

Cool Gray Dawn

Season Two, Episode #4: "A Nation of Ghosts"

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Cool Gray Dawn
"A Nation of Ghosts"

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INSERT EXCERPT FROM PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY'S INAUGURATION:
CHIEF JUSTICE EARL WARREN swears in JOHN F. KENNEDY.

WARREN

...Preserve, protect and defend the
Constitution of the United States...

KENNEDY

...Preserve, protect and defend the
Constitution of the United States...

WARREN

So help you God.

KENNEDY

So help me God.

EXT. WASHINGTON, D.C. - SOVIET EMBASSY - DAY

The sign on the gate of the compound reads "Embassy of the
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics" in English and Cyrillic.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE

A photo of Nikita Khrushchev hangs on the wall. YURI GVOZDEV
and DINA, his young, female assistant, watch President Kennedy
address the Inauguration Day crowd on television. (The Two
speak Russian.)

KENNEDY (O.S.)

'The world is very different now.
For man holds in his mortal hands
the power to abolish all forms of
human poverty and all forms of
human life...'

CROSSCUT KENNEDY'S ADDRESS WITH GVOZDEV AND DINA

DINA

On ochen' molod.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "He's very young."

GVOZDEV

Eto vse, chto vy vidite, Dina?

INSERT TRANSLATION: "That's all you see, Dina?"

Dina smiles sheepishly and lights an unfiltered cigarette.

KENNEDY (O.S.)

'That both sides begin anew the quest for peace, before the dark powers of destruction unleashed by science engulf all humanity in planned or accidental self-destruction...'

GVOZDEV

Yemu nuzhno bol'she bespokoit'sya o svoikh generalakh.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "He should worry about his own generals."

EXT. THE PENTAGON - DAY

Stock footage of this landmark building.

THE CENTER OF THE PENTAGON - OPEN-AIR HOT DOG STAND

In an unexpected five-acre park, MILITARY BRASS wait to buy hot dogs. Among them are LT. COL. EASTON and GENERAL STANS.

EASTON

Remember Lev Stasiak, that Polish military attache who defected?

STANS

What about him?

EASTON

He said the Sovs have two missiles aimed at the Pentagon at all times. And one of them's pointing right here at the damn hot dog stand.

STANS

Poor guy must have eaten here.

They approach the Hot Dog Stand. Easton holds up two fingers.

EASTON

I hear Kennedy's first order of business is to meet with us.

STANS

(scoffs)

Now we have a President who's had no military experience whatsoever.

EASTON

He was skipper on a PT boat.

Easton pays for the hot dogs and hands one to Stans.

STANS
(derisively)
That really shortened the war.

INSERT SOVIET ROCKET LAUNCH AND RELATED SCENES:

- Footage of the launch of Soviet planetary probe Venera-1.
- Soviet-language broadcast of Venera-1 launch.
- *Chicago Daily News* headline, February 13, 1961: "BIG RUSSIAN 'SPACESHIP' STREAKING TOWARD VENUS."
- Kennedy meets General Curtis LeMay and U-2 pilots.
- Telegram from President Kennedy to Chairman Khrushchev:

"Washington, February 13, 1961.

'I wish to extend my congratulations and those of the American people for the impressive scientific achievement represented by the launching of your space vehicle to Venus. We shall watch its progress with interest and wish you success in another chapter of man's exploration of the universe.'

John F. Kennedy"

SUIT WORDS TO SOVIET ROCKET LAUNCH AND RELATED SCENES

NEWSREEL ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
On February 12th, the Soviets launched the space probe Venera-1 on its voyage to the planet Venus. At Jodrell Bank, England, The giant Lovell Telescope, known locally as the 'Big Ear,' successfully heard signals from Venera-1 as it neared the second planet in our solar system. This was the Soviets' second attempt, following a transmitter failure on their first space probe. Once again, the Soviets take the lead in scientific achievement!

INT. UNDERGROUND MONITORING STATION

INSERT: "Worldwide Seismograph Network, Alexandria, Virginia"

A 24-hour wall clock reads 23:01. Seismographs fill the room. FOSTER, a young scientist wearing a name tag, watches needles scratch across a seismograph cylinder.

Concerned, he tears the sheet off the cylinder and crosses to a table. He pulls a geodesic map from a cubbyhole named "Barents Sea" and opens it. Then he reaches for the phone.

UNDERGROUND OFFICE

The door is open. MRS. BLAKE, also wearing a name tag, pores over similar maps. Foster enters and hurries up to her.

BLAKE

What have you got?

Foster lays the map and seismograph sheet on her table.

FOSTER

It's not running along any known fault lines.

BLAKE

You check with the Finland station?

FOSTER

I did. Kevo agrees it originated at the Novaya Zemlya Archipelago, and that it wasn't an earthquake.

BLAKE

Hmm, the Soviets conduct nuclear tests there, but nothing like this.

Equally concerned, she reaches for the phone.

INSERT SOVIET HYDROGEN BOMB TEST AND RELATED SCENES:

- A Soviet Tu-95 propjet drops the Tsar Hydrogen Bomb.
- A huge nuclear explosion and growing mushroom cloud.
- The mushroom cloud looms over a Russian town.
- The Pentagon and a meeting of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.
- Newsreel depicts mock hydrogen bomb attack on Washington.

SUIT WORDS TO SOVIET HYDROGEN BOMB TEST AND RELATED SCENES

NEWSREEL ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

This is the biggest man-made explosion of all time: a 57 megaton hydrogen bomb from the Soviet Union, nicknamed the 'Tsar Bomb'... A single Tsar bomb dropped over Washington, D.C. would kill one million people instantly, and millions more in the days to come.

EXT. THE WHITE HOUSE - WEST WING - DAY (MORNING)

Limousines sporting American flags are parked there. Stans and Easton alight from one;

CIA DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PLANS CARL BETHUNE from another. They pass by FRANÇOIS BISSET, the PRESIDENT'S PRESS SECRETARY.

BISSET

The President's downstairs in the Situation Room.

EXT. 2430 E STREET, NW - COCKROACH ALLEY - DAY

A view of CIA's compound through the chain-links of Gate #1.

INT. BERARD'S OFFICE

WILSON BERARD, BILL NEALY and WARREN LATHAM wait. Each cradles a folder; one lies on an empty chair. The intercom BUZZES.

BERARD'S AIDE-DE-CAMP (O.S.)

Sir, Miss Stewart has a file you requested. Can she drop it off?

BERARD

(into the intercom)

Yes, we haven't started yet.

The door opens. MISS STEWART, 60, enters pushing a wooden cart. A cigarette dangles from her lips. Everyone is familiar with her and smiles politely. She takes the file from her cart and leaves it in Berard's IN TRAY. Then she turns to leave.

At the door STEWART KENSINGTON brusquely enters and bumps into Miss Stewart's cart. He haughtily CLEARS his throat.

MISS STEWART

If that grunt was an apology, I accept.

Irritated, Kensington moves aside. Miss Stewart leaves and shuts the door. Berard points to the empty chair. Kensington picks up the folder and sits. Berard nods at Nealy.

NEALY

Since Mr. Kennedy took office, the Soviets have made a point of demonstrating their technological prowess. But their latest effort made us forgo the President's Intelligence Checklist today. So, if you'll just open your folders...

They open them. On top is a photo of a huge nuclear explosion.

NEALY (CONT'D)

They call it the Tsar Bomba, or Tsar bomb - a 57 megaton hydrogen bomb. It was detonated at 11:00 last night, six a.m.

(MORE)

NEALY (CONT'D)

Moscow time, over the Novaya Zemlya archipelago at the Arctic Circle.

LATHAM

How'd you get the photo?

