Dear verry, re; On The Brink' Blight Hudch 1 3/19/89

Between innings of the ball game I read the first two pages of the Porlogue and I was reminded of what - told you, that with McGeorge Bundy writing the preface the former with book would be favorable to the U.S. position or not unfavorable to it, I've forgotten which. I found what I regard as confirmation on the first page, their statement that Ahruschev's reaction to our announcement of discovery of the missiles was of shock. On its face, aside from reflecting the attitude I anticipated, this cannot be serious analysis. Serious presents analysis should have led the authors to believe that it is more likely that "hruschev should have been surprised it took so long for them to have been discovered. On the second page they say that, more or less, we were inclined to accept Khruschev's initial offer of a solution. My recollection may be wrong but it is my recollection that the excom and JFK were not then inclined to accept his offer. I think also that given the climate if we'd bee inclined to accept there would have been some kind of rapid indication of it, to prevent what was at any time the clear possibility of a great disaster. So, reminded of its existence by their gootnote, I checked their chronology. From the top there are grave omissions ranging from any reference to what Uuba was saying at the UN about aggressive US acts and even the forecast of the Ray of figs to any single reference to any single US aggressive act except for a very neutral statement of the Bay of Pigs invasion. I skimmed the chronology after this and there is no mention of any aggressive act, not even of Mongoose and the publicly known attempts to assassinate Castro.

Perhaps an instant analysis like this is not dependable but we'll see as $\overline{}$ read the book.

I expect it to be favorable to the positions of U.S. participants in the conference as well as, by and large, earlier and official representations of the U.S. position. This is not to say that I expect their reporting to be inaccurate. But by omissions as those I've indicated can influence the readers' understanding of the history they recount, so also can they by their comments and interpretations and opinions.

9/20/89 After finishing the prologue and beginning the first chapter my feeling that this book is designedly partial to the U.S. position has grown and I'm satisfied it is correct when I come to (page 32):".. what caused the Cuban mi ssile crisis was captured concisely in the following statement (by CBS News):'...the presence of Soviet missiles capable of changing the balance of power...'"

There was no "balance" of power to be changed. It was the imbalance of power heaving in favor of the U.S. that could have been changed then by the presence of those Soviet missiles in Cuba.

There is partisanship in the allegation that it was the presence of those missiles that "caused" the crisis. From the USSR's and I think any genuinely impartial and scholarly point of view it is what as far as I've gone and looked is entirely absent - U.S. gross violations of international law in its agrressive policies and acts against Cuba. Consistent with this belief is the entire absence in the chronology to any act by the U.S. until, only five days before the pay of Pigs invasion this item: "...(JFK) piedges the U.S. will not intervene militarily to overthrow Castro." Four days later Castro's mobilization order and announcement that the US plans an invasion and the day after that the invasion. (This gets back to the total absence here and in anything I've read at any time on the crisis of any reference to what 'uba was alleging, especially regularly at the UN. The flay of figs and what preseeded it; missing in this chrohonolgy the U.S. air attacks on 'uba intended to wipe its small air force out.)

The authors' classifications of doves and hawks is subject to question and there are some he does not classify as either, like Bundy and "usk, who they say bent their efforts toward preventing hasty action. The first "hasty" action that was prevented is what brought the world to the brink of self-destruction because there were genuine doves, not only those gung ho! for an invasion of "uba or aerial attacks on it. Adlai Stevenson correctly understood the actualities of the situation and his proposed solution, as ' now recall is, was in essence the ultimate solution. He was attacked viciously for this and among those attacking and their associates and like-minded never recovered his reputation. Then CIA head John AcCone held a similar view initil it was changed, ' presume under peer and CIA bureaucrat pressure. If these two are considered doves then the hawks are Bundy and "usk.It is only by comparison with those who wanted to launch a war immediately that those two can be considered dovish.

Cortainly at the beginning of a book intended to enlighten on that grave crisis there ought be some mention of the extraordinary acts of the Eisenhower administration, particularly the truly esceptional act of breaking relations only 17 days before the new administration took office. It without question boxed the new administration into the policies and acts of the outgoing administration, eliminated all other options that culd be considered by the incoming administration.

Which no chron item for the last two years of the outgoing administation - the first is Batista's fall and the seond and only other item, Cuba's announcement of its alignment with the USSR - the uninformed or unthinking read's not aware of all that the U.S. was and had been doing; its effort to bankrupy Cuba while bleeding it economically, with the refusal of the US poil companies with refineries in Cuba to handle crude Cuba was buying form others at enormously less that the US coprorations were charging, the straw that broke Cuba's economic back not even indicated. That is what triggered what also is omitted, Cuba's nationalizations, particularly of the refineries.

