILE SHELTER TENTS

MISSILE TRANSPORTERS



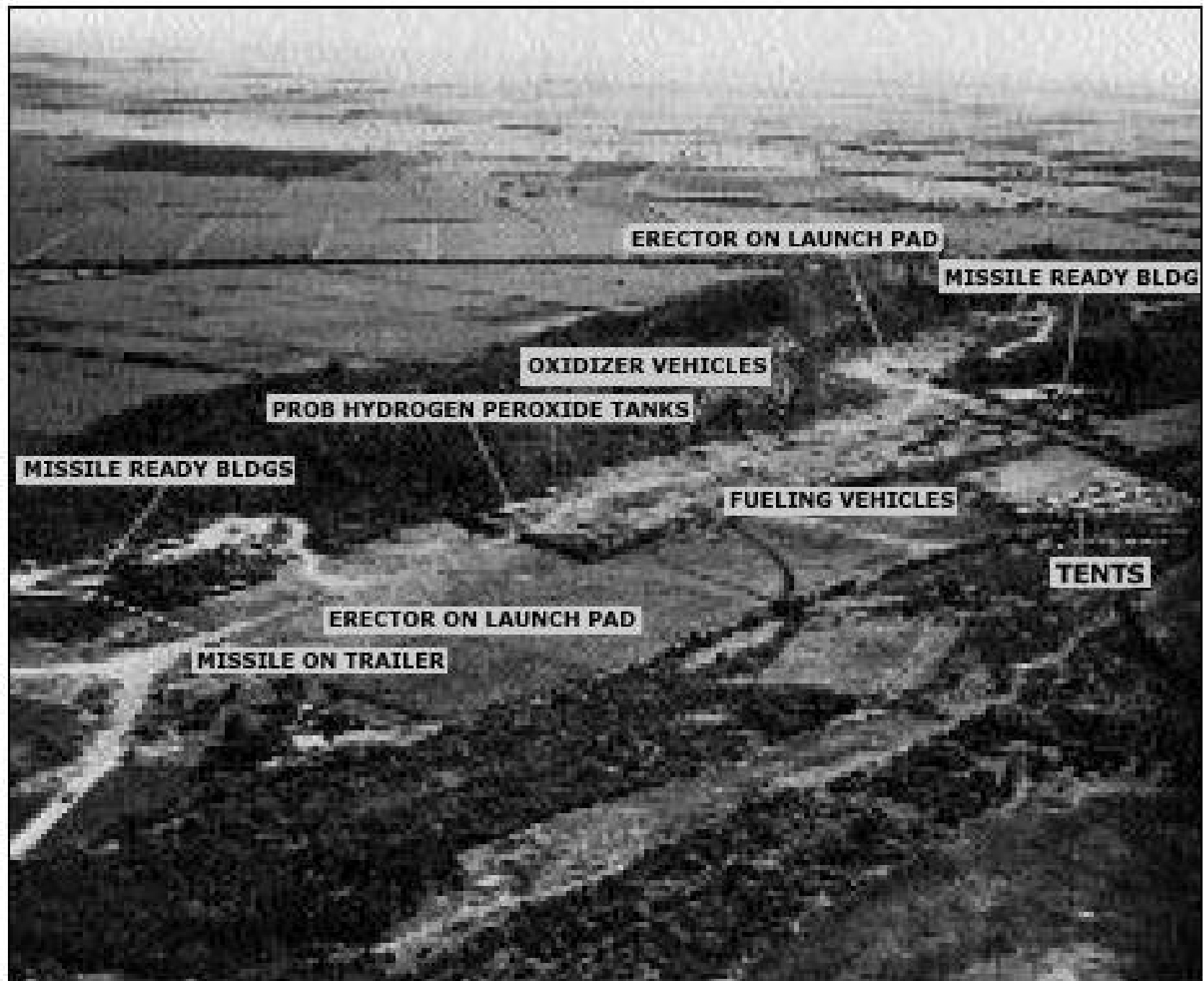


Figure 3. U-2 photograph providing the first evidence of medium-range ballistic missile deployment in Cuba.



Low altitude view of missile preparation area. The pilot taking this shot flew at an altitude of about 250 feet, and at the speed of sound.

