

PREM 11/3689

XC 7791

TOP SECRETFROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICEPERMUNC. ...
Sir L. ...No. 2624
October 20, 1962D. 5.22 p.m. October 20, 1962
R. 5.50 p.m. October 20, 1962IMMEDIATETOP SECRET

Following for Permanent Under Secretary from Ambassador.

Cuba.

My telegram No. 2623 of October 20 gives an account of the current pressures on the President to take action against Cuba. You should know that within the Administration there is also increased concern following recent Intelligence estimates of the build-up of Soviet arms. This anxiety is occasioned not only by the quantitative increase in the number of weapons and military personnel, but also by reports which suggest that the types of arms introduced may not be entirely defensive.

2. There has been much activity in the State Department, C.I.A. and the Defence Departments in the past few days which suggests that contingency plans for some kind of military action involving Cuba are being put into a state of readiness, and assessments of the situation are being brought up to date urgently at the President's request.

3. Sir Hugh Stephenson will give full report to Secretary of State when he returns to London.

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