No matter how fairly the authors treat the conference they begin with unscholarly and I think intellectually dishonest partisanship in favor the U.S. position that is represented by the U.W. participants. They begin in a manner calculated to impose their partisanship on readers and on interpretations that can of will be made of their recollections of that crisis and their positions and arguments of that period.

I noticed also that the chronology does not include the professional historians account, Schlesinger's, or any of the daily papers', like the New York Times. (page 371) "t also does not include the earlier wiritings of some of those whose books it did use, like Hilsman's. I do not recall that what he wrote for the mass circulation Look magazine, which distributed more than 7,000,000 copies but I do suggest that his and other such much earlier accounts could have differed from accounts prepared later and after much thought some of which could have been self-serving. From the time McCone changed his position my belief, based on what I recall from that period, is that nome, not a single one, really served the 'resident well; that nome was willing to consider the realities, international law (which way violated even by the "quarantien") or any solution not based on U.S. power and the willigness to use it.

Given the significance it was to assume I think there should have been some exposition of what is "defensive" and what is "offensive" - of how the US could claims that our missiles in Turkey (the authors refer to them as NaTO's, not ours), right on the USSR's borders, are only defensive while those in Cuba are only offensive. (This was a amjor factor in what the US said in public and what was argued in private. It was a major argument when no part of the press even questioned anything the government said and in fact argued that what we do is defensive and what the USSR does, not matter how identical, is offensive.) I think that such omissions in preparing the reader and scholars of the future to understand the discussion4 and that part of history reflect authors prejudices in favor of the US position, something less than intended impartiality and detachment in their approach.

I am not going to make notes on the entire book. I'm stopping at the end of the first session, page 45. What I have in mind is showing students two things in particular, that on the basis of quite meager evidence it is possible to make instant analyses that are accurate (as I did as soon as I saw McNamara foreword on the dust jacket) and that first-rank authorities often fair in simple analyses because of their own personal involvements and positions they have taken in the past.

Bearing on what I've told you in the past is a more passing reference to the fact that admiral anderson said in September, the month before the crisis, that the USSR was putting missles in Cuba. (27)

By the time I got to page 34 I was satisfied that not one of the participants was trying to think as Khruschev thought, tried to assess his problems as he, not they, saw them or to understand (this purposes as he, not they, saw this purposes. All of their thinking, all of their comment, is in terms of U.S. perceptions, including of his problems and his purposes.

Taubman, in casting about in his thinking about Khruschev's objectives did include "defending Cuba," McNamara dat, again in passing, did admit that this could have been a "secondary" objective (he evaluated the earlier Berlin crisis as a main cause), and Garthoff acknowledged that this (i.e., a secondary objective) "is true to some extent" and a "secondary consideration and a later consideration" to Justify" what he did," but none of them indicate any belief that Khruschev's real objectivem was, in their words, to "fefend" Cuba against U.S. attack. They do not a some in the Min Min good in the source.

This gets to what I regard as a fundamental disponesty p the omission of known and relevant factors. You noted one on page 47, alongside Chayes' comment that the decision to put missiles in Caba was made in May of Jone of 1962 - Moongoose was earlier, of that March. However, there is no mention of Mongoose in the chronology and there to this point there has not been any mention of it by any participant in the conference. Nor has any participant made any reference to any act, particularly any provocative or aggréssive act, by the U.S. Two only are noted in the chronology.

Their reasoning ignores what is in the chronology, Castro's July 27, 1962 statement that Cuba was taking measures that would make any attack on it the equivalent of a world war. (I note that his intelligence was good enough for him to have mobilized the day before the Bay of Pigs invasion, as the chronology does reflect.)

These participants are still thinking in terms of justifying U.S. actions that could have virtually ended the world. They are not thinking in terms of learning so that any such catastrophe mingt be avoided in the future. And to this point in their conference they are all, each and every one of them, incapable of putting themselves in the position of their adversary and trying to think as he would have thought, trying to perceive his objectives as he might have perceived them.

In even small details they are less than forthright and they allege we were deceived by the U.SR which allegedly said it would not introduce offensive weapons. There is more mention of Gromyko's meeting with JFK on the eve of the crisis. I recall it quite well. He said that the USSR was providing Cuba with only defensive weapons. JFK and others later said this was deliberate deception because the missiles were offensive. Yhey used this to inflame our people. I think the participants steer away from this because it cannot be argued that our missiles on the USSR's borders are defensive while their missiles near us are only offensive. Our government had to deceive and mislead the people because the crisis was the consequence of U.S. injtiatives, provocative and aggressive.

