

Phila. Inquirer 1/5/92

# Kennedy-Khrushchev letters to be released

By George Gedda  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. and Russian governments are preparing to release key letters President John F. Kennedy and Soviet leader Nikita S. Khrushchev sent to each other in the aftermath of the 1962 Cuban missile crisis, U.S. and private sources said last week.

It was not clear whether the letters' release would be simultaneous. "We're in the final stretches," a U.S. official said Thursday, commenting on the preparations for making the documents public.

The official, asking not to be identified, said the Kennedy letters may contain some clarifications of the agreements Moscow and Washington reached in late October 1962 when the crisis was resolved.

No other conflict during the post-World War II era brought the two superpowers closer to nuclear war than the crisis that grew out of the Soviet decision to deploy offensive nuclear weapons in Cuba.

A week of unprecedented international tension ended when Khrushchev agreed to dismantle Soviet mis-

siles in Cuba in return for a promise by Kennedy not to invade Cuba. Kennedy also agreed to call off a U.S. blockade of the island.

At issue are several Kennedy letters to Khrushchev that were sent between Nov. 3 and Dec. 14. One official said some of the letters had remained classified because they contained references to Berlin, a major point of U.S.-Soviet contention during that period.

Officials said the government's decision to release the Kennedy letters was linked to a long-planned conference on the missile crisis the Cuban government is holding in Havana starting Thursday. U.S., Soviet and Cuban officials who participated in the crisis are scheduled to attend.

Among the expected participants is Cuban President Fidel Castro, who was outraged by Khrushchev's decision to withdraw the missiles without consulting him first.

Philip Brenner of American University has been seeking release of the Kennedy letters for some time, and officials acknowledged that his efforts influenced the administration's decision to make them public.

**NEW JERSEY Burlington County BURLINGTON TOWNSHIP** Burlington Presbyterian Chu  
9:30 am Wednesday 7:00 pm Thursday 12:00 pm Thursday 7:00 pm \* Friday 9:30 am Saturday 9:30 am ▶ Saturday  
Thursday 8:30 pm **WILLINGBORO** Willingboro Towne Center formerly Village Mall Route 130 North (inside main entrance) Mond  
7:30 pm **CAMDEN** Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital 1600 Haddon Avenue Room 127 (main entrance) Thursday 8:30 pm **CHERRY P**  
Friday 10:00 am St. Michael's Lutheran Church 801 N. Kings Hwy & Chapel Avenue (rear entrance on ground floor, parking in the rear) 1  
to Steps) Sunday 9:30 am Monday 12:00 pm Monday 8:00 pm \* Tuesday 9:30 am Tuesday 7:00 pm Wednesday 9:30 am Wed  
**EIGHTHS** Ascension Lutheran Church Rte 30 at Clements Bridge Rd. Monday 12:30 pm Monday 7:30 pm Wednesday 7:30 pm **PE**  
Tuesday 7:00 pm **Gl**