NEALY

It was taken 100 miles from the blast zone by GTMANX. The explosion caused the release plane to drop a half a mile in altitude, and that caused a panic in a monitoring station across the Barents Sea. They'd underestimated the bomb's strength and thought there'd be a tidal wave. So they evacuated and headed to Finland.

KENSINGTON

Courageous bunch, aren't they?

LATHAM

If it were me, I wouldn't have stopped until I reached France.

NEALY

It was in Helsinki where GTMANX turned over the film.

KENSINGTON

(snidely)

There's no report of a fireball on the ground. You sure it was a bomb?

NEALY

Quite sure. The shock wave reflected back, preventing the fireball from reaching the ground. Instead, it shot up where it nearly reached the release plane, seven miles up.

BERARD

How far could it be seen?

NEALY

The fireball was visible over 620 miles from ground zero. The effects of the thermal pulse were felt up to 300 miles away.

Berard is astonished at this.

LATHAM

How long were communications out?

NEALY

About two hours. A shock wave was visible from as far as 430 miles. And windows were reported broken over 560 miles away. Atmospheric focusing caused blast damage at even greater distances, breaking windows in Norway and Finland.

Latham arches an eyebrow and glances at Kensington.

BERARD

So how does this compare to ours?

NEALY

Our most powerful hydrogen bomb is SAC's B41. But it has less than half the yield of the Tsar bomb.

Fear and worry replace concern on everyone's faces.

NEALY (CONT'D)

We intercepted a phone call from Khrushchev to the pilot. He was heard saying, "Kuz'kina Mat'." We believe he was boasting because it literally translates, 'to show somebody Kuzka's mother.'

BERARD

It means, 'We'll show you.'

KENSINGTON

If war broke out, could we survive a first strike of this Tsar bomb?

LATHAM

You can't be serious!

KENSINGTON

What, it's a fair question!

NEALY

We have 1000 land-based ICBMs, 700 more in submarines, plus SAC's fleet of B-52s. No first strike could eliminate all that. But it misses the point. If the Soviets strike first and we retaliate, and we both empty our arsenals, with the blasts and the fallout, 90 percent of all human life would be destroyed.

BERARD

Leaving the leaders with nothing but a nation of ghosts.

Dismayed, he gets up and goes to the window.

NEALY

Kennedy meets with Khrushchev in June. We think he'll want to avoid provoking the Soviets, so he'll likely want to cancel a major operation, like the Bay of Pigs.

Kensington is outraged. Latham eyes him while Berard looks forlornly at the buildings in the compound.

INT. CIA OPEN-PLAN OFFICE - DAY

Men and women work at their desks. On one wall are detailed maps of CUBA; on the opposite wall are offices. Miss Stewart pushes her cart to an office where KEVIN MOYLAND and JUAN MONTOYA listen to a THIRD MAN whose back is to Miss Stewart.

THIRD MAN (O.S.)

We have to convince him JMATE's our only chance for regime change.

Moyland sees Miss Stewart and waves her inside.

OFFICE

Miss Stewart enters; she sees the Third Man is...

KENSINGTON

If we limit the scope of the brief-

Moyland cuts him off. Miss Stewart takes a file from the OUT TRAY and looks askance at Kensington on her way out.

CORRIDOR

Miss Stewart wheels her cart into an office at the far end.

END OFFICE

Unoccupied. Miss Stewart parks her cart by a combination lock file cabinet. On its dial is stamped "Manifoil Mk IV."

She spins the dial: clockwise five turns, anti-clockwise four turns, clockwise three turns, two turns anti-clockwise to the number "25" then clockwise a half-turn.

Miss Stewart opens the cabinet door and puts the files from her cart on the top shelf. She shuts the cabinet door and spins the dial. Then she leaves, pushing her cart.

EXT. COLUMBIA HEIGHTS (WASHINGTON, D.C.) - STREET - DAY

Middle-class rowhouses line the street. Practically everyone is at work, leaving the street virtually empty.

ROWHOUSE - FIRST-FLOOR WINDOW

An elderly man, MR. ROSE, peeks from behind a curtain.

SECOND-FLOOR WINDOW

The VENETIAN BLINDS are pulled halfway up.

INT. SECOND-FLOOR ROOM

A lamp shares a nightstand with an ash tray; beside it is a wing chair. One wall has a large mirror set above a table. ELIAN, a man whose face WE DO NOT SEE, swings open the mirror like a door, revealing a gaping cavity in the wall. Inside it is a large, olive-drab METAL CASE and a SMALL STRONGBOX.

Elian removes both items and places them on the table. He flips open the latches on the Case and removes its top: there sits an R-350M Burst Transmitter/Receiver. Inside are a booklet titled TUNING CHARTS, Russian and English Filters, a Work Light, a Morse Key Burst Encoder with hand crank, a Message Puncher with numeric keypad, a box of loose rolls of ordinary 35mm photographic film and a key.

He turns on the Work Light and takes out the Burst Encoder. Elian clips it onto the side of the Case and plugs it into the R-350M. He takes out the Message Puncher and one roll of 35mm film. He slides the film into a slot on the Message Puncher so that holes can be punched into it from the keypad.

Using the key, Elian unlocks the Strongbox and pulls out a set of ONE-TIME PADS (OTP). He opens the Tuning Charts to a side-by-side list of KILOCYCLES and NUMBERS, toggles on the R-350M, and adjusts a dial to 1910 kc.

Elian pulls a pocket notepad from his coat and encrypts its message with the OTP. He punches its numbers into the Message Puncher's keypad; each key pressed advances the film.

Finished, he slides the film into a slot on the Burst Encoder. Then, using the hand crank, he feeds in the film.

INT. SOVIET EMBASSY - COMMUNICATIONS ROOM

Dina sits before a larger version of the Burst Transmitter/Receiver. It prints an encoded message - a long series of five-digit numbers. When it finishes she tears off the printout.

DINA

Sits at her desk and decodes the printout using an OTP. She takes a drag on an unfiltered cigarette then gets up.

SECURITY OFFICE

Dina hands the decoded message to Gvozdev. He nods.

EXT. WASHINGTON, D.C. - BRITISH EMBASSY - DAY

The Union Jack flies over the British Embassy roof.

INT. MI6 OFFICE

FIONA JEFFRIES is on the phone; she's upset. On her desk is a January 20, 1955, copy of JET MAGAZINE. LAWRENCE JONES (SMOTH) puts on his coat.

JONES

I'm going to lunch, Fiona.

(no response)

Fiona?

Fiona nods absently. Jones shrugs and leaves.

EXT. SAMUEL GOMPERS PARK - DAY

Latham and Jones stroll. Latham pulls a hamburger from a bag and hands it to Jones. He unwraps it and starts eating.

JONES

You're addicted to these things.

LATHAM

I'm addicted to their price.

JONES

Can't you say you're entertaining a trade union boss and expense it, go to a decent restaurant for once?

LATHAM

I tried that. I was at a global unions convention when I took the President of the AFL-CIO to lunch.

JONES

Wait. Before you launch into this epic saga of yours, pass the chips.

Latham hands him an order of french fries.

JONES (CONT'D)

Okay, so you were out to lunch...

LATHAM

At lunch. That's when CGIL, one of Italy's unions, entered the room. The AFL-CIO reps felt CGIL wasn't sufficiently anti-communist, so they stood up and left the room.

JONES

That's quite a riveting story.

LATHAM

I'm not finished, buster. The reps decided to join us for lunch - all 50 of them. Kensington hit the roof when I submitted the voucher. Now I keep it under five bucks so I can just take it out of petty cash.

Jones rolls his eyes as Latham resumes eating.

JONES

So, how did your masters react to the Soviets' Tsar bomba?

LATHAM

Same as yours - worried.