While there is some reference to the Berlin crisis there is not a single word that reflects what caused it and there is no effort made at even this late date to understand why "hruschev took that step. There is no indication from the conferees that JFK went to

his conference with Khruschev determined to heed his advisers and show Khruschev just how tough he and we were - the only thing the USSR understood, in the conventional wisdom. Nor was there any indication of our side expecting any reaction to the deliberate drain from East Germany of its more skilled people, an economic disaster for it that was ended by the wall.

In a sense reading these selections from this first session is frightening because it really says that after 25 years our supposed best brains still did not really understand what had happened, what had caused it or how such a frightful crisis might again be created.

another comment on participant partiality and dishonesty: "quarantine." There is no sich thing under international law. It is a title invented to circumvent the gact that a blockade, which is what it really was, f is an act of war.

The Soviets had as much legal right to place missiles in Cuba as we did to place them anywehere outside our own borders. They had a legal right to place them in "uba. We did not have a legal right to blockade Cuba. And that blockade was an act of war. There is no discussion of this. Until the second session reference is to the alleged quarantine. The second session begins with any honest reference to it, still without duscission, as an blockade.

3/23/89 After speaking to you yesterday I skipped Huild immediately to Chapter 5 on the Cambridge conference. It is entirely different for two reasons; the remarkable forthrightness and openness of the USSR's

people and the greatly increased honesty by the Americans who were less inclined to justify themselves although they still did to a great degree. At the end although the US delegation had moved much toward a full understanding of the crisis and what led to it they still have not been able to forumate and articulate even to thmselves any basic recognition of US responsibility for it. The still cling to the self-deception that Ahruschev's adventuriam, the word taken from Mikoyan, is what really caused it. There still was not a word on US policy and acts that at the least triggered what hruschev did. For example, on page 289, Nye blames that crisis on "unclear communication of interests with a gambling man." There was no such unclear communication from the other side and there was none at all by our side. There was no mention at all of the obliga-tions Khruschev had with Castro. Yet in even this pathetically inadequate (I think to the point of dishonesty) of the chronology, its first 1962 item is the OAS action against Cuba for which the US was entirely responsible. Next is JFK declaration of an embargo against uba. Then what is not relevant if the Kinkxwells was not aware of it then, the May item that thruschev was considering putting missiles in Cuba . (but in this regard, the US participants knew that two months earlier we had started Mongoose); then the "uban delegation to Moscow, which I'm sure is not the first knowledge the US had that Castro was seeking helpsfrom the USSR (July); and then Castro's July 27 statement that "Cuba was taking measures that would make any direct attack on Cuba the equivalent of a world war." If this were all, and it is far from all, what further "communication of interests" did the US need? Yet without any dissent from any US particppant Nye concludes with the this childish self-justification and again keys that to Khruschev's alleged character. Dur side still did not face the realities of what our side was responsible for.

I found gddituonal confirmation of the accuracy of my contemporaneous analysis in what was said, particularly by the USSR people. I was quite correct in my belief that Abruschev was not trusting his own diplomacy to handle what he started. Dobrynin did not know a thing about it. I thought that was clear at the time and I was satisfied when we learned that Khruschev had gotten his own mna, I then presumed KGB, to mkae his offer through John Scali. They could not have salected a less imaginative, more orthodox US attitude than Scali's. When I read the article he wrote on this I was impressed that even then he didn't understand what he'd been involved in.

Burlatsky mass says on 229 what I've been saying for years, that in all armaments the USER was only keeping up with the Joneses and was not taking leads or initiatives. It was only catching up.

I found his opinion on why Khruschev did what he did more suitable for a play or a novel and he attributes it to nuclear parity, without asking himself what the US response would be. He knew perfectly what what the range of US responses could be and he was right. He knew also, I am sure, that the US could have launched a war, perhaps even missiles, but that it would not. Murlatsky is sure that this business was not discussed with the fraesidium (235)and had discussed it with "maybe two, Malinovaky and Hikoyan." He does make this one passing reference to their "pesponsibilities to the Cubans, especially after the Pay of Pigs." But even then he could not see how the successful outcome of what "hruschev launched could lead to detente. Even after it did! Mikoyan says the same thing (239) and that the main purpose "was the defense of Cuba."

I was correct also in believing that Khruschev did not intend for his missiles to be used. (241) Mikoyan says, "Well, the idea was that their very existence would deter am American invasion. If would not be necessary to lauch them." This is true and it worked that way.

What Shaknazarov says about the causes (257) also confirms what I had believed, and no US participant disputed that it was the US attitudem policies and acts.

