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NYT

'61 PRESSURE TO KILL CASTRO IS REPORTED

Special to The New York Times,
WASHINGTON, Jan. 10 — President Kennedy told a reporter in a private conversation in November, 1961, that he was under great pressure from intelligence advisers to order the assassination of Premier Fidel Castro of Cuba, according to an article in the February issue of Esquire magazine.

According to the article, President Kennedy said that he violently opposed such an order since for moral reasons the United States would never take part in political assassinations.

The author of the article, Tad Szulc, then a diplomatic correspondent of The New York Times, said that Mr. Kennedy had described the pressure to him in a private conversation seven months after the unsuccessful Bay of Pigs invasion.

Reached by telephone tonight, Mr. Szulc said that he had been invited to the White House at the suggestion of the President's brother, Robert F. Kennedy, then Attorney-Gen-

eral, to discuss events in Cuba as "a private citizen."

Mr. Szulc, who had reported on the invasion attempt for The Times, said that because of the nature of the conversation, he felt that he could not write about it at that time. "It was a private conversation," he said.

Also present at the meeting, according to Mr. Szulc, was Richard N. Goodwin, a Presidential adviser on Latin America.