JONES

Hmm, I imagine Kennedy will bring it up at his meeting with Khrushchev.

LATHAM

For all the good it'll do. If you were Khrushchev, would you give away the upper hand?

Jones shrugs, clearly disconcerted.

LATHAM (CONT'D)

I don't know why you're worried. He isn't going to bomb the U.K.

JONES

I know that, but back home MPs are selling this pantomime idea of imminent nuclear war to the public.

LATHAM

Why? What's the point of panicking your people even more?

JONES

Support for a bigger budget. More money for defense means more money to British armaments firms - and that means higher employment. That's an easy sell in a recession.

LATHAM

Sounds like military Keynesianism.

JONES

This isn't the Marshall Plan run amok. It's a global strategy that continually needs to add enemies.

Latham sighs despairingly, realizing Jones's point.

JONES (CONT'D)

There's an awful lot of money at stake here. And there's no way these industrialists are going to let Macmillan or some naive Irish Catholic get in their way.

EXT. 2430 E STREET, NW - COCKROACH ALLEY - DAY

Returning from lunch, Latham sees Kensington, Moyland and Montoya outside Gate #1. A pool car pulls up; the Three Spies get in. As it drives past, Kensington glances at Latham.

INT. LATHAM'S OUTER OFFICE

COLLETTE DOWD comes out of Latham's Office. Latham enters.

LATHAM

Putting more garbage on my desk?

COLLETTE

They're your letters I typed up.

Collette grabs her notepad and follows Latham into...

LATHAM'S OFFICE

Latham doffs his coat; Collette hangs it up for him. He sits.

LATHAM

When are the mandarins due back?

COLLETTE

Monday. Kensington stopped by. He said he'd be at the White House if you need him.

LATHAM

So that's where he was off to.

COLLETTE

You saw him?

LATHAM

Outside the gate with Moyland and Montoya from the Cuban Desk.

COLLETTE

Hmm, hoping to persuade the President not to scuttle JMATE.

LATHAM

Is that a guess or do you know that for certain?

COLLETTE

He asked me for your brief, COVERT ACTION IN SUPPORT OF REGIME CHANGE. Then D-Int came by to see if you wanted to go to lunch. Kensington kept pestering him all the way into the hall for reasons why JMATE shouldn't be canceled.

LATHAM

Hmm, SMOTH was talking about who benefits from an arms race.

COLLETTE

Eisenhower's farewell speech.

LATHAM

Uh huh. Makes me wonder how Kensington interpreted it.

COLLETTE

For now, turn your thoughts to Mr. Kennedy. His press secretary wants to meet with you at 23:00.

She tears a sheet off her notepad and hands it to Latham.

EXT. 2430 E STREET, NW - COCKROACH ALLEY - NIGHT

The lights are off in most of the buildings in the compound.

INT. OPERATIONS ROOM

The usual PURL of ringing phones, teletype machines, and chatter. NIGHT DUTY OFFICERS JAMES OWENS and PETE FARRELL man the Duty Desk; behind them, MISSION PLANNING'S WILSON BRADLEY. Miss Stewart enters pushing her cart, cigarette dangling from her lips. Owens is surprised to see her.

OWENS

Miss Stewart, why are you on duty?

MISS STEWART

Janice is home sick; says she's nauseous. Probably pregnant.

FARRELL

(checks the wall clock)
How come you're here so early?

MISS STEWART

I don't wanna miss Jack Paar. He's got Jonathan Winters as his guest.

Farrell smiles as Miss Stewart takes the lone file from Owens's OUT TRAY and leaves quickly.

FARRELL

Reminds me of my mother.

BRADLEY

I thought she was your mother.

Owens chuckles. The Red phone RINGS. He answers it.

OWENS

0-4-3-3...

CIA OPEN-PLAN OFFICE

The lights are off. Everyone has long since left for the day.

CORRIDOR

Dimly lit by a nightlight and EXIT signs. Elian walks with his back to US. He enters the...

END OFFICE

And flips on the Bankers desk lamp. He tilts its shade so the light falls on the file cabinet's combination lock. On the dial is stamped "Manifoil Mk IV." Elian spins the dial as did Miss Stewart, then opens the cabinet.

He pulls files from the top shelf, sets them on the desk and shines the lamp on them. Elian takes a Minox B (spy) camera from his pocket and begins photographing the file pages.

THE OFFICE DOOR OPENS. THE ROOM LIGHT GOES ON.

Miss Stewart stands there with her cart, mouth agape. Her cigarette drops to the floor.

AT THE DESK

The Minox drops onto the files.

IN THE CORRIDOR

Miss Stewart tries to run but Elian grabs her from behind. They struggle but he overpowers her and throws her into the...

END OFFICE

Miss Stewart reaches for the cart but pulls it on top of her as she lands hard on the floor. The door closes.

ON THE FLOOR - MISS STEWART

Writhes in agony, unable to move under the heavy cart. Elian moves toward her. All she can see are his hands...

- Pulls up his left sleeve - a tube is strapped to his arm.

- His right hand twists open a valve on the end of the tube.
- He reaches his right hand inside his coat.
- His left hand hovers above her face.

ELIAN'S P.O.V. - LEANING OVER MISS STEWART

An aerosol sprays from the tube onto her face. She GASPS.

BACK TO SCENE

Miss Stewart quickly loses consciousness. In seconds she's dead.

ELIAN

Shuts the valve on the tube and steps over her. He turns off the Bankers lamp, pockets his Minox camera, puts the files back on the shelf and locks the file cabinet.

He crosses to the door, leaves the light on and walks out, closing the door behind him.

EXT. COLUMBIA HEIGHTS (WASHINGTON, D.C.) - STREET - NIGHT

Another view of the middle-class rowhouses lining the street.

ROWHOUSE - SECOND-FLOOR WINDOW

The Venetian Blinds are pulled halfway up the window.

INT. ROWHOUSE - LIVING ROOM

Mr. Rose sits in a chair watching "Naked City" on TV. He glances at the dark figure of Elian climbing the stairs.

SECOND-FLOOR ROOM

The lamp on the nightstand is on. Dina sits in the wing chair, smoking her unfiltered cigarette. Her purse is on her lap.

Elian stands behind the nightstand. He pulls a tiny film cartridge from his pocket and sets it next to the ash tray.

Dina opens her purse then snubs out her cigarette. As she reaches for the film cartridge, Elian puts his hand on hers. (They speak Spanish.)

ELIAN

Qué dices?

INSERT TRANSLATION: "What do you say?"

Dina raises her other hand into the light. She aims a semi-automatic pistol at Elian's crotch. She COCKS the hammer.

DINA

Usted tendrá una cosa menos de la
que preocuparse.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "You'll have one less thing to worry
about."

Elian pulls his hand away. Dina picks up the film, puts it in
her purse and SNAPS it shut. Then she stands and leaves.

EXT. GEORGETOWN (WASHINGTON, D.C.) - 34TH STREET, NW - NIGHT

Elegant townhouses line the street. Expensive domestic cars,
foreign roadsters and coupés are parked out front.

TOWNHOUSE

Latham KNOCKS on the door. Bisset answers, grabs his topcoat
and leaves the house.

34TH STREET, NW

Deserted, save for Latham and Bisset who stroll.

BISSET

Three of your people running this
JMATE were at the White House today.
They were very anxious to show us
how the operation would succeed.

LATHAM

What did they say?

BISSET

That there was sufficient popular
discontent in Cuba to support a
regime change. And how a fleet of B-
26 bombers would negate the Cuban
Army's numerical superiority.

LATHAM

Anything else?

BISSET

That Cuban fellow, Montoya, he said
it would show Castro's impotence to
the Cuban people. Sounds like so
much bullshit.