That even "ikoyan lacked full understanding is reflected in what the says about warheads in Euba. I am aware that he is quoted from the recent Moscow conference as saying warh eads were there but here it is only a biel belief for which he had no proof at all. He has said that "surely" there were warheads there. Burlatsky says, "I'm not so sure. Who told you?" Mikoyan's response is "Well, it would have been senseless to have missiles there and but no warheads." Taubman then reflects a glimmer of understanding that he does not carry forward. (Nor does any other US participant!): "No, it wouldn't. It could have been a bluff." But look at the logic. There would be no point -" he is interrupted by (U.J. r.p.) Lebow, "Not necessarily; if we believed there were warheads there, then you would have the deterrent value of the missiles." When "ikoyan says only that"I am sure there were warheads there "Burlatsky asks why, says it is opinion only and "I am sure we did not (his emphasis) have warheads in Cuba." When McNamara sy says that without warheads they'd run all the risks, Nye disagrees and points out "There's one risk they wouldn't run, though#, Bob, and that is the risk of an inadvertent muclear launch." (274) Apparently nobody recalled what hhruschev had earlier said on this, patricularly about a madman. And the rest of this discussion established that there was no control against accidental or irresponsible launch of USSR milliles.

That the USSR participants were not aware of whether or not there were warheads indicates strongly the exceptional degree #2 which Khruschev kept what he was doing secret. He didn't even trust his own side in any area, from being able to proceed with his plan to keeping it secret. Contrary to the general of the such as McNamaraks in his clesing statement, or the importance of keeping the other side fully informed, and as a generality for today perhaps he is right, even with the Reagans and Bushes we spew up, I think the exact opposite was true in 1962 and that it was only the secrecy and control that led to the successful end of that crisis.

I don't recall any single reference to or arknowledgement of by any US participants of what the US was and had been doing that motivated khrischev.xNextorries Shaknaza rov goes into some of these causes on 257 and no US participant has anything to say about it. Or, for all the progress in their thinking and understanding, they still were not willing to try to cofront the realities and their responsibilities of that terrible days.

The sixth and last chapter, the end of the book, is not a fair or impartial summary or, analysis of the conference so unprecedented in its nature and content. It rather is a continuation of the implicit and explicit argument that by and large the U.S. position and conduct were correct and that the Excom's deliberations were rational and reasonable. The authors are so biased, I think so unscholarly, that toward the end of the part of this chapter preceeding the subsection "The Conduct and Resolution of the Crisis" the refer to the "mendacity of the Soviet deployment." What in the deployment the USSR was untruthful or lied about is not stated and the reason is that it cannot be stated. The USSR made no statement about it until Khruschev later stated his reasons and that they are valid reasons is established by the fact that they are his first offer of settlement and the enhancement of his offer in the US proposal that was the settlement. Suppose, in considering this, that the U.S. had immediately accepted his offer to withdraw the missiles if the US guaranteed not to invade Guba? Had he any other objective, would he not have lost it by his own offer? And did the US not enhance it, a matter to here not referred to, by extending the guarantee to protect Cuba against any invasion, a promise the USSR itself could not make and keep? Is it not entirely unscholarly and violently biased to infer that USSR missiles in "uba are offensive and the US's in Turkey are defensive? So, wherein is this alleged mendacity? And how impartial is their analysis and comment when their own chronology for 1961 states that only five days before the Day of Pigs invasion JFK "pledges the U.S. will not intervene militorial to overthrow "astro? How impartial are they when I've seen no reference to Mongoose or to any US plot to assassinate Castro?

Not to mark the book up, I've copied the first few pages of this chapter and made a few notes some of which may not be fullt legible. I add a few comments to them.

As the Excom before had not, the US participants have not, on their own, considered that defense of Cuba was khruschev's motive in putting missiles in Cuba. They have not on their own acknowledged that what is right for the US under international law is also right for the USSR. Instead they actually argue against this and draw on sources of obvious partiality to advance their argument.

There is no assessment of the rationality of the reasons, conjectured reasons by the US, for anyone risking a nuclear holocaust for these conjectured reasons. With Like the lang-past Berlin crisis or domestic considerations for the USSR (which, incidentally, the USSR participants moted were the opposite of reality. Khruschev was then stronger at home than he had ever been.)

They repeatedly emphasize questions of Khruschev's rationality and although without access to the full transcript of the conversations we cannot know all that was said, it appears to me that their selections are designed, as I fult as soon as I saw that Bundy contributed the foreword, to support the US position and the Excom and its deliberations and advice.

They even argue that the US planned to invade Cuba because it had no such intentions. Again, no mention of Mongoose or of Congressional hearings while they draw on such partisan sources as Horelick and Ulam.

