

Dear Paul,

3/7/98

Thanks for your card and your note of the 4th, along with the Miami Herald Bay of Pigs report story and the page on the Kennedy tapes.

It is possible the Herald delayed the story long enough to get and read the report for itself. If that is not true, that record is much better than the record of the Washington Post, which has done no story on it at all! Is it not to wonder why? *(AP did write a story that was in our local paper.)*

What the editors wrote about Cerona and the U-2, alleging secrecy for the latter, is incorrect. The USSR knew all about it, as the CIA knew. You find this in detail in a book by Dino Brugioni, who was with the ^{U-2} NPIC. I think the title is *(CIA Eye'd all in Eye Ball)* Cuba on the "rink but I'm not sure ^{as} I am of the author's name.

Some years ago I'd planned a book, Tiger to Ride, and when I did not get to writing it, loaned the research to a young friend for a college thesis. He did not return all of it but what he did return I still have. Only it is not organized as I'd had it. I did make my own analysis of The Bay of Pigs and in the Herald story I find a little I take to confirm what I'd believed. It quotes Bissell as saying "that 'there was solid ~~evidence~~ reason to believe that it had a good chance of at least initial success." Now, what kind of success is only "initial" success if no more than that means getting beaten?

My belief always was that the CIA hope only for a beachhead it could hold long enough to proclaim recognition of a government in exile. That ~~was~~ ^{would} have been possible if the re had been only "initial" success.

There was no ~~chance~~ ^{against Castro} chance at all of any general uprising, no chance at all with the vast changes he had brought about for the ordinary people that they wanted him out, replaced.

Maybe those right-wing nuts in the CIA expected what they wanted to happen but there was no chance of it and no decent analyst would have considered it at all possible. They just hoped and wanted their hope to become the reality, ^{but} ~~as~~ with the vast changes for the average Cuban there was no possibility at all,

Power can lead to enormous self-deceptions. Such as expecting an uprising in Cuba. For all the hardships they are now suffering I doubt that there is much possibility of it now. In the Operation "Goose papers and commentary on it, it was recognized then that there would not be any such uprising, and any US invasion was to have been only if there was such an uprising and ^{it} looked as though it might grow into something.

Just before Kennedy was killed he had approved an effort to see if there could be a way for us to get along with them. He was to have met on that with his emissary on that project, ~~ambassador~~ William Attwood. But when JFK got