LATHAM

That sort of macho posturing is
common in Latin America.

BISSET

So this Montoya fellow's right?

LATHAM

I'll put it this way: I don't subscribe to his theory.

BISSET

I see. Kensington said the Brigade was comprised of Cuban exiles, but I've heard some mercenaries are training with them.

LATHAM

Could be. I'm not directly involved.

BISSET

But how can you trust mercenaries?

LATHAM

You pay them.

BISSET

Fine. Kensington also said the plan is to establish a lodgment at the Bay of Pigs, after which he expects the Cuban Army to turn on Castro. That other fellow, Moyland, said there'd be plausible deniability - no insignias or other identifying markings anywhere.

LATHAM

That sounds about right.

BISSET

I want your honest opinion, Warren. Can it succeed?

They stop strolling.

LATHAM

Castro's forces are 40,000 strong. He has access to the latest Soviet weaponry, and he has a tactical advantage - a swamp between his men and the invading army. And there's the Soviets' eagerness to deliver a black eye to Uncle Sam.

BISSET

Wait - how would the Soviets know we're involved when we have plausible deniability?

LATHAM

I've run Ops against Cuba for a year now.

(MORE)

LATHAM (CONT'D)

And the one thing I've learned is how effective Castro is at counterinsurgency. Every anti-Castro group I've dealt with has had informers. Every single one.

EXT. M STREET, NW - NIGHT

Latham walks to a bus stop in front of a chi-chi men's shop. He looks around... No one is about. On the street are more of the same expensive cars, save for a 1957 FORD SEDAN sitting partway in a crosswalk east of Latham. Two men are in the car.

LATHAM

Is apprehensive. Who are they? He checks his watch, 11:55, then strolls west. The engine in the Ford rumbles to life.

35TH STREET

Dark and one-way toward M Street. Latham turns the corner then RUNS down the block. He darts into the front yard of a townhouse and crouches behind high bushes, near a large tree.

LATHAM'S P.O.V. - CORNER OF 35TH STREET AND M STREET

The Ford pulls up to the corner and pauses. After a moment the car rolls by, continuing along M Street.

BACK TO SCENE

A faint light shines on the yard. Latham looks up: an upstairs light was turned on. He scurries down 35th Street to...

PROSPECT STREET

Latham turns west. A taxi passes and stops at the corner of 36th Street (site of the "Exorcist Steps" from the movie). A MAN alights. He wears a hat and carries a physician bag; his topcoat hangs open. Latham runs toward the taxi.

LATHAM

Hey! Hold that cab!

The Man holds open the door. Latham runs up to him.

LATHAM (CONT'D)

Thanks...

(sees the man's clerical collar)

Father.

THE PRIEST nods. Latham gets in the taxi and shuts the door. As it pulls away, the Priest buttons his coat and stares at the long flight of steps across the street.

ACT TWO

EXT. 2430 E STREET, NW - COCKROACH ALLEY - DAY (MORNING)

CIA PERSONNEL enter the compound through Gate #1.

INT. LATHAM'S OUTER OFFICE

The 24-hour wall clock reads 08:25. Collette busily gathers files into three piles. Latham enters. They nod hello, then Collette grabs the files and follows Latham into...

LATHAM'S OFFICE

He doffs his coat and sits. Collette lays the files on his desk. She then takes the lone file from Latham's OUT TRAY.

LATHAM

Where are you going with that?

COLLETTE

Taking it to Security. Miss Stewart died of a heart attack last night.

LATHAM

Hm... How'd you find out? I thought she lived alone.

COLLETTE

She died onsite. Janice would usually cover for her now, but she's out. So Security asked the admins to bring them the files.

She hands Latham a memo from his desk. He reads it.

COLLETTE (CONT'D)

Oh, and Kensington called. He'll be on The Hill again - Armed Services Subcommittee Hearings this time.

LATHAM

What the hell's he doing up there?

COLLETTE

(shrugs)
I'll get you some coffee.

She leaves, bumping into Nealy.

NEALY

Got a minute, Warren?

Latham motions for him to sit and lays the memo on the desk.

NEALY (CONT'D)

Before Stewart went to the White House yesterday, he was pressing me for any advantage he could get to ensure JMATE stays on track.

LATHAM

I'd heard he was there.

NEALY

My source told me he, Moyland and Montoya pushed so hard the White House felt the Soviet army was coming over the horizon.

Collette reenters with coffee for both Men, interrupting them. The Men nod thank you. She leaves and closes the door.

NEALY (CONT'D)

Stewart and his cabal see this as a last chance to remove Castro, so they bend the truth. Bend it too far and things could escalate. Then there will be Soviet military on the horizon.

LATHAM

And your proposal is...

NEALY

Stewart's installed himself as the leader on JMATE. If he goes beyond his brief, then evidence of this should be brought to the president.

LATHAM

Bypassing senior management...

NEALY

Who support a group of exiled fanatics whose only interest is in regaining their personal fortunes!

Latham is taken aback by Nealy's outrage.

NEALY (CONT'D)

Every time the Sovs show off their latest technological achievement, we fall further behind. There's an urgency now for us to do something. And I think Stewart will try to take advantage of this to expand JMATE. But to do this he'll need help.

LATHAM

And that's why he's on The Hill?

NEALY

Could be. Can you put someone on him, someone he doesn't know?

LATHAM

It's not just a matter of putting eyes on him. You need ones that can assess his intentions.

NEALY

From who - SMOTH?

Latham nods. Nealy is very chary of this.

NEALY (CONT'D)

That means admitting Stewart may be blundering his way into World War III.

LATHAM

SMOTH's got MPs beating the drum for war dollars. I think he'd like a chance to ratchet this down.

NEALY

(mulls it over, sighs)
I don't like it but...

LATHAM

I'll ask him for two people in case Kensington moves around.

EXT. FIRST STREET, SE - LIBRARY OF CONGRESS BUILDING - DAY

Stock footage of this magnificent building.

INT. THE GREAT HALL

An older, self-guided TOURIST COUPLE climb the stairs.

PRINTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS READING ROOM

The Tourist Couple walk by Fiona and Latham, who ostensibly admire vintage covers of Vanity Fair magazine.

FIONA

And you want us to note the company he keeps.

LATHAM

Uh huh.

FIONA

(puzzled)
But if JMATE's already compromised, why not just let it fail?

LATHAM

Because if Kensington exceeds his brief, it'll give the Soviets the excuse they need to increase their presence in Cuba.

Fiona nods, accepting this.

LATHAM (CONT'D)

You won't have any problem recognizing him?

FIONA

No, Mr. Jones gave us his photo. Our Number Three's on him now at The Capitol. We'll switch there.

Latham leads Fiona out the room, onto the...

MAIN READING ROOM - BALCONY

They stand by the balustrade. The Tourist Couple stroll by, arm-in-arm. Fiona sees them and grows melancholy.

LATHAM

Something wrong? You look upset.

Fiona shrugs. Latham holds her hand.

LATHAM (CONT'D)

Hon, talk to me.

FIONA

I spoke to my mum today. She and my dad... They've separated.

LATHAM

I'm sorry to hear that.

FIONA

Why do this now? She'll never find anyone at her age.

LATHAM

Would you rather they stay together out of fear of being alone?

FIONA

Is that so bad?!

She reaches into her handbag for a tissue. Latham sees the copy of JET magazine and changes the subject.

LATHAM

Jet?

FIONA

What? Oh, this lady in my building was throwing them out.

LATHAM

And so you took them in.

FIONA

No. We got to talking and she felt I should read this one.

LATHAM

Can I see it?

Fiona hands him the magazine. Latham opens it, reading the table of contents. Fiona flips the pages to a photo story of a White man married to a Black woman.