Their "eight dominant theories" of the cause of the **grisis** appear on 293-4. and in the assessment of them they do not mention "thruschev's first proposal or the agreedto settlement. What actually happened is not relevant but the ludicrous, the fifth "reason," is "to restore Soviet preeminence in the socialist world" and the sixth, to "boost the morale and prestige if the Soviet bloc" is.

Students may not know enough to be able to evaluate bias and faithfulness on page 306 but I think it is biased and unfaithful to fact, largerly in what it is not honest evough to state and instead infers. Kennedy's speech was 10/22. "When Khruschev finally repoded..." the authors say. Finally when at most there was only a day, perhaps only part of a day, between Kennedy's speech and his response? The next sentence referring to his response employs such words as "salvo" and "barrage." It implies that what "hruschev

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missile crisis better than in any other event since 1941. Now, this is in part a tribute to the candor of the commentary, but it is also an indication There is so much important detail to know that we've never even dreamed about. I hope this meeting is symptomatic of a real opportunity shocked Britain and France into an understanding which helped lay the groundwork for a later alliance; I hope we can learn a lot more about by the way, which I think has been central to U.S.-Soviet conflict standings and ease international tensions. The more we know about the portant Cold War events as well. I noted this morning how Fashoda through most of the postwar period-so that we can reduce misundernot only to learn about the Cuban missile crisis, but about other imof how little we really know about Soviet decisionmaking in general. this and other important events-especially about the German issue, history of our relationship, the better off we are all going to be.

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If this is what glasnost means, then I think it bodes very well not only for the better understanding of history but also for the future of U.S.-Soviet relations. . . . Let me congratulate you all for a job exceedingly NYE: ... [This] has been an extraordinarily useful and exciting day. well done. Thank you all for coming. [Applause.]

CHAPTER

October Revolution Another

missile crisis. The meeting shed a great deal of light on such perplexing $p_{t} + p_{t} + p_$ issues as the Soviet decision to deploy missiles in Cuba, the conduct of $\int V - U C$ niversary of the revolution that brought the Bolsheviks to power in Russia, and almost exactly on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Cuban missile crisis, another October revolution took place in a small conference room in Cambridge, Massachusetts-this time, a revolution in the crisis from the Soviet perspective, and the scope and implications of U.S. and Soviet misunderstandings about one another's motives and gation of issues central to the key interests of the superpowers, and to the problems of war and peace in the nuclear age. In October 1987, "the weather turned around"-unexpectedly, as usual-with a heady The poet Dylan Thomas remembered October as the month in Wales intentions. It also represented a serious, honest, cooperative investiwhen "the weather turned around."1 On the eve of the seventieth anblast of glasnost.

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14/20mszally disparagingly call an "adventurist" act.² Sergo Mikoyan then method. $\int_{V} \int_{V} V V V$ ically described the Soviet decisionmaking process that the method. $\int_{V} V V V V V$ ically described the Soviet decisionmaking process that led to the em- $\chi = \chi^{(1)} \sqrt{N^{(1)}}$ had a very poor understanding of the likely American response, that in $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ fact Khrushchev took unnecessary ricks and the sponse, that in $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ fact Khrushchev took unnecessary risks, and that many in the Soviet $\int_{1}^{1} \int_{1}^{2} \sqrt{N}$. Union regarded the emplacement of missilar in 2. Fyodor Burlatsky set the tone for the rest of the conference in his $V_{i}^{\mathbf{f}}$ ing. Burlatsky took the position that Khrushchev may have put the frank response to Ernest May's long list of questions on Monday morn-

