

# JFK Reportedly Refused Summit Talks in '62

By [Name]

Special

MOSCOW, July 29.—President John F. Kennedy turned down a Soviet proposal for a summit meeting with Nikita Khrushchev only four days before he brought the 1962 Cuban missile crisis out into the open, according to Soviet archive material recently published here.

The White House rejection of the summit showed a lack

of desire on the part of the U.S. government and the President personally "to gauge the situation and resolve the problem by peaceful, diplomatic means," a Russian specialist said.

An article in the latest edition of Voprosy Istori (Problems of History), a Soviet monthly, said Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko proposed the summit to Kennedy on

Oct. 18, 1962, during a trip by Gromyko to the United Nations.

The article, written by Gromyko's son Anatoly, an official at the Soviet Institute on the United States, said that at first "the President reacted positively to this proposal."

The only noted that he wanted to consider problems without a formal agenda at such a meeting and without

specific questions to be discussed," the article said.

But that same day Soviet Ambassador Anatoli Dobrynin was told that the White House wanted to postpone the proposed summit. The Americans thought a meeting the following month would have "an un-

likely to bring positive results," the article added.

The article drew extensively on Soviet Foreign Ministry archive material for its analysis.

It was the first of two articles on what the author called "The Caribbean Crisis" and dealt with events leading up to Kennedy's announcement of the discovery of Soviet offensive missiles on Cuba.

Khrushchev was not mentioned by name. The author only referred to "the head of the Soviet government."

Commenting on Washington's response to the Soviet summit proposal, the author said it was difficult to say whether the President himself had been in agreement with it but had been dissuaded, or whether his response had been nothing more than "diplomatic camouflage" used to mask the strengthening of the aggressive course toward the U.S.S.R. and Cuba.