FIONA

Tony and Sylvia Overman - they're British. He had just rented an apartment in London. When the building manager found out his wife was Black, he tore up the lease. They eventually found a place - just not as nice as the old one.

LATHAM

Ignorant people are everywhere, and they're going to have to face more than their fair share. You have to be prepared to put up with that.

FIONA

I hope they are.

It's clear they speak reflexively.

LATHAM

I like their chances though.

He hands her back the magazine. They slowly walk away, arms around each other. The Tourist Couple watches them with profound disgust. Latham sees them but not Fiona, whose head leans against Latham's chest.

At that moment a WHITE COUPLE and their YOUNG DAUGHTER emerge from the Reading Room. As they pass Latham and Fiona. The Daughter looks back - she smiles and waves. Fiona sees her and does the same. The Daughter's parents are oblivious to what's happening. Fiona's mood lightens considerably as she and Latham continue on their way.

EXT. UNITED STATES CAPITOL - DAY

Stock footage of this landmark building.

INT. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - HEARING ROOM

A subcommittee hearing is underway.

AT THE ROSTRUM

Are SIX COMMITTEE MEMBERS, including MR. COOPER, identified by nameplates. The nameplate for the Chairperson, MR. LIND, reads "MR. LIND/CHAIRMAN/PENNSYLVANIA." Behind them sit their staff.

Testifying before the Committee is MR. DEAN, one of several WITNESSES, also identified by nameplates. Behind them is...

THE GALLERY

Filled with onlookers, one of whom is Kensington.

COOPER

Briefly brandishes a Department of Defense report entitled "100 COMPANIES/COMPANIES RECEIVING THE LARGEST DOLLAR VOLUME OF PRIME CONTRACT AWARDS/FISCAL YEAR 1960."

CROSSCUT COOPER WITH DEAN

COOPER

This Defense Department report lists the companies receiving the largest defense contracts for this past fiscal year. Now, the total amount awarded by the military was \$21 billion...

ASTONISHED MURMURING comes from the Gallery.

COOPER (CONT'D)

Of which, 73 percent - \$15.4 billion - went to 100 companies. Yet, just five of those companies accounted for over 25 percent of the total amount. Five companies...

Five of the Witnesses appear disengaged with the proceedings.

COOPER (V.O.)

Their Chief Executive Officers have given testimony to this committee. But frankly, I don't see how they could have positioned themselves at the head of the line without some assistance from people like you, Mr. Dean. Now, I understand you retired from the Air Force with the rank of colonel, and you're an official at North American Aerospace.

DEAN

That's correct, Congressman.

COOPER

You're also the current president of the Organization of Retired Air Force Officers.

DEAN

I am.

COOPER

We've learned your organization is one of six such groups promoting the mutual interests of the armed services and their contractors. All six are comprised of former military personnel, and they all have their headquarters right here in Washington. Now, I have to wonder whether the best interests of the nation or your firm are being served by your requests for an increase in the defense budget.

DEAN

Congressman, the day is long past when specs for a weapons system are set up by the military and then handed off to industry. The 'sine qua non' of today's military is the result of close cooperation between the military and industry. And you'll find it's not unusual for contributions from industry to be a key factor. The fact is, private industry is where the pace is being set for research and development.

COOPER

Spoken like a man earning a nice paycheck from that industry.

Some of the Guests SMIRK. Kensington writes in his notepad.

COOPER (CONT'D)

You see, Mr. Dean, my problem is this: The military is answerable to the government, while their contractors are only answerable to their shareholders. And I don't see any way a contractor can be held accountable to the American people.

LIND

Your five minutes have expired,
Congressman Cooper. Thank you for
your questions. The Committee will
now recess for lunch and return at
two o'clock.

He BANGS his gavel on the block.

IN THE GALLERY

Kensington puts away his notepad and stands. In the corner,
MI6's Number Three, MALLORY, takes out a cigarette and his
BUTANE LIGHTER.

BACK OF THE HEARING ROOM

As Witnesses and Guests leave, Kensington approaches Dean.

MALLORY

Slides the lighter's insignia aside, revealing a tiny camera
lens. As he attempts to light his cigarette, he discreetly
aims his lighter at Kensington and Dean and softly presses the
plunger a few times as the Two leave together.

CORRIDOR OUTSIDE THE CONGRESSIONAL DINING ROOM

Dean and Kensington enter; they meet Stans and Easton. Fiona
"attempts" to light a cigarette with her butane lighter/
camera, aimed at Kensington and friends.

Dean excuses himself; the others enter the Dining Room. Dean
meets with TWO MEN out of earshot of Fiona. She takes pictures
of all Three. Their meeting is brief. The Two Men leave; Dean
enters the Dining Room and rejoins Kensington and party.

MID-SHOW BREAK

EXT. COCKROACH ALLEY - DAY

CIA PERSONNEL walk across the compound.

INT. LATHAM'S OUTER OFFICE

The 24-hour wall clock reads 16:15. Collette types away at her
desk. A jovial Farrell enters.

COLLETTE

Hi, Pete. How's married life?

FARRELL

It's great.

COLLETTE

You here to see the boss?

FARRELL

Actually, I came to get the files.

Latham's Office door opens. He steps out holding a file.

LATHAM

I'm finished with this.

(to Farrell)

You here to see me?

FARRELL

No, sir, I'm heading to the Ops Room for turnover. I figured since I'm going by Security I'd pick up your SITREPS, save Collette a trip.

COLLETTE

Thanks. Security should have Miss Stewart's replacement by tomorrow.

FARRELL

That was too bad what happened. She was all excited to watch Jack Paar.

LATHAM

Wouldn't have mattered. Second shift ends so late, by the time she got home the show would be over.

FARRELL

That's why she came by so early.

This piques Latham's curiosity.

LATHAM

How early?

FARRELL

A couple of hours.

Latham ponders over this while Collette hands Farrell a file.

COLLETTE

Here you go.

Farrell nods and leaves. Collette looks at Latham.

COLLETTE (CONT'D)

Something the matter?

LATHAM

I'm not sure... Call the Head of Security. Tell him I'm on my way to see him.

Collette picks up the Red phone and dials as Latham leaves.

SECURITY OFFICE

Typical, with combination-lock file cabinets. Latham sits opposite BRENT HAYDEN, late 40s.

BRENT

It was a heart attack.

LATHAM

She have any bruises?

BRENT

Yeah, from the fall and where the cart landed on her. Where are you going with this?

LATHAM

She was two hours early on her rounds and found dead in the office. I just wondered if she might have surprised someone.

BRENT

Christ, you people spend so much time planning assassinations you think everyone dies that way.

LATHAM

Call it a weakness.

BRENT

Look, she was old. She drank like a fish and smoked like a damn chimney. And she had heart disease. She was lucky to last this long.

LATHAM

You mind if I see the pictures?

Brent huffs. He gets up and crosses to the file cabinet. He takes out a folder and hands it to Latham, then he sits.

BRENT

I don't know what you think you're gonna find in there.

Latham looks at Polaroids of Miss Stewart: she's on her back with the wooden cart on her right leg and hip, and partway across her stomach. He pulls out two anatomy charts of Miss Stewart's wounds, front and back. There are 'X' marks on her left side at the waist and on the back near the kidney.

LATHAM

These bruises on her left side and back... How'd she get them when the cart's lying on her right side?

BRENT

The M.E. figures when she lost her balance she fell back against the doorknob and bruised her kidney.

LATHAM

And the one above her left hip?

BRENT

Probably hit herself on the cart.

LATHAM

Uh huh... Do me a favor, will you? Stand up.

BRENT

What for?

LATHAM

I feel like dancing. Come on, get up - with your back to me.

Annoyed, Brent stands and turns his back to Latham.