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At the Cambridge meeting, for the first time on record, knowledgeable At the Cambridge meeting, for the first time on record, knowledgeable At the Cambridge meeting, for the first time on record, knowledgeable Soviets accepted a share in the responsibility for causing the crisis. They also listened with some astonishment as former close associates of Pres-port both Soviets and Americans were the many revelations of misund-to disaster. A new kind of conver-tion disaster. A new kind of convershchev's motivations. To summarize, he may have intended for missiles to gain from such a move. In so doing, they shed light on a debate that has preoccupied Western scholars of the crisis since 1962, and which In Chapter 2, we briefly discuss eight dominant theories of Khruway. Coam hu ornets any first reprinducting and phelo it til m the hirs's R. Im put they in write of the left griter a grimt court mouthing the causes of the Cases we prevend a struct of cut and the take on the reprinduction of the cases of the cases and that the mouth of the mouthing of the cases of the cases of the cases of the causes of the cases of the cases of the cases and the take of the reprinduction of the cases of the cases and the cases of the causes of the cases of the case of the cases of the case of the case of the cases of the case of the cases of the case of the case of the cases of the cases of the cases of the case of Khrushchev's decision was clearly a necessary cause of the crisis. At the thing about the matter undertook to explain what Khrushchev sought Khrushchev had not decided to deploy missiles in Cuba. In that sense, Cambridge conference, Soviets who were in a position to know somequidate the Castro regime. Kennedy was not persuaded. "I think you of Pigs invasion and subsequent American attempts to isolate and lihe meant they were to serve as a deterrent. His point, however, could not be missed: that the ultimate cause of the crisis was the abortive Bay an aggressor."9 When Khrushchev spoke of the missiles as "defensive," peace and to stable relations between our two nations."8 Khrushchev replied "that the armaments which are in Cuba, regardless of the classification to which they may belong, are intended solely for defensive purposes in order to secure the Republic of Cuba against the attack of and eliminate this clandestine, reckless and provocative threat to world forceful, indignant tones, the President called upon Khrushchev "to halt first time outside the Soviet Union," Kennedy went on, represented "a deliberately provocative and unjustified change in the status quo."7 In ship to the United States and the nations of the Western Hemisphere." "This sudden, clandestine decision to station strategic weapons for the missiles in an area well known to have a special and historical relationwas inconclusively repeated at Hawk's Cay.¹¹ Another October Revolution art of here an and the second s

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using American sources, it never once discusses decisionmaking in the tional Soviet analyses of the crisis, the best known of which-Anatoly Though it discusses decisionmaking in the ExComm at some length, scholars and policymakers for a quarter of a century.³ For the members of the ExComm present, this was heady enough; it was all the more shocking to the scholars in the room who were familiar with the tradi-Gromyko's The Caribbean Crisis-is vague and defensive in tone. puzzles about the Soviet side of the crisis that have perplexed American the help of Burlatsky and Shaknazarov, he shed light on many lingering had with Khrushchev during their private walks in the Lenin Hills; he frankly told the story of the delicate negotiations between the Soviet and Cuban governments before, during, and after the crisis; and with plement the deployment; he related the conversations his father had Deputy Premier Anastas I. Mikoyan. He revealed for the first time the names of those in Khrushchev's inner circle who helped plan and im-

the repeated warnings of both the executive and legislative branches of Theodore Sorensen, and Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., blame the Soviets for sive base in America's back yard, in flagrant defiance of the interests and wishes of the inter-American system, the Monroe Doctrine, and as Turkey, Italy, and Great Britain.⁵ Similarly, the best-known Amerdeceitfully, cynically, and aggressively attempting to establish an offen- M^{3} bases in Cuba that the United States openly enjoyed in countries such Soviet Union the same rights and privileges to ship arms and establish and-not insignificantly-for violating international law and denying the ican accounts of the crisis, including the memoirs of Robert Kennedy, revolution, for relentlessly seeking to overthrow Castro, forcing the instigating a crisis by announcing an unexpected blockade of the island $\int C$ the controntation. In the stock Soviet treatments of the crisis, including x. I Khrushchev's important speech to the Supreme Soviet on December 12, x. Gromyko, the United States is excortated for interfering with the Cuban Soviet Union to take strong measures to protect its new ally, deliberately when it had several opportunities to negotiate peacefully and quietly, Why 1962, his two volumes of memoirs, and the "official" account by Anatoly was revolutionary. A second was that the participants acknowledged that the United States and the Soviet Union shared responsibility for the That the Soviets divulged hard information and officied candid, inhord formed opinion was only one aspect of the Cambridge conference that r Kremlin. In fact, it never even mentions Khrushchev by name.⁴ will be within WAY BU WAYNY My Furth with '. Why Thomasona Whinkin with the training +

22, 1962, the President claimed that the Cuban missile crisis had been caused by "the secret, swift and extraordinary buildup of Communist riography has marched. In his radio and television address of October Kennedy and Khrushchev set the beat to which subsequent histothe American government.⁶

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 $\int_{0}^{\infty} \int_{0}^{\infty} h_{1} h_{1} h_{2} h_{3} h_{4} h_$ accommodate the pressures of hard-liners (Soviet domestic politics II).12 Burlatsky, Mikoyan, and Shaknazarov heavily discounted all but the first two motives. However, they sharply disagreed over whether the Most Americans have dismissed the defense-of-Cuba rationale out of War politics); (7) to bolster his domestic position against hard-liners and his rivals in the Presidium (Soviet domestic politics I); and (8) to defense of Cuba or missile-gap repair was Khrushchev's primary periphery (bargaining chip); (4) to force a favorable settlement in Berlin secure the negotiated withdrawal of American weapons on the Soviet concern. Muy and egue mut tate & ruein HER- P ANTE L L'ILLA PU - MULL CHAN +

