

Operation Northwoods

In 1962 the Joint Chiefs of Staff proposed staging phony attacks to destroy U.S. property, killing Cuban refugees and U.S. citizens as provocations to justify citizens rage and thereby justify an invasion of Cuba. . . . with what results: nuclear war w/ Russia.

Sampling of the proposals that had the backing of the entire compliment of the Joint Chiefs suggesting that the Chiefs had quietly slipped over the edge.

The plan called for innocent people to be shot on American streets (these would be friendly Cuban refugees who had fled from Cuba.

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.

One idea that hit the Lunatic Fringe button on the Northwoods scale was a plan by the Chiefs to sabotage the scheduled flight of John Glenn in his scheduled historic flight on February 20, 1962. . . . The Chiefs had another idea of what to do with the historic flight. That was to sabotage the rocket and have it explode and kill Glennthen provide the irrevocable proof that the tragedy was the work of the Communists in Cuba. . . .

The Northwoods document proposed to stage phony Cuban attacks on U.S. installations. For example, GIs at Guantanamo dressed up as Cubans outside the fence causing damage and threatening Americans inside the compound.

To create an incident that demonstrates a shoot down of a chartered civil airliner enroute from the US to Jamaica or Panama, whatever. . . .(This could be staged).

Chiefs actually suggested the possibility of killing some Cuban refugees. Suggested that we sink a boatload of Cuban refugees seeking haven in the U.S. or using US assets here at home in the US to make attempts on the life of Cuban refugees living here or wounding them.

Or perhaps U.S. service men could be blown up.

Source: James Bamford, *Body of Secrets* (Doubleday, 2001)