

Gromyko Telegram to Mikoyan

November 10, 1962

Top Secret

Special No. 1037

We are conveying to you the cable from Cdes. Kuznetsov and Zorin from November 9 (No. 2207):

“The representative of Cuba at the UN [Carlos] Lechuga reported that on November 8th U Thant asked him whether the Cuban government would agree to allow the ambassadors of five Latin American countries who are currently in Havana (Brazil, Mexico, Chile, Uruguay, Bolivia), to visit the places where the launching sites for the now-withdrawn Soviet missiles were located. According to U Thant, the five ambassadors would confirm that there are no longer any missiles or any launching equipment at these sites, and then could make a statement to that effect. U Thant supposes that these five ambassadors could act as ‘intermediaries’ in the normalization of relations between the U.S. and Cuba and the entire Cuban missile crisis in general.

“U Thant asked Lechuga to first find out whether this proposal is acceptable to the Cuban leadership. If it is acceptable, U Thant will send Fidel Castro an official letter. Lechuga told U Thant that he will inform his government about the proposal.”

In his conversation with us, Lechuga said that he has not yet received a reply from Havana.

A. Gromyko.

[Source: From the personal archive of Sergo A. Mikoyan donated to the National Security Archive. Translated by Anna Melyakova for the National Security Archive]