

Nikita's Version of Cuban

NEW YORK — (AP) — Nikita Khrushchev in the last installment of the reminiscences attributed to him says the Soviet government in 1962 installed enough missiles in Cuba to destroy New York, Chicago and other American industrial cities, "not to mention a little village like Washington."

But the account, "Khrushchev Remembers: Part IV," in the Dec. 18 issue of Life magazine, says the Soviet aim was to keep the United States from invading Cuba, not to start a war.

The reminiscences also say President John F. Kennedy appealed to Khrushchev to order the missiles removed in the 1962 crisis because he

feared a military takeover in the United States, and that Khrushchev complied only after obtaining assurances there would be no U.S. attempt to invade Cuba.

Triumph Claimed

"The Caribbean crisis was a triumph of Soviet foreign policy and a personal triumph of my own career," Khrushchev is quoted as saying.

In another article in the magazine, an American doctor says Khrushchev told him last year that after Francis Gary Powers' U2 plane was shot down in Soviet territory in 1960, he "was no longer in full control . . . Those who felt America had imperialistic intentions and that m'i-

tary strength was the most important thing had the evidence they needed."

The doctor, McGehee Harvey, director of the Department of Medicine at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, went to the Soviet Union last year for a medical consultation on a member of the Khrushchev family.

The Khrushchev reminiscences say that President Kennedy during the missile crisis sent his brother Robert, then the attorney general, to see Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrinin, and Kennedy told the Ambassador: "The President is in a grave condition and he does not know how to get out of it. We are under pressure from our military to use force against Cuba.

"Even though the President himself is very much against starting a war over Cuba, an irreversible chain of events could occur against his will.

"If the situation continues much longer, the President is not sure that the military

will not overthrow him and seize power. The American army could get out of control."

Remarks

Life commented that "the remarks attributed to Robert Kennedy are extremely unlikely," and Dean Rusk, the Kennedy administration's secretary of state, said yesterday "there was never any question of the army taking

Missiles

power" during the missile crisis.

President Kennedy's death "was a great loss," the reminiscences declare. "He was gifted with the ability to resolve international conflicts by negotiation, as the whole world learned during the so-called Cuban crisis. Regardless of his youth, he was a real statesman. I believe that if Kennedy had lived, re-

lations between the Soviet Union and the United States would be much better than they are. Why do I say that?

Because Kennedy never would have let his country get bogged down in Vietnam."

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