

Q The situation, particularly the political situation, required that Kennedy have dependable information from dependable people.

A A large number of Cubans who had been given sanctuary here ^{had} misused the freedom that went with it to campaign for a war against Castro. With the assassination they simply ^y made up that Castro was behind the assassination to use that as a means of getting the war against ~~him~~ started. That ^{w/} most of the ~~of~~ victims would have been ^{Cuban} civilians ~~was~~ no consideration to them. The FBI's files abound with their fabrications.

A Both influenced by ~~and~~ ^{and} independent of them and wanting the same thing for ~~th~~ their own reasons ~~were~~ many Americans, including a large number in the Congress. They for their own reasons, whether or not they really wanted it to happen, were demanding action against Castro.

A A conspicuous ^{post-assassination} example is the Mexico City ~~sta~~ station of the intelligence part of the military-industrial-intelligence complex. The political nuts there went for all the many fabrications of those who wanted a war against Castro. Of these one of those that was most influential was an obvious fabrication. I go into this and the Mexico City situation in greater detail in what I have written about books by John Newman and Mark Riebling. Newman was a history teacher at the University of Maryland, College Park, after twenty years in military intelligence, when Carroll & Graf published his Oswald and the CIA in 1995. Riebling had been a Random House editor. His Wedge was published by Knopf, then owned by Random House, in 1994. Newman, who does not connect Oswald with the CIA in his ~~two~~ book, does at several points allege that Castro was "implicated" in the assassination through Oswald. On his part, ~~R~~ Riebling manufactured ~~an FBI~~ ^{an FBI} responsibility for the assassination because, as he dreamed up, it had driven a "wedge" between itself and the ~~FBI~~ ^{of CIA by not going back,} over that Mexico City ~~junk~~ line and sinker for the childish fabrications the CIA loved and took to heart. Of all the ^{junk} ~~junk~~ that was dumped on the agencies down there the one that

should be been ignored to begin with because it is so palpably false is the one that influenced the Mexico City CIA most of all. In turn it influenced Ambassador Thomas Mann, who was really turned on by it. He in particular but ~~both~~ ^{Mexico} he and the CIA campaigned for an attack on Castro based entirely on the childishly incompetent story ~~he~~ had made up with that objective in ~~mind~~

mind by an agent of the Samozza-spookery of the Dominican Republic, Gilberto Alvarado Ugarte

When the FBI debunked that concoction, by Gilberto Alvarado Ugarte

Mann and those ~~na~~ political nuts in the CIA's Mexico City station still clung to

that and other fabrications and still plugged for "action" against Castro. *even after Alvarado Ugarte confessed to having made it all up!*

These and the Riebling concoction, while after the assassination, illustrate the state of mind inside the government before ^{and after} the assassination and at the time the 1962 missile crisis was getting hot.

The media was also inflammatory against Castro and that added to the national state of mind that opposed him and seemed to ~~to~~ favor doing something ~~at~~ about him.

The pressures on Kennedy were great and of many origins. When the crisis situation was developing and all the advice to him was to go to war he was, fortunately, able to hold out against just about all his advisers, particularly those from the military, from intelligence, and from those who had come from industry and finance. If he had listened to his advisers he would have gone to war against ~~Castro~~ ^{It would have been a nuclear holocaust.} as soon as the missiles were located in Cuba.

Cuba was ninety miles from the closest point in the United States. The United States found it intolerable that the Soviets had any missiles of any kind there. Turkey is not ninety miles from what was then the Soviet Union. They touched, had a long common border. The United States has operational ^{nuclear} missiles in Turkey. That, however, was believed right and proper in this country, while the Soviets having any missiles, even not yet operative in Cuba, was wrong and entirely intolerable.

It likewise was right and necessary for the United States to have missiles-

in Turkey, Italy and England - Everywhere -

Our missiles were defensive weapons, as the universal thinking in the United States had it, but those same missiles that were Soviet and in Cuba were offensive *weapons.*

Whether any weapon is defensive or offensive is determined by its use, not by what it is. A toothpick stuck in an eye is an offensive weapons although few of us consider a toothpick any kind of weapon at all.

nobody in the United States government is quoted as believing that Khrushchev was going to start a nuclear war when those missiles were all operational but then *nobody* in the government is quoted as believing they were anything but "offensive" weapons while all regarded those we had all around the world as only ~~as~~ defensive *weapons.*

Little sense as this made outside the United States, there was nobody inside the government to point these things out to Kennedy.

However,

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and all those United States missiles were nuclear - in Italy and in Great Britain, both of which are, as missiles fly, close to the Soviet Union.

It was the ^Ust about universal United States belief that it had rights the Soviet Union did not have and thus having its missiles at and close to the Soviet Union with their nuclear warheads was as it should have been but ^{for} the presence of similar missiles in Cuba neither Cuba nor the Soviet union had any rights at all.

This belief extended to Kennedy. *7A here*

The world is fortunate that Kennedy was able to hold out against his advisers and that what ~~K~~hrushchev wanted was peace. Otherwise the world would have been incinerated.

There was no chance at all that Kennedy could have been persuaded that what was right for the United States was also right for the Soviet Union. Whatever his personal opinion might have been, he knew he would not have been able to survive ~~that~~ taking that position publicly if he had thought to. But having any reason to believe that Khrushchev was not looking for war, did not intend to use those missiles, is information that particularly in time of crisis, and that was a crisis without parallel in the history of the world, was information Kennedy should have had had ~~it existed~~ anywhere inside the government.

