The morning of the day Kennedy was to announce his blockade the armed forces shifted from peacetime to wartine? That was Octover22. As James Biglio says in his carefully researched and acclaimed The Presidenty of John F. Kennedy (University Press of Mansas, 1991):

Two days later the Strategic Air Command (SAC) jumped to full -war footing for the first time ever - meaning that 550 nuclear-bo/b carrying B-524s took to the air. Kennedy, HeNamara and the TCS did not know that Gen. Thomas Posers of SAC, without authorization, issued the order "in the clear" instead of in code, enabling the tarteed Soviets to intercept the message. This excessive flaunting of U.S. strategic superiority confrimed the president's and Mc Namara's fears that the military might precipitate a war, (page 203).

It certainly gave the Soviets reason to believe that we were about to drop those nuclear bombs on them and that others would be launched. In turn, that gave them reasom to wonder whether they should try for a nuclear first-strike.

and that would have incinerated the world.