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CIA INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY CUBA/USSR/US/UNITED NATIONS
SUBJECT SOVIET PLANS FOR AVERTING U.S. INVASION OF CUBA
DOI 3 FEBRUARY 1963

PADA SMITH-BUNDY NEW YORK, 3 FEBRUARY 1963
BELK

FILE

APPR BURRIS
DAVIS

SOURCE DUNGAN MIDDLE EASTERN OFFICIAL /B/ WITH CLOSE CONTACTS
FELDMAN AMONG ARAB UN DELEGATIONS, FROM A REPRESENTATIVE
FORRESTAL /B/ OF A MIDDLE EASTERN UN MISSION WHO TALKED TO
HIRSCH KONSTANTIN SMIRNOV, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF
JOHNSON PUBLIC INFORMATION, UN SECRETARIAT.
KAYSEN
KILDUFF
KLEIN
KOMER
LEGERE

SECRET PATROTT UTF-1374
Saunders

SAUNDERS
SCHLESINGER

1. KONSTANTIN SMIRNOV, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT, STATED THAT HE EXPECTS A U.S. INVASION OF CUBA THROUGH AN UNNAMED LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRY. REFERRING TO THE 1956 SOVIET THREAT TO ENGLAND AND FRANCE WHICH HE CLAIMED STOPPED THE WAR IN SUEZ, SMIRNOV STATED THAT THE SAME TACTIC CAN BE USED IN THE CASE OF CUBA. IN OTHER WORDS, THE USSR CAN THREATEN THE LATIN

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AMERICAN COUNTRY FROM WHICH AN INVASION OF CUBA WILL BE LAUNCHED AND THEREBY SCARE OFF THE U.S.

2. WHEN TOLD THAT ONLY THE USSR COULD DEFEND CUBA AND ASKED IF THE USSR WERE WILLING TO DO SO SMIRNOV REPLIED, "AND RUSH A NUCLEAR WAR. /QUERY/." HE THEN SAID THAT THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO DISCOURAGE AGGRESSION AND TO FORCE THE UNITED STATES TO RESPECT ITS ASSURANCES NOT TO INVADE CUBA. HE ADDED THAT HE BELIEVES THAT CUBA CAN BE DEFENDED, SIMPLY THROUGH CONTINUALLY PRESSURING THE U.S. BY THREATENING LATIN AMERICA.

3. CASTRO AND HIS GROUP ARE YOUNG, INEXPERIENCED PEOPLE AND SIMPLY WANT TO DIE OR START TROUBLES TO BECOME HEROS. SMIRNOV FEELS THAT THEY MUST LEARN THAT THEIR MISSION IS TO SURVIVE UNTIL THE TIME COMES WHEN THEY HAVE STRONG SUPPORT IN LATIN AMERICA AND ELSEWHERE.

4. HE SAID THAT THE USSR IS CONTEMPLATING A MAJOR OFFENSIVE SOMEWHERE TO WIPE OUT THE EFFECT OF CUBA. HE RULED OUT BERLIN AS TOO DANGEROUS, BUT SAID THAT THIS OFFENSIVE COULD OCCUR IN VIETNAM.

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HE ALSO SAID THAT THE CHINESE DO NOT UNDERSTAND THAT THE RUSSIANS
"HAVE TO TAKE IT EASY AND NOT RUSH INTO SITUATIONS." THE
RUSSIANS, HE SAID, CANNOT AFFORD TO MAKE MISTAKES IN THIS NUCLEAR
ERA.

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6 FEBRUARY 1963

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