JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
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AGENCY INFORMATION

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[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

c. Use of U.S. Military Personnel and Equipment. The Group agreed that it would have to accept the proposition that resupply operations will probably require U.S. military personnel and equipment to include aircraft and seacraft. This point will be included in the Guidelines. General Lansdale will arrange with the Air Force to obtain an analysis of the risks which would be involved in air resupply operations over Cuba; this should be ready by next week. In the meantime preparations should be begun for the selection of personnel and aircraft for necessary preliminaries, such a "sheep-dipping." The Air Force will be asked to come up within two weeks with an estimate of their capability to provide one or two aircraft for use in initial operations.

In connection with small boat operations, the Secretary of Defense undertook to provide anything that was available within the Defense establishment for which a requirement might be established. It was pointed out there are no PT boats available and that foreign vessels will have to be acquired. CIA will present a specific request for equipment other than PT boats, within the next few days.

4. Mr. McNamara then raised the possibility that a decision may be made which will make it impossible to use U.S. personnel. He urged that planning, therefore, proceed on two tracks, assuming that such personnel can be used in the initial phase but will not be permitted later on. The Group felt that the Guidelines should reflect that, in the covert phase of this operation, U.S. personnel, bases and equipment would be available but that the situation that would exist in the face of a prohibition against such use must also be studied immediately.

4. At the Attorney General's suggestion, General Lansdale undertook to examine the possibility of sabotage or other means of destroying the Soviet boats which have been or will be delivered to Cuba.

6. The proposed underwater reconnaissance of the beach east of Havana was approved, after the statement by General Lemnitzer that amphibious planning cannot proceed without this and that the risk is virtually non-existent.

7. It was agreed that the Group should give a status report to higher authority this week, to include discussion of general principles and guidelines.

Thomas A. Parrott

No distribution