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[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

MESSAGE

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
STAFF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

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FILE

CJCS (3)

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MESSAGE

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
STAFF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

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addressees only from Taylor.

THIS IS A WARNING MESSAGE.

1. The President of the United States has under consideration the initiation of blockade operations against Cuba.

2. The reaction to these operations by Cuban military forces could lead to U.S. air strikes against Cuban armed forces, and invasion of the island of Cuba. Preparations for these contingencies are in progress. These subsequent actions, if initiated, would probably result in the use of force against Soviet military and civilian personnel in Cuba and would directly challenge the prestige of the Soviet Union. The reaction of the USSR cannot be predicted with accuracy.

3. It is imperative under the circumstances which could arise to present the strongest possible deterrent to any course of Soviet military action. The U.S. must demonstrate unequivocally that it is ready militarily to meet and to defeat retaliatory Soviet actions at whatever level is necessary. At the same time, we must avoid actions in other areas which may be considered provocative or which may create civil alarm.

4. At the time of the public announcement by the

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SCS FORM
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35-4

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MESSAGE

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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President of the United States of the decision to initiate blockade operations DEFCON 3 level of readiness will be effected world-wide. It is expected that the announcement will be made on the evening of 22 October Washington time. The time of initiation of blockade operations will tentatively be 24 to 48 hours later.

5. Should the action taken against Cuba include air attack and invasion of Cuba, reinforcement capabilities for the European and Pacific commands, as reflected in the Joint Strategic Capabilities Plan, applicable for general war, may be delayed.

6. JCS desire all commanders to review applicable plans, and be prepared to report critical limitations to the conduct of general war operations in their respective areas.

7. The contents of this message are sensitive and must be closely held. Gp-3.

ACTION: DCSOP-3, CSAF-2, CNO-2, CMC-6

DISTR : CJCS-3, DJS-3, SJCS-1, J2-1, J3-1, J4-1, J5-1,
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