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signed exclusively to help him save face.14 Arnold Horelick wrote: "To hand, in part because it was the only rationale which enabled Khrushchev to claim a measure of success from the ultimate resolution of the crisis. And there is no doubt that Khrushchev squeezed as much as short of declaring that the resolution of the crisis was a victory for the Soviet Union and a defeat for the United States.13 Adam Ulam called Khrushchev's claim that he was only interested in defending Cuba "laughable," a vain and pitiful post-hoc reconstruction of events de-Wregard the outcome of the Cuban missile crisis as coinciding in any salvage of a shipwreck for brilliant navigation."¹⁵ Michel Tatu declared: with "It is safe to ignore the reason consistently adduced by Khrushchev, he possibly could from Kennedy's promise not to invade the island, in wir my til in THAT HE WILL а. З N N 1. Jim unin

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WW WW the tale in a way which made the defense-of-Cuba hypothesis appear WWW both plausible and persuasive. The United States had allochesis appear which we topple Castro by summing the United States had allochesis appear W W Certainly, both Khrushchev's and Anatoly Gromyko's accounts read Kennedy began calling up reservists, the Marines prepared to exercise shchev also thought Kennedy weak and easily pressured into action by hard-liners in the CIA and the Pentagon, who no doubt were maneuwhy vering him closer to an invasion every day. The OAS meeting at Punta del Este, at which Cuba was formally expelled, seemed to Khrushchev to be the diplomatic prelude to the liquidation of the Castro regime.¹⁷ As if to confirm Khrushchev's worst fears, as summer turned to fall by with mamely, that he wished to defend Castro and him alone." 9 y why while 4 WY

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uvation. Both Burlatsky and Shaknazarov believed his main intent was the hidden until Roswell Gilpatric's speech of October 1961. Khrushchev himself let down his guard—once—and admitted that this was indeed on his mind. "In addition to protecting Cuba," he wrote in his memoirs, "our missiles would have equalized what the West likes to call 'the balance of power.' "20 Burlatsky's statement that the missile deployment L'unfold. The political costs of "losing Cuba" must have seemed every the bit as unpalatable to the Soviets as the political costs of "losing Korea" or "losing Vietnam" seemed to one earlier and one later American Administration. No doubt, equally bold action would have seemed jusin which Khrushchev proclaimed that the one and only reason for the the principal goal, as he saw it, was not achieved; the missiles had to If Khrushchev had been convinced that an American invasion of Cuba this would have been an entirely understandable if mistaken conviction¹⁸—he could hardly afford to sit on the sidelines and watch it tified to prevent it.¹⁹ But even though all three Soviets at the Cambridge conference agreed that Khrushchev was concerned with deterring an American invasion, they could not agree that this was his primary motivation. Both Burlatsky and Shaknazarov believed his main intent was was undertaken mainly to repair the strategic imbalance is ironic; for Burlatsky played a major role in drafting the December 12, 1962, speech missile deployment was to defend Cuba against American aggression. His revised account, of course, requires him to acknowledge now that and Congress passed a resolution authorizing the President to take milwas inevitable—and as McNamara noted at the Cambridge meeting, itary action against Cuba, if necessary, to protect American interests. be withdrawn, leaving the Soviets no closer to parity than before. מיומנארח טר ני גוויו איצאין הומנ אומי influmine with 11 V 21 V a +1 nel. In The MAN ULU

perity?"21 The U.S., he said, "is pulling Turkey deeper and deeper into The speeches Khrushchev gave in Bulgaria in May, which Burlatsky these speeches concerned the presence of American Jupiter missiles in Turkey, Bulgaria's neighbor on the Black Sea. In Varna on May 16, 1962, Khrushchev asked, "Would it not be better if the shores on which are located NATO's military bases and the launching sites for their armed rockets were converted into areas of peaceful labor and prosthe coils of the NATO military alliance."²² Later, on May 19 in Sofia, Khrushchev responded angrily to President Kennedy's comment that he might "take the initiative in a nuclear conflict with the Soviet Union," replying, "Anyone who dared unleash a military conflict of that kind would receive a shattering retaliatory blow using all the very latest weapons of war. The Socialist camp, the Soviet Union, possesses these helped to write, reveal a preoccupation with nuclear issues. In particular

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said is without basis in fact but it was quite solidly based and was completely accurate. The US did "violate" the UN charter and international norms, including freedom of navigation. Thereafter the authors refer to the "quarantine" but they never say that under international law there is no such thing, that it was an invented description to avoid what it actually was, a "blockafe" and that does violate law and norms. Pravda"s headlines, to the authors, " screamed." It is "ominous" to them that Khruschev denounced the "quarantine" as "banditry" but they do not addresss whether or not, under international law, it was this. They thereby imply that once again Khrischev was wrong and irrational and the US was right in what it did. To make this appear to be so and once again to say that the UK "won" the crisis, they quote Rick on blinking. To further this misrepresentation they still make no reference to the final solution.