LATHAM (CONT'D)

Say she opens the door and surprises someone who shouldn't be there.

BRENT

For God sakes...

LATHAM

Humor me. She turns to run. The guy runs after her and grabs her around the waist from behind.

He roughly bearhugs Brent around the waist.

BRENT

Easy! I had a late lunch - hotdogs.

LATHAM

I can smell the onions. Okay, she struggles but he's too strong and drags her back to the office.

He drags Brent backwards by the waist a few feet.

LATHAM (CONT'D)

Then he throws her inside.

(swings Brent to the left)

She grabs the cart, trying to break her fall, but instead pulls it on top of her. Then her heart attacks her. Where do you feel the pressure most from me grabbing on to you?

BRENT
My left side.

Latham releases him. Brent turns around.

LATHAM
That's 'cause I'm left-handed. Like
you said, Miss Stewart was old and
in poor health. She'd bruise easily.

Brent is stunned; he realizes Latham may be right.

EXT. RUSSIAN EMBASSY - DAY (DUSK)

Another view that includes the sign on the gate.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE

Gvozdev is at his desk. Dina stands alongside, pulling large photos from a folder and handing them to him. The photos show SITREPS. (They speak Russian.)

DINA
Eta fotografiya osobenno interesna.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "This one is particularly interesting."

She hands him the photo.

DINA (CONT'D)
Eto svidetel'stvuyet o
sushchestvovanii seti ubiyts,
obuchennykh v Guantanamo i
vozglavlyayemykh ministrom finansov
Kuby Luis Torroella.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "It shows the existence of a network of assassins, trained at Guantanamo, and led by Cuba's Treasury Minister Luis Torroella."

GVOZDEV
Poydite i soobshchite nashemu drugu
v Gavane.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "Go and tell our friend in Havana."

Dina gathers the photos, puts them in the folder and leaves.

EXT. MARTIN'S TAVERN (GEORGETOWN) - NIGHT

An iconic corner restaurant and bar.

INT. MARTIN'S TAVERN - THE BAR

Three MEN are there: a BARTENDER; an intoxicated LOUD MAN; and at the end of the bar, a MAN SIPPING BEER.

The Beer Sipper is partially obscured by a post - his coat and gloves lay on a bar stool.

THE DINING AREA

A few patrons. At a corner table, Fiona and Latham eat dinner.

FIONA

Kensington had lunch with Randall Dean; he's a vice-president at North American Aerospace. He also heads the Organization of Retired Air Force Officers, a group that helps funnel military contracts to a select few vendors. There they met Lt. Col. Easton and General Stans.

LATHAM

Of the Joint Chiefs?

Fiona nods as she chews her food.

LOUD MAN (O.S.)

Couldn't make it with a White broad.

Latham glances at him. Fiona follows Latham's eyes.

FIONA

After the hearing, the four of them met with Cameron Taylor from General Dynamics. The Army had just awarded them a contract for a mobile Forward Area Air Defense short-range missile system. I stayed with Kensington; Mallory followed Easton and Stans who went on to the White House.

AT THE BAR

LOUD MAN

Why'd they have to come here? You don't serve hog jowls and chitlins.

BARTENDER

Come on, keep it down.

LATHAM AND FIONA

Latham is annoyed but Fiona is used to it.

FIONA

I'd say Kensington's looking to make a deal for hardware.

Latham sighs and shakes his head.

FIONA (CONT'D)

One more thing... Dean excused himself and went back into the corridor. He met two men there, just for a few seconds, then he rejoined the others. I took pictures of them; you'll have them in the morning.

LOUD MAN (O.S.)

What? It's a free country! It must be - you let her in here.

LATHAM

You mind if we just get the check and go?

Fiona shakes her head no. Latham signals for the waiter. He sees the Beer Sipper step from behind the post. It's Gvozdev, who puts on his coat and grabs his gloves. He eyes Latham and nods, then heads to the Men's Room.

LATHAM (CONT'D)

I'm going to the Men's Room first.

He pats her hand reassuringly, gets up and heads into the...

MEN'S ROOM

Gvozdev is at the sink, washing his hands; his gloves are in his pocket. Latham enters and stands by the sink.

GVOZDEV

It is only us in here.

LATHAM

I didn't know you wanted to meet.

GVOZDEV

This couldn't wait until tomorrow. And I wanted to be sure we weren't followed.

(dries is hands)

AMBLOOD is blown.

LATHAM

What?

GVOZDEV

Please, just listen. The DGI know Treasury minister Luis Torroella is AMBLOOD. They know about JMATE and the exiles training at Guantanamo and the plot to assassinate Castro.

Just then, the Loud Man enters.

LOUD MAN

Looky here... It's the nigger-lover.

Latham glares at him. Gvozdev grabs Latham's arm.

GVOZDEV

Don't.

LOUD MAN

(mockingly)

Yeah, don't.

Pleased with himself, he wobbles over to the urinal.

GVOZDEV

Go. Leave the restaurant - now.

LOUD MAN

Yeah, get goin'.

Latham swallows his anger and leaves. Gvozdev puts on his leather gloves. The Loud Man fumbles to open his zipper. Gvozdev walks behind him and PUNCHES him in the kidneys repeatedly until the Loud Man slides to the floor.

GVOZDEV

You like to talk, don't you?

Gvozdev twice KICKS the Loud Man in the groin, then drags him into the...

TOILET STALL

Gvozdev lifts the Loud Man onto the toilet seat. He holds the Loud Man up with one hand and PUNCHES him again and again in the face with the other hand.

The Loud Man's mouth and nose bleed profusely. The skin on his cheeks and around his eyes opens up. Gvozdev PUNCHES the Loud Man so hard two teeth fall out. The Loud Man collapses onto the floor.

Gvozdev leaves the stall. He wipes the blood off his gloves with a hand towel, straightens his coat and walks out.

ACT THREE

EXT. 2430 E STREET, NW - COCKROACH ALLEY - DAY (MORNING)

CIA personnel enter the compound through Gate #1.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM

Kensington, Moyland and Bethune sit at a conference table.

Montoya holds a pointer and stands at the wall beside THREE large maps: a detailed map of Cuba, a second labeled "PLAYA GIRÓN AND PLAYA LARGA," and a third labeled "TRINIDAD PLAN."

INSERT DETAILS OF MAPS TWO AND THREE, AND SCENES:

- Map #2, "Playa Girón and Playa Larga," shows the southwestern coast of Cuba. It contains a LEGEND and several OVERLAYS identifying the swamps; locations of Cuban military airfields at Ciudad Libertad, San Antonio de los Baños and the Antonio Maceo in Santiago de Cuba; Cuban Armed Forces lodgments; Cuban troop supply routes; access roads; targets and sortie routes for the B-26 bombers; San Blas, the central lodgment for Brigade 2506; and brigade invasion routes.

- Map #3, "TRINIDAD PLAN," shows the Escambray Mountains. To their north is a dotted line labeled "RECONNAISSANCE LINE"; to the south, a line labeled "BEACHHEAD LINE." Near Trinidad are circles labeled DZ, A, B and C. The LEGEND identifies 'DZ' as the "Drop Zone for the First Battalion and A, B and C as "Battalion objectives after the landing."

- Image of Swan Island, just south off the Cuba's western tip.

- A technician works Radio Swan's controls.

SUIT POINTS ON THE MAPS AND SCENES TO WORDS

MONTOYA

At 04:00, the Houston and its escort ship, the 'Barbara J.', will be met by LCI's in la Bahia de Cochinos. Four transports will land two battalions of Brigade 2506 at Playa Girón and Playa Larga. B-26s will bomb and strafe Castro's airfields near the Bay and the Zapata swamps.

