

for defense. I repeat, defense of Cuba. But how are we to react when you've surrounded our country with bases about which your military speak demonstratively. You are alarmed about Cuba because it is only 90 miles from you. However Turkey borders us. You consider that you can demand the removal of aggressive weapons, but you do not recognize our right to have the same concern. These do not tally.

It is a good thing that you have agreed that our representatives should meet. I am entirely supportive of [U Thant] being an intermediary. He is capable of being one.

I propose that we agree to remove from Cuba the means which you consider aggressive. Your representatives would then remove analogous means from Turkey. Let us settle a time for this and then U.N. representatives can control this.

Let us make a statement in the Security Council that the U.S.S.R. will respect the sovereignty of Turkey and not allow its territory to be used for aggression against Turkey. A similar statement within the framework of the Security Council will be made by the United States regarding Cuba.

With this we would of course have to agree on a time limit. Let us do so. But not a long time, two or three weeks or a month. We agree we should send our representatives to the United States. Why do I want this? Because the entire world awaits.

Khrushchev then speaks of disarmament and discontinuance of nuclear tests. He continues [discussing issues] all over the world. All of this would be a good starting point to agree on other controversial questions which would clear the international atmosphere. Such are my proposals. "With respect, Khrushchev."

**McNamara:** How do you interpret the addition of still another condition over and above the letter that came in last night. We had one deal in the letter; now we've got a different deal. And why shouldn't we say—

**Rusk:** And most important, what if Moscow decides this is too much of a setback for them?

**Unidentified:** Shouldn't we point this out in a letter?

**McNamara:** How can we negotiate with somebody who changes his deal before we even get a chance to reply, and announces publicly the deal before we receive it?

**Bundy:** I think there must have been an overruling in Moscow. What does Tommy say?

**Unidentified:** We've got three changes going outside, Bob. We've got three changes, three positions.