Each one of the Russian missiles in Cuba had the explosive power of 50 Hiroshima type atomic bombs





Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, Secretary of State Dean Rusk and JFK, the main policy makers during the Cuban missile crisis along with Robert Kennedy.



On 10/22/1962, Kennedy delivers a speech to the U.S. citizens about the existence of Soviet missile sites in Cuba & his plans to remove them. He made it clear that any missile attack from Cuba would trigger an all-out attack on the Soviet Union

President Kennedy  
Signing Cuba Quarantine  
Proclamation – A naval  
blockade of Cuba.



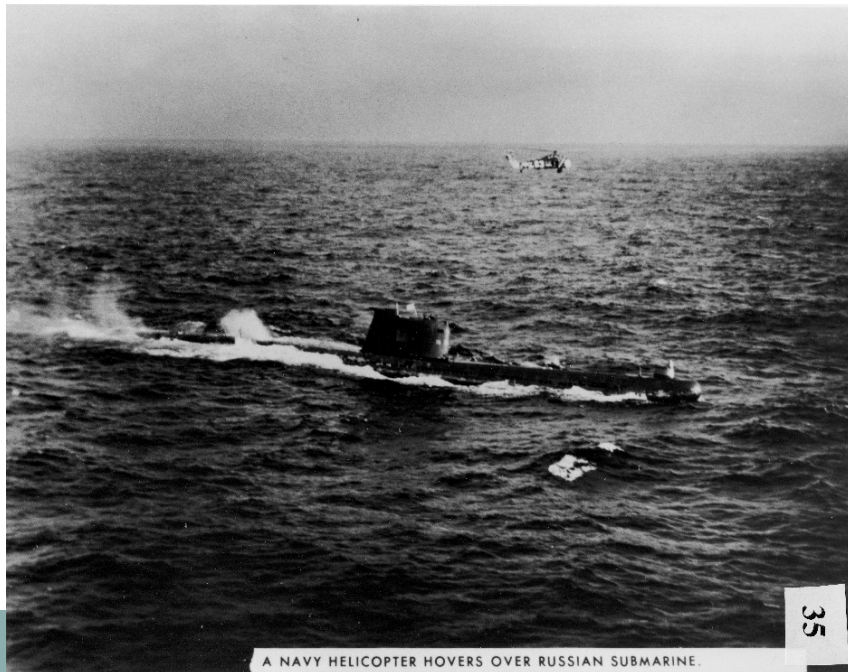
For the next six days, the world faced the terrifying possibility of nuclear war.

In the Atlantic, Soviet ships – presumably carrying more missiles – headed toward Cuba, while the U.S. Navy prepared to quarantine Cuba and prevent the ships from coming within 500 miles of the island.

In Florida, nearly 200,000 men were being concentrated in the largest invasion force ever assembled in the U.S.



October 27, 1962: the Soviet ship Grozny crosses the quarantine line, but stops after U.S. Navy ships fire star shells across her bow.



A NAVY HELICOPTER HOVERS OVER RUSSIAN SUBMARINE.

PHOTOS OF US SHIPS ENFORCING THE QUARANTINE AND (LEFT) SHADOWING A SOVIET SUBMARINE

“We are eyeball to eyeball and the other fellow just blinked.”



Dean Rusk-Secretary of State



# Khrushchev Gives In To Us Pressure And Removes Soviet Missiles From Cuba For A U.S. Promise Not To Invade Cuba



Soviet cargo ship leaving Cuba with missiles visible above deck



Missiles being loaded on Soviet ships for return to the Soviet Union

# Adlai Stevenson shows aerial photos of Cuban missiles to the United Nations in November 1962.



Soviet information that came to light in the 1990's suggested that, in fact, the CIA had underestimated the numbers of nuclear weapons and Soviet troops on the island.

During the crisis, the Cubans had armed missiles in anticipation of an invasion by the United States.



# Assignment 17.4 – The Cuban Missile Crisis.

Complete the chart below by assessing what risks are involved with each action that could be taken against Cuba.

Action Taken	Risk Involved
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- Air Strike Cuba –
- Do Nothing –
- Diplomacy/Negotiate –
- Military Blockade –
- Invasion of Cuba –
- Nuclear Strike against Cuba –

1. Given the above options, what would you have done?
  - Your response must be a detailed explanation of your tactics and strategy. (How would you attack? Where? What level?)