

Cool Gray Dawn

Season Two, Episode #6: "Country or Death"

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Cool Gray Dawn  
"Country or Death"

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. WASHINGTON, D.C. - DAY (MORNING)

An aerial panorama from The Capitol building, north to the working-class neighborhood of...

BRIGHTWOOD - CORNER OF 14TH STREET AND TEWKESBURY PLACE, NW

CARLA DILAURIA sits in a gray sedan on Tewkesbury Place, surveilling the area then focusing on...

6425 14TH STREET, NW

Stock footage of this period apartment building.

INT. APARTMENT

Modestly furnished, clean and tidy. WARREN LATHAM and PAUL "BAZZO" BARRY, both wearing gloves, search the apartment - Bazzo, the living room; Latham, the bedroom.

BAZZO

For a guy who lives alone, Raines  
is awfully neat.

Finding nothing, Bazzo moves on to the bathroom while Latham enters the...

KITCHEN

Latham checks the cupboards and drawers; he looks under the sink, the dinette table and chairs, and behind the refrigerator. Bazzo enters, disappointed.

BAZZO

Nothing.

Latham looks in the trash. Half-buried in coffee grinds he sees the corner of a postcard. He reaches in and pulls it out. Bazzo sees this and comes over. The Two examine the postcard.

It has a picture of the Tivoli Theater in Columbia Heights, Washington, D.C. Postmarked April 12, 1961, it's addressed to "Ed Raines, 6425 14th St., NW, Apt. #12, Washington 10, D.C."

BAZZO (CONT'D)

His controller wants to meet.

LATHAM

Hmm, postmarked Wednesday. He left for New York Central on Thursday. So they haven't had a chance to.

BAZZO

You know when he's due back?

LATHAM

Today, according to his SITREP.

They both read the message: "8-LR."

BAZZO

'8-LR'... 8:00 show, last row?

LATHAM

That'd be my guess. Take Carla and some backup. I want eyes on Raines and whoever he's is meeting.

He puts the postcard back in the trash.

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

Casually dressed CIA personnel move about the compound.

INT. CIA OPEN-PLAN OFFICE

A map of the Caribbean lies on a table; on it are eight model ships that a WOMAN WEARING A HEADSET repositions toward Cuba.

A RUNNER drops off folders for several pensive Men and Women. Along with KEVIN MOYLAND they listen to announcements from VOICE #1 over the loudspeakers. A Red phone RINGS; CIA OFFICER #1, a woman, answers it. (Dialogue overlaps announcements.)

CIA OFFICER #1

2-7-5-7...

VOICE #1 (O.S.)

The brigade completed its move from Fort Trax to Puerto Cabezas at 0100 where they boarded the Houston...

CIA OFFICER #1

Mr. Moyland, it's Ed Raines for you.

Moyland goes to her desk. CIA Officer #1 hands him the phone.

MOYLAND

It's Moyland. Where are you?

RAINES (O.S.)

New York Central.

MOYLAND

I thought you were on your way back?

VOICE #1 (O.S.)

The Houston, the Caribe, the Rio Escondido and the Atlantico all left Point Zulu en route to Point Charlie-Charlie, escorted by the Barbara J, the Braggart and two destroyers. The ranking officers on board the Houston said they needed more anti-aircraft protection. So eight .50 caliber machine guns were installed on her, delaying their departure.

There are worried looks on the faces in the room. Moyland checks the 24-hour wall clock: 10:05.

RAINES (O.S.)

I'm flying back tonight. What's the rush? My part's done.

MOYLAND

No rush, I'm just trying to keep up with all the mess here. You heard about the screw-up with the B-26's?

RAINES (O.S.)

Uh huh - typical Kensington. Lucky it's Sunday; everyone's too hung over to read the paper.

MOYLAND

That's just the start. You hear the shipping report?

RAINES (O.S.)

Yeah, they're en route to Point Charlie-Charlie.

MOYLAND

That convoy has to make the Bay of Pigs by 0200 tomorrow. But the Houston's fully laden with the brigade, fuel and materiale.

RAINES (O.S.)

As expected. So what's the problem?

MOYLAND

Ed, she tops out at eight knots.

RAINES (O.S.)

Hm, I could walk faster than that.

MOYLAND

Not only that, everything has to be transferred to LCI's to get to the beach. If it's not done before dawn, she'll be a sitting duck for Castro's air force.

RAINES (O.S.)

I thought the air strike took out most of his planes.

MOYLAND

We haven't been able to confirm that yet.

RAINES (O.S.)

Even so, the Houston should still be okay. She's got an armed escort, the Barbara J.

MOYLAND

You weren't around to hear my objections to using her. The Barbara J's got just four Navy men on board; the rest of the crew are civilians. I've said this from Day One: I doubt any civilian crew would risk their lives in a crisis.

ON THE OPEN SEA - DAY

The ships head toward Cuba. An observer propjet follows them.

EXT. BAY OF PIGS, CUBA - DAY

INSERT: "Bay of Pigs, Cuba - Sunday, April 16, 1961"

Stock footage of an aerial view of the bay.

PUNTA PERDIZ - RADIO STATION

Stock footage of a small building bathed in pastel colors and resembling a cabana. A sign reads "PUNTA PERDIZ, RADIO.26."

INT. CONTROL ROOM

STATION MANAGER JUAN ALVAREZ reads a newspaper, Revolución. It's headline, accompanied by a picture of Fidel Castro, reads: "Luchar contra lo imposible y vencer."

INSERT TRANSLATION: "Fight against the impossible and win."

