NOTE TO CONTROL DIVISION:

Subject: Scheduled Meeting of the Joint Chiefs of Staff with the President at the White House at 1600, Friday, 16 November.

1. At their meeting on 13 November 1962, the Chairman informed the Joint Chiefs of Staff of a scheduled meeting of the Joint Chiefs of Staff with the President at the White House at 1600, Friday, 16 November 1962. The Chairman indicated that the Joint Chiefs of Staff should be prepared to discuss three items with the President as follows:

a. A memorandum which presents the present views of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on Cuba. The Chairman further stated that he believed that such a paper would be more effective if it were taken to the White House and read directly to the President rather than to forward it in accordance with normal administrative procedures. The Chairman indicated that he felt the draft JCSM 393-62 was a good memorandum but might be expanded to examine three other points:

(1) The seriousness of an "assurance". The language should be very carefully examined.

(2) A careful examination of language relative to US reliance on UN or "coalition type" inspection which might result from the denazification proposal.
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(3) The conviction of the Joint Chiefs that the risk of blockade is more than compensated for by the advantages derived therefrom.

b. A composite statement in answer to the President’s question on “how the troops are bearing up under the present readiness condition.” Further, each Chief should be ready to talk to this point regard to his own Service.

c. A JCS paper regarding augmentation of CINPLAN 316. This information is in response to the President’s questions relative to such augmentation.

2. The Joint Chiefs of Staff discussed briefly the difficulty being encountered by the Army in staffing the J-3 report regarding additional forces for CINCLANT CINPLAN 316. The Chairman indicated that if this paper were not ready for consideration on the 14 November JCS Agenda, as scheduled, he would require at least a progress report on the subject for the President by Wednesday.

WALTER M. TURNER
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Assistant Secretary

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