

Talbot, Brothers

Chapter 2

Bay of Pigs:

April 1961. . . . The legacy of the Ike administration . . . 1500 Cubans under CIA control

p. 46 Key revelation: Bissell commits an act of treasonous insubordination when he alerted the Cuban military leaders that if the president, at the last minute, called off the invasion, that the CIA officers with the Cuban forces were to allow the Cubans to place them under "control" and the Cubans to proceed with Operation Zapata. . .

Bissell's misleading of JFK . . . Op. Zapata could not succeed w/out US military involvement. . .

The JCS knew that and kept the truth from JFK. Point: A CIA flagrant failure would force JFK to turn to the military for advice in the future and place the once-predominant CIA in a subordinate roll . . . So the JCS came Operation Zapata a passing grade to JFK when he asked for its evaluation . . .

Disturbing too had to be that Castro knew about the invasion and the approximate date. (True: Next to the Israeli's MOSAD, Castro's intelligence service was 2nd best in the world. It had to be w/ US only 90 miles away.

Dulles could have cared less about any Castro early warning. . . .because he expected the new young president to agree to lifting the ban on any open US military involvement rather than see his first foreign policy initiative wash up on the beaches of Cuba. . . .A Cold War disaster that would only embolden the Russians.

Had JFK caved in and agreed to "save" the Operation by dropping his opposition to using US military force and invaded Cuba. . . .What might have been Moscow's response? What about the possibility that Khrushchev under pressure from his

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generals had to counter: What about a Russian occupation of West Berlin. The what? WW III???

The isolation of JFK. . . .He turned to intimate and trusted advisers – Bobby number one and others like Sorenson, Schlesinger, Galbraith, . . .

R. Goodwin and Che Guevara.....JFK did not discourage. . . .JFK respected Castro as a leaderand he was interested in Guevara. . . seeds of a future rapprochement