But by then there was no possibility that there remained any analysts, any country experts, who had the independence of mind that enabled them to visualize the actualities of that situation because those we lump together as McCarthyites had forced just about all out of government service as alleged Communists. To these McCarthyites those who did not agree with them politically were on that basis alone suspect as alleged Communists, no matter how ~~ever~~ very few were or could have been.

It is likely that those who ^{with} ~~in~~ the government and its policies would not for a moment concede that what was right for the goose was right for the gander would not have raised their children with that kind of belief. If they had themselves

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been raised that way.

It was not for any personal reasons that I refer to the correctness of my ~~analysis~~ Cuba missile crisis ~~and~~ analysis and my correct prediction of how it would end. As mentioned above, there is a lengthier account of it in Inside the JFK Assassination Industry.

Moreover, I had been a Latin Americanist - was at the time I was dumped by those who got the country into some terribly terribly bad situations with what for a number of countries were disasters and were hurtful to this country all around the world, and who believed sincerely that they alone knew what was right and necessary and had the strongest convictions that what they did was not only right and proper but was the only true Americanism.

That kind of thinking, those anti-American political beliefs, did not begin with Joe McCarthy. He was merely more uninhibited, more outrageous in what he said and did, and that that that that was at a time the media went for it big. It was the media hype and the media attention that made him famous.

Going back to World War I there were what were called the Palmer "red" raids. Mitchell Palmer was the attorney general. He was grabbing those he believed were not citizens and were to him "red," which when it meant anything at all may have meant they were active in unions, and deported them by force and without due process. His right-hand man in this was the J. Edgar Hoover who soon headed what was then a small piece of the Department, its bureau of investigation.

Hoover had a long a career of practising what McCarthy preached.

With the rise of Hitler and Mussolini in Italy the House of Representatives created a committee on what was referred to as "un-American" activities. It was chaired by Congressman John McCormack of Massachusetts. The other Democratic congressman on that committee who did more on it than McCormack was Samuel Dickstein of New York.

When its life expired, and the life of all non-permanent House committees

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ended with each Congress, the Congresses lasting two years, Congressman Martin Dies of Texas campaigned to have it continued and for him to be its chairman. He promised other members that if he were chairman there would not be any damned Jews on it.

His committee and its and his behavior were outrageous. I started to look into them to write a book about them and him. I was associated in that with a man who was the legislative representative of the United Mine Workers, Gardner Jackson, of Labor's non-Partisan League. He was Gardner Jackson. He came from a wealthy western family and he had been the information officer of the committee formed to defend Sacco and Vanzetti, both of whom were sentenced to death after being accused of a murder in the course of their union activities.

Drew Pearson was then author of the most widely distributed and widely read newspaper column. He was a friend of Jackson's. He had a legman working for him named John Hensa Henshaw. Henshaw went to Jackson with a story about pro-native fascist activity by the Dies Committee. Jackson asked me to look into it. Henshaw introduced me to one David Dubois Mayne, who was the Washington representative of the native fascist outfit of William Dudley Pelley, the Silver-shirts. Ad Hitler had brown shirts.

From Mayb Maybe I got a number of letters said to have been between Dies and Pelley. Some were photostats in those days long before xeroxing. When I asked Maybe for the originals he said he has them laid aside for his own protection. So, I questioned him before a court reporter and he swore to the truth of what he said and to the genuineness of all the documents I got from him, including those photostats.

With that and with other information we developed that Jackson had a number of pro-labor Congressmen to his home. One was very interested in those Mayne letters and insisted on making a speech on the floor of the House about them. After that speech Dies announced that some of those letters were fakes.

He had me testify before his committee in secret- with nobody else there, and he issued his own distorted and dishonest releases to the press, which did get considerable attention. But because Mayne had sworn to the truthfulness of all he said and to the genuineness of those letters other than get himself publicity and defame Jackson and me Dies could do nothing. If he ever published my testimony I never heard of it.

He decided to go for blood. He insisted that the Department of Justice place criminal charges against Jackson and me-when we had done nothing illegal, nothing wrong in any way. So Dies fogot the Congress to pass a law making it a crime to interfere with - and this word was added during the debates on it, the proper activities of Congressional committees.

It was ex poste facto but that did not keep pressure on the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia from hailing us before a grand jury. He had been nominated for a lifetime job on the federal district court and action on his nomination was held up until he pushed a case against Jackson and me.

Meanwhile, with what Dies was up to pretty clear, I got three women with typewriters to copy for me all the expenses the Dies D Committee had filed throughout its life. They spent three weeks at it. From my work on the Hill I knew those were public records and the clerk of the House could not deny me access.

Among the proofs I got from those expense statements Dies and his gang had filed is that Mayne had been on their payroll when he executed what Dies knew were forgeries, having paid for them to be forged, before that and after that, with his pay listed not as that of an employee but as that of a witness, which he then had not been.

Armed with that I took the grand jury away from the assistant United States Attorney and while it refused to indict Jackson or me it did place two felony charges against Mayne, for false swearing and for getting

money by false pretense.

That was not an easy time for a young man of about twenty-five. It wasn't easy for Dies, either. He had to cop a plea publicly to keep his dirty]worker Mayhe of the native fascist Silvershirts out of jail. Mayhe got two years with the sentence suspended. That was the la least Dies could do for him.

I continued magazine writing and Dies, when he saw me in the capitol, would first-name me and even put his arm around me. As h dis his vice-chairman, Joe Starnes, then a Congressman from Alabama.

I had done nothing wrong and had been cleared by the best of agencies for clearance, a grand jury which had sat for days and inquired in the greatest of detail for days.