

October 28, 1962

**Memorandum from S. P. Ivanov and R. Malinovsky
to N. S. Khrushchev**

Citation:

"Memorandum from S. P. Ivanov and R. Malinovsky to N. S. Khrushchev", October 28, 1962, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Library of Congress, Manuscript Division, Dmitrii Antonovich Volkogonov papers, 1887-1995, mm97083838, reprinted in Cold War International History Bulletin 11. Translated by Raymond Garthoff.
<https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/111757>

Summary:

Malinovsky and S.P. Ivanov report the shooting down of an American aircraft, which had taken surveillance pictures of the disposition of troops on Cuba.

Original Language:

Russian

Contents:

Translation - English

Top Secret Copy No. 2CC CPSU To Comrade N.S. Khrushchev I am reporting: 27 October 1962 a U-2 aircraft entered the territory of Cuba at an altitude of 16,000 meters at 1700 hours Moscow time with the objective of photographing the combat disposition of troops, and in the course of 1 hour 21 minutes proceeded along a flight route over Yaguajay--Ciego de Avila--Camagney--Manzanillo--San Luis--Guantanamo--Preston. With the aim of not permitting the photographs to fall into U.S. hands, at 1820 Moscow time this aircraft was shot down by two anti-aircraft missiles of the 507th Anti-aircraft Missile Regiment at an altitude of 21,000 meters. The aircraft fell in the vicinity of Antilla; a search has been organized. On the same day there were 8 violations of Cuban airspace by U.S. aircraft. R. Malinovsky 28 October 1962 10:45 No. 80819 Attested: Colonel General [signature] S.P. Ivanov 28 October 1962 [illegible notation and additional signatures] [Trans. Note: The text of a subsequent message from Marshal Malinovsky to General Pliyev has not been released, but several Russian sources who are familiar with it note that the Defense Minister only mildly rebuked Pliyev, saying, "You were too hasty," and that political negotiations for a settlement of the crisis were underway. For one account, including quotation of the sentence cited here, see *Na krayu propasti (Karibskii krizis 1962 goda)* [On the Brink: The Caribbean Crisis of 1962], published in 30 copies by the Institute of Military History, Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation, Moscow, 1994, p.113).] [Translated by Raymond Garthoff]"