BETHUNE

Hang on, Juan. I've been to several of Cuba's reefs, and they all had razor-sharp coral.

MONTOYA

(sharply)

That's not true in the Bay of Pigs.

MOYLAND

Juan... U-2 photos have identified this as seaweed, Mr. Bethune.

BETHUNE

Let's hope so. Otherwise you delay the brigade's landing and end up exposing them to an attack.

MOYLAND

Frogmen sent in advance to the beachheads will light flares to show the battalions where to land.

BETHUNE

I notice you don't have any heavy Soviet armament up there.

MOYLAND

U-2 photos didn't turn up any. Now, in Guatemala City where the brigade's been training, we built an airport at Retalhuleu. The bombers will take off from there.

BETHUNE

Okay. What about Radio Swan?

MONTROYA

We stopped saturating the airwaves in Cuba with anti-communist messages and switched to an all news format on multiple frequencies. One will carry a coded message to the dissidents; another frequency the DGI monitors will broadcast multiple locations for the invasion. That should confuse them.

BACK TO SCENE

Montoya sits, joining the others at the conference table.

KENSINGTON

Intelligence reports from AMPARC-1 show diminishing support for Castro. Estimates are fewer than 20 percent of the people support him. Also, 75 to 80 percent of the militia are expected to defect once the real fighting begins.

BETHUNE

Good.

MOYLAND

We've put Hunt and Phillips in charge of field propaganda work. Phillips has been buying space on radio stations around the Caribbean, while Hunt got stations in New York and in Massachusetts to air our messages. They're low-key and not recognizable as anti-Castro.

BETHUNE

Even so, keep an eye on those two.
They tend to be cowboys.

MOYLAND

Yeah, I've seen that. They fashion
themselves as master strategists,
using working names like Knight and
Bishop - the chess pieces.

BETHUNE

Just remind them who's King here.

There are nods of deference toward Bethune.

BETHUNE (CONT'D)

Juan, where are you with this agent
who's offered to remove Raul Castro?

MONTOYA

He said he'll arrange an accident
but wants \$10,000 after it's done.

BETHUNE

\$10,000... Cancel it. What happened
with the air drop to the Resistance?

MONTOYA

The aircrew tried to drop an arms
pack for a hundred men to an agent
waiting on the ground. They missed
him by seven miles.

BETHUNE

I don't believe it...

MONTOYA

The weapons landed on top of a dam
where Castro's forces got them. The
agent was caught and shot, and the
plane got lost on the way to
Guatemala and had to land in Mexico.

BETHUNE

Christ... Anything else?

KENSINGTON

As the plan is now constituted, I
think the island will be ready for
its exiled government-in-waiting
within three days of D-Day.

BETHUNE

Really... Yesterday, I updated the
Kennedy brothers, Rusk, McNamara
and Chester Bowles.

(MORE)

BETHUNE (CONT'D)

They asked me about your government-in-exile. I couldn't give them a straight answer because those idiots in Miami have yet to get their act together! It's way too late in the game for this. Juan, I want you to go down there. Tell them if they can't come out of your meeting with a unified committee, they can forget the whole fuckin' business, 'cause we're through!

MONTOYA

Understood, sir.

BETHUNE

As for this plan of yours, Stewart, it's a helluva lot broader than the one I envisioned when it was JMARC. Don't fall on your face with this.

Chagrined, Kensington nods.

BETHUNE (CONT'D)

Kevin, I read the Fair Play for Cuba Committee wants Congress to look into reports we're planning an invasion of Cuba. Seems to me whoever's leaking this has a reason that goes beyond just wanting us to fail. And I want to know what it is.

INT. BERARD'S OFFICE - DAY

Berard and Latham are engaged in a very serious discussion.

BERARD

But you have no proof to support your theory of a mole?

LATHAM

No, sir, but I did ask the Head of Security to see which Desks had files in the cabinet that night. The ones on Miss Stewart's cart were from the Jamaican and Haitian Desks, but in the cabinet were files from the Cuban Desk, the Guatemalan Desk and JMWAVE.

BERARD

And JMWAVE being in Miami and thus within your purview of domestic bases, I take it you read the file.

Latham shrugs uneasily.

LATHAM

Yes. The SITREP concerned JMATE operations moving on to Guatemala.

BERARD

And you think this mole was only interested in JMATE?

LATHAM

I'm sure of it. Yuri Gvozdev told me AMBLOOD's cover has been blown. And the DGI know he's training exiles at Guantanamo to assassinate Castro.

BERARD

Why would Gvozdev tell you all this?

LATHAM

He owed me one for saving his life.

BERARD

His recall to Moscow - the one you managed to reverse.

LATHAM

Yes, sir. If JMATE's canceled, Gvozdev's reassured his masters that keeping him here was the right decision. And we'll have saved ourselves an embarrassing defeat by Castro's forces, not to mention the lives of 1500 men.

BERARD

And if JMATE goes ahead?

LATHAM

Those men will be slaughtered as they land.

Berard is distressed. He pours himself a glass of water.

LATHAM (CONT'D)

The world will know we're behind the invasion. As for Gvozdev, he'll have repaid his debt without betraying his double agent.

Berard takes a drink, gets up and walks to the window.

BERARD

A lot of money and planning have gone into JMATE. It's become a fiefdom all its own. I'm not sure it can be stopped now.

LATHAM

It has to be.

BERARD

Does that mean then you'll go to the White House to try and stop it?

Latham is caught off guard. Berard turns to face him.

BERARD (CONT'D)

Yes, I'm aware how the president values your opinion.

LATHAM

I'm hoping Deputy Director Bethune will listen to reason. At the very least, scale back the operation.

BERARD

And what about this mole?

LATHAM

Well, there's two things we know: he's left-handed and he has the combination to the file cabinet.

BERARD

Warren, when people get lazy, those file combinations tend to be shared.

LATHAM

I also asked Brent to get the log book for the building to see who was in there. The problem is the logs aren't collected until the end of the month. So getting them now might alert the mole. And I'd like him to feel safe enough to resume his schedule. Otherwise...

BERARD

I know. Let's see what comes of my talk with Carl Bethune first.

LATHAM'S OUTER OFFICE

Latham enters, abstracted and disconsolate. Collette hangs up the Gray phone.

COLLETTE

SMOTH wants to know if you're free for lunch. He's buying.

LATHAM

I'll have to call him back.

Collette follows him into...

LATHAM'S OFFICE

Latham meanders about. Collette is concerned.

COLLETTE

Penny for them.

LATHAM

I don't understand why we're rushing ahead with JMATE. It's like we're all bulls running at Pamplona.

COLLETTE

They still believe it'll succeed.

LATHAM

I know, but why? Gvozdev's warned us Cuba knows about it. The Op's way too big to deny complicity, and it gives the Soviets just the opening they need. It's madness.

COLLETTE

I guess we're about to know how SMOTH feels, having the Soviets right on their doorstep.

LATHAM

Except they're not poised to invade. Instead, his MPs are running around telling everyone that-

He stops himself, suddenly realizing something.

COLLETTE

What? What is it?

LATHAM

Wait... Britain's MPs are using the Soviet threat to ramp up their war factories. We know the Bay of Pigs invasion will fail... What if that was the intention all along?

COLLETTE

I don't follow you.

LATHAM

The worry is if the invasion fails, we'll have an increased Soviet presence in Cuba. If that happens, it puts pressure on Kennedy to respond, and in a big way.

(MORE)

LATHAM (CONT'D)

And what bigger way is there than
with an increase in defense
spending: anti-missile systems,
ICBMs, ships, combat materiale...

COLLETTE

Oh, God... They want JMATE to fail!