To me this is not scholarship. It is propaganda guised as scholarship.

They continue to argue and misrepresent in their interpretations. On Khruschev's response to JFK's letter of the 25the, in which he describes the consequences of the two wars in which he fought, they quote Khruschev on this extensively but when they get to his proposal for a settlement they do not quote. They describe it was as "vague" without saying how. There is no vagueness in their own paraphrase of it:"the missiles in Cuba would be withdrawn in return for an American pledge not to invade Cuba." They say there are "terms Kennedy and the Excom could accept." Only they didn't! which they do not say. (Earlier they regresented that JFK did not have enough time but Khruschev's long letter was the next day and by the next day JFK had not even indicated this was a proposal that clud be discussed. Then they continue to argue that what he got was not what hruschev wanted but that "it seems (he) had made up his mind that securing one of his goals-the defense of Cuba - was all he could reasonably hope for..." They have built throughout on their selections and arguments that this was not Khruschev's objective, then maybe it was a secondary pbjective, and now they have him backing down so they could represent a US victory and up with the Excom!.

There is no end to the double-standard scholarship. On page 309 they lament that "...whenJohn Scali was sent to ask Aleksander Fomin why the (acceptable) proposal of July 26 had been superceded by the missile-trade proposal before the President had even had a chance to reply," this is the same time lag -or more- than led them to say that when he replied overnight Khruschev had "finally" replied. They say "acceptale" but the fact is that it was not accepted nor was Khruschev given even a hint that it was being considered. Later on this page they refer to "an American non-invasion pledge," of which there had not been any. As though to imply that there had been one they have a footnote, but that footnote could have been in the text, without another footnote, because it only refers to page 254, where there is no citation of any such pledge. They could say, of course, that they had something else in mind, like the discussion of the missle-swap proposal. And stillhaving made no reference to the ultimate solution, they quote Mighael Tatu as saying this was "the most important Soviet blunder" when in fact it resulted in greater guarantees than the USSN had demanded. Which they still have not reported or commented on. Or, nothing fails like success to scholars.

This section headed "resolution" in fact has not a single word to say about that resolution, to which I've referred as its solution. It continues to arge, slants and twists fact to argue, and blames Khruschev for mistakes when he succeeded and even says that at the end - which is not once mentioned in any way - he "must have realized that his position was no longer tonable and that further delays were unwarranted." What delay by "hruschey? All he did was sit back and wait for JFK to promise him more than he'd asked for! He sefers to "panic" in Enruschev's small group and says they could not risk solving the ambiguity - which did not exist. Khruschev did nothing after offering the "uba-Turkey missle swap. Not a single thing! He sat, he waited andhe got more than he'd asked for.

Confirming my recollection, however, is their statement that Khrmschev rushed his answer- to what is not even hinted at - to Radio Moscow. I recelled telegraphy. I presume that this was the text of what Khruschev said as it was broadcast by Radio Moscow.

The last section of this chapter is on the education of both leaders. It still does not mention a word about the solution of how it was reached, who formulated it and under what circumstances or even that JFK sent a proposal to Khruschev. This is one hell of a scholarly way to write an entire book on how the world was "On the Brink" of a nuclear holocaust - without a word on the solution that got them away from that gbink. Nor is there a single word on the publicly-known and quite extensive subsequent correspondence between the debrinked leaders. Unless it is in the short Epilogue. They have argued that Whruschev was wrong, irrational, a gmabler, and that we won. So they begin the epilogue by saying that while it is customary to end with a summary of its conclusions they wongt do it. and they don't, although they do argue a bit more.

I think this book will succeed in arguing a preconceieved line and that most of those who read it will not be able to read it criticially or that whose who are equipped will not do so because of its pretended evenness and avgidance of blaming.

I've at several points alleged dishonesty and I am aware that others may not agree. I note that the book entirely avoids any mention of what happened after they allege the terrible blunger Khruschev in offering the missle swap and 1 say that this cannot be regarded as honest, whether or not it was discussed at Lambridge because lagge sections from at best dubious sources are quoted throughout, and they were not quoted from the Cambridge conference. There is nothing I can see compatible with honesty or the intent to try to be honest that permits writing a book about that crisis without a single word on how it was solved, how it ended/-

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