

but the conditions would have to be just right. If, for example, the country had a young President, and he had a Bay of Pigs, there would be a certain uneasiness. Maybe the military would do a little criticizing behind his back, but this would be written off as the usual military dissatisfaction with civilian control. Then if there were another Bay of Pigs, the reaction of the country would be, 'Is he too young and inexperienced?' The military would almost feel it was their patriotic obligation to stand ready to preserve the integrity of the nation, and only God knows just what segment of democracy they would be defending if they overthrew the elected establishment...Then, if there were a third Bay of Pigs, it could happen... /818

A source close to the President, Theodore Sorenson, recorded Kennedy's reaction to the novel. The President re-  
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marked, "I know a couple who might wish they could."

The President, as noted, established three Bay of Pigs as necessary for a probable military take-over.

A second Bay of Pigs, in military terms, may have been the Cuban missile crisis in the fall of 1962.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff did not want a blockade. 820  
Instead, they wanted "...an air strike...followed shortly  
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afterward by an invasion." Gen. LeMay felt "...that a  
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military attack was essential." One of the Chiefs advo-  
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cated use of nuclear weapons. And when the Russians did  
withdraw their missiles, "...it was suggested by one high

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818. Paul B. Fay, Jr., The Pleasure of His Company, p. 190.

819. Sorenson, op. cit., pp. 606-7.

820. Hilsman, op. cit., p. 205.

821. Robert F. Kennedy, Thirteen Days: A Memoir of the Cuban Missile Crisis, p. 96.

822. Ibid.

823. Ibid., p. 48.