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Action

Control: 17577

Rec'd: October 24, 1962
8:03 a.m.

SS
Info

FROM: London

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1670, October 24, Noon

PRIORITY

PASS WHITE HOUSE (FORRESTAL)

Assume, since White House message to Ambassador from Forrestal CAP 5501-62 TDTG 241354Z sent at 2330 London and Cooper-Forrestal conversation took place two hours later, that President now understands background release of pictures to press. However, following recap of events may be useful:

1. Early press reaction following President's speech skeptical of evidence.
2. Word reached here Tuesday a.m. 23 October that Washington press shown picture.
3. BBC and ITV informed Embassy Tuesday noon that special TV programs being worked-up on Cuba for presentation approximate 2100 Tuesday night.
4. Cooper called Ray Cline in Washington at 1500 requesting ok to backup Embassy press officer and make avail picture to press at background press conference 1700. Permission received subject to place names being deleted and picture described as "examples of typical sites."

5. Picture used on TV and contained in Wednesday a.m. press. Virtually without exception both TV and press coverage indicated complete acceptance validity US evidence Soviet offensive build up in

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Cuba.

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NOTE: Relayed to White House 10-24-62.

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