The door opens. MILITARY COMMANDER JUAN ALMEIDA and FIVE MEN IN FATIGUES enter. Alvarez is pleasantly surprised. He stands and greets Almeida. (They speak Spanish.)

ALVAREZ

Es bueno verte de nuevo, comandante.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "Good to see you again, Commander."

ALMEIDA

Tú también, Juan.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "You too, Juan."

ALVAREZ

Hubo otros lugares además de los  
aeropuertos afectados por el ataque  
aéreo?

INSERT TRANSLATION: "Were any places other than the airports  
hit by the air strike?"

ALMEIDA

No, pero creemos que habrá un  
intento de aterrizar una fuerza de  
invasión aquí. Mis hombres mirarán  
la playa.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "No, but we believe there'll be an attempt  
to land an invasion force here. My men will watch the beach."

He nods toward the FIVE MEN accompanying him.

ALMEIDA (CONT'D)

El Batallón Trescientos treinta y  
nueve estará en el ingenio  
azucarero. Me gustaría que permitas  
que mis hombres usen la estación  
para comunicarse con ellos.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "Battalion 339 will be at the sugar mill.  
I'd like you to let my men use the station to communicate with  
them."

ALVAREZ

Por supuesto.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "Of course."

Almeida turns to the Five Men.

ALMEIDA

Informe cualquier barco que no esté  
albergado aquí.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "Report any boats that aren't harbored  
here."

Suddenly, a message is BROADCAST over a wall loudspeaker.

ANNOUNCER (O.S.)

Alerta! Alerta! Mira bien el  
arcoiris. El pez se levantará muy  
pronto. Chico está en la casa.  
Visítalo. El cielo es azul. Coloque  
un aviso en el árbol. El árbol es  
verde y marrón. Las cartas llegaron  
bien. Las letras son blancas El pez  
no tardará mucho en levantarse. El  
pez es rojo.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "Alert! Alert! Look well at the rainbow.  
The fish will rise very soon. Chico is in the house. Visit  
him. The sky is blue. Place notice in the tree. The tree is  
green and brown. The letters arrived well. The letters are  
white. The fish will not take much time to rise. The fish is  
red."

Almeida and his men are startled and perplexed. Alvarez  
lowers the volume.

ALMEIDA

(overlapping)

Qué diablos es eso?

Insert translation: "What the hell is that?"

ALVAREZ

(overlapping)

Ese es el Radio Swan de los  
estadounidenses. Han estado  
transmitiendo el mismo mensaje cada  
hora. Creo que debe ser algún tipo  
de código para los disidentes.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "That's the American's Radio Swan. They've  
been broadcasting that same message every hour. I think it  
must be some sort of code to the dissidents."

ALMEIDA

Tal vez... O solo tonterías.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "Maybe... Or just nonsense."

EXT. WASHINGTON, D.C. - DAY

Stock footage of the Washington Monument and Reflecting Pool.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Stock footage focusing on the West Wing.

ANTEROOM OUTSIDE THE OVAL OFFICE

A DIPLOMATIC SECURITY SERVICE (DSS) SPECIAL AGENT in a dark  
suit waits.

The door opens. SECRETARY OF STATE DEAN RUSK exits; the DSS Agent accompanies him.

EXT. 2201 C STREET, NW - HARRY S TRUMAN BUILDING - DAY

Rusk alights from a Cadillac limousine along with the DSS Agent and enters the building.

INT. SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE

Plush, wood-paneled and expansive. Waiting there are CARL BETHUNE, STEWART KENSINGTON and WILSON BERARD. The door opens; Rusk enters. The DSS Agent waits outside the door as Rusk closes it.

RUSK

Sorry to keep you waiting.

(sits at his desk)

The president has approved the landings at the Bay of Pigs.

Kensington and Bethune are pleased with the decision.

RUSK (CONT'D)

As for this follow-up air strike tomorrow... I believe it should be canceled - and the president agrees.

KENSINGTON

But the ships are already en route to Cuba!

BETHUNE

Mr. Rusk, without another pre-dawn air strike, we're putting the landings and the ships in jeopardy.

RUSK

I understand that, but you have to understand that there are policy considerations in play here. The beachhead airfield must be in the hands of the landing force and completely operational. This means it must be capable of supporting the raids. Otherwise, the strikes will clearly be attributable to the United States. Now, I've asked McGeorge Bundy to deliver the same message to the Joint Chiefs. So I suggest you expedite the unloading of men and materiale at the beachheads and get your ships out of there before dawn.

Berard, Bethune and Kensington get up and start to leave.



RUSK (CONT'D)  
Mr. Berard...

The Three CIA Officers pause; Berard looks back.

RUSK (CONT'D)  
I assume I'll hear back from you?

Berard nods. Bethune and Kensington look curiously at each other as they follow Berard out the office.

EXT. CONSTITUTION AVENUE AND NINTH STREET - DAY

Residents of this affluent neighborhood stroll about, as do Latham and KENNEDY'S PRESS SECRETARY FRANÇOIS BISSET.

BISSET  
Moyland was in the West Wing earlier, floating the idea of using the Mafia to assassinate Castro.

LATHAM  
The Mafia...

BISSET  
They have as much incentive to kill Castro as the exiles - maybe more.

Latham purposely looks uncomfortable with the idea.

BISSET (CONT'D)  
It puts distance between us and the assassins - plausible deniability, right? It also minimizes the chances of having any informers. Plus, the president endorses the idea as fallback in case the invasion fails.

LATHAM  
Payback for their investment in