

H/PS 315

Notes on Northwoods (Lemnitzer signed off on it on the plan (March 13, 1962).

This has to be the most corrupt plan ever created by the US government in the name of anticommunism.

The plan had the complete endorsement of the entire JCS. . . .calling for innocent people to be shot on American streets, for boats carrying refugees from Cuba to be sunk on the high seas; for a wave of violent terrorism to be launched in Washington, D.C. , Miami and elsewhere. . .

This was a plan in which many innocent American citizens and innocent Cubans would be killed . . .to satisfy the egos of generals back in Washington, safe in their taxpayer-financed homes and limousines.

Not covered in the Journal was an idea seriously considered that involved the astronaut John Glenn, you may recall who was the first astronaut to orbit the earth. . .

Lemnitzer and the chiefs proposed to General Lansdale that should the rocket explode and kill Glenn . . . . the JCS were ready to provide the story that Cuban interference was responsible for Glenn's death. . .

Northwoods was turned over to McNamara on March 13, 1962 . . . .and 3 days later JFK rejected the whole whacky scheme.

A month later the JCS came back with a statement that the only course left open was for a US military invasion of Cuba . . . . .

Ultimately, JFK removed Lemnitzer from his post as Chair of the JCS and sent him out of the country to Europe as chief of NATO. . . .

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Re: Notes on Northwoods

Lemnitzer was dangerous – perhaps even unbalanced—rightwing extremist . . . .

But Operation Northwoods also had the support of every member so the JCS. . .  
.including senior civilian Pentagon Officials. . .

Best source: James Banford *Body of Secrets (2001)*