LATHAM

Like SMOTH said, there's a lot of
money at stake here. And there's no
way these industrialists are going
to let peace get in their way...
Get me an appointment with Bisset.
Tell him it's urgent. I'll go back
upstairs and speak to Berard.

Collette picks up the Gray phone as Latham rushes out the
office.

EXT. THE "1789" RESTAURANT - 36TH STREET, NW - DAY

A Federal period house in Georgetown converted to a restaurant
with multiple dining rooms.

INT. RESTAURANT DINING ROOM

Decorated with antiques, equestrian and historical prints and
china (the tableware). Latham and Bisset eat lunch in an
otherwise empty room.

BISSET

I didn't realize this was right
around the corner from my house.

LATHAM

You haven't been here that long.

BISSET

You know, I oughtta thank you for
getting me out of the office.

LATHAM

Why's that?

BISSET

Chicago's Mayor Daley was there with
his wife and six kids for a photo op
with the president. Guy thinks he
has carte blanche now 'cause he
helped Jack get elected.

LATHAM

Hmm... Anyway, Easton and Stans went
to see the president yesterday. Were
you in on the meeting?

BISSET
Most of it. Why?

LATHAM
You talk about the Bay of Pigs?

BISSET
Yes, same as with your people.

LATHAM
Did they discuss the aftermath
should the invasion fail?

BISSET
They talked about taking a hard
line with the Kremlin. But the
president was more focused on the
invasion itself. Your group assured
him it would succeed.

LATHAM
What did Easton and Stans say?

BISSET
They agreed with your people.

LATHAM
Did they bring up the subject of
increasing the military budget?

BISSET
When don't they ask for more money.

LATHAM
Yeah, that's true.

BISSET
Where are you going with this?

LATHAM
Say Castro knows about the invasion,
and that the JCS suspects there's a
leak. Yet they insist the invasion
go ahead as planned. You'd suspect
something was up.

BISSET
I would.

LATHAM
We're in a recession. What if
someone decided to speed up the
president's recovery efforts by
ramping up the military in response
to a Soviet threat in Cuba?

Bisset stops eating.

BISSET
Are you saying that's the case?

LATHAM
I'm saying once this country gets into a cycle of preparing for war and those profits for military contractors roll in, there's no turning back.

Bisset loses his appetite and grows worried.

LATHAM (CONT'D)
And one more thing... Who else knew we were meeting the other night?

BISSET
No one. I didn't tell anyone.

LATHAM
(mulls it over)
Hm, maybe they weren't watching me... Maybe they were watching you.

BISSET
What are you talking about?

LATHAM
Two men in a car at the end of your block were watching me but I slipped them. Now I think they were really keeping eyes on you.

BISSET
(worriedly)
Why? What for?

LATHAM
Could be Easton and Stans were worried you weren't fully on their team. So they wanted to know if you were talking to the enemy.

BISSET
Who - you mean the communists?

LATHAM
No, the doves.

EXT. 2430 E STREET, NW - COCKROACH ALLEY - DAY (DUSK)

CIA personnel exit Gate #1.

INT. LATHAM'S OUTER OFFICE

Latham returns and takes off his coat. Collette perks up.

COLLETTE

Berard's back. He wants to see you.

Latham doffs his coat and tosses it to her, then leaves.

BERARD'S OFFICE

Latham enters. Berard motions for him to sit.

BERARD

I relayed your concerns to the DDP.
In fact, I endorsed them.

LATHAM

Thank you, sir.

BERARD

You might want to hold off on that.
I didn't do a good enough job of
persuading him. JMATE goes on as
planned.

Latham is frustrated and angry.

BERARD (CONT'D)

Brigade 2506 is scheduled to hit
the beachheads at 04:00 on April
17th.

LATHAM

The 17th? I thought they were going
in on the tenth?

BERARD

It was pushed back a week. The
Times is about to run a story on
anti-Castro forces training in
Homestead, Florida. The article
overestimates the size of the
brigade, saying it has five to six
thousand men. The DDP wants Castro
to digest that, hoping it alters
his response and diverts attention
away from Puerto Cabezas in
Nicaragua, where the brigade is
being launched.

LATHAM

The brigade isn't ready, are they?

BERARD

It doesn't seem so.

LATHAM

Geezus! I can't believe they're going ahead with this!

BERARD

Warren, I did argue on both fronts, and Bethune seemed to waver. But Moyland, Montoya and Kensington made counterarguments suggesting I was overstating Castro's counter-insurgency capabilities. They also felt I was advancing a conspiracy-laden theory whose basis lay in a possible provocation by the Soviet rezident... I'm sorry.

LATHAM

That brigade deserves better than this.

BERARD

Are you going to take this to the president?

LATHAM

Kennedy met with the Joint Chiefs the day after meeting with Kensington and his pals. Everyone assured him the plan would work... It's too late.

He gets up and leaves.

EXT. 704 3RD STREET, NW - APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

Light flickers in several windows as people watch TV.

INT. LATHAM'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

Latham and Fiona cuddle on the couch and watch the "Mirror Image" episode of The Twilight Zone on television. It is the end of the episode where the actor Martin Milner sees his doppelgänger run out the bus station. Milner gives chase but cannot catch his double.

Fiona shudders. Latham is a bit surprised at her.

LATHAM

That bothers you?

FIONA

Yes, it's so creepy. Why - it didn't get to you?

LATHAM

Not really; it's a TV show.

Fiona is disappointed. Latham tries to explain.

LATHAM (CONT'D)
I mean, I liked it, but...

He shrugs. Fiona sits up. A storm is brewing.

FIONA
You're not even a little scared?

Latham shrugs and shakes his head no.

FIONA (CONT'D)
Uh huh.

LATHAM
What? Come on, it's just a show. I
don't want to get into it over this.

FIONA
You're saying nothing scares you,
nothing bothers you.

LATHAM
No, I'm not. I'm not saying that at
all.

FIONA
You don't have to.

She grabs a throw pillow and holds it against her stomach.

LATHAM
What is this? We're watching TV and
now this.

FIONA
Forget it.

LATHAM
Come on, Fiona - will you stop? I
don't even know what I did here.

FIONA
You didn't do a damn thing.

Latham reaches for her but she moves her hand away.

LATHAM
Fine.

He gets up and shuts off the television. He sits back down,
facing her.

LATHAM (CONT'D)
I wanna talk, but not if you're
just gonna yell at me.

Fiona raises the throw pillow to her face. She starts to sob.
Latham pulls her toward him and holds her tightly.

LATHAM (CONT'D)
Hey, if this is about your mom, I'm
sorry. I really am.

Fiona lowers the pillow.

FIONA
She's going to be alone.

LATHAM
I know.

FIONA
No! You don't know!
(pounds her fist on the
pillow)
It's not the same for men. You
don't like a woman's looks, you
just move on to the next one. And
it's always some young girl. What's
my mom supposed to do when every
man thinks she's too old and too
ugly?

LATHAM
You're right - I don't know.

FIONA
You screw around with a girl then
leave her because something better
came along... Or she's pregnant.

Latham is taken aback. They look each other in the eye.

LATHAM
Are you?

FIONA
I'm late.

Latham can barely hold back his surprise - and joy. He wipes
the tears from her face.

LATHAM
Fiona, listen to me: I love you...
I love you. I want to be in your
life. And I couldn't be happier if
that meant bringing a child into
our family.

FIONA

A mulatto child starts life with
one strike against him.

LATHAM

Not in this house. Any child here
will only know unconditional love.

He takes the throw pillow and sets it aside.

FIONA

How can you say that when so many
things can happen?

LATHAM

I'm not a religious man, honey; you
know that. But for some reason now,
I feel as though I've been blessed.
I know this is right.

He leans over, raises Fiona's pajama top and gently kisses
her flat stomach. Fiona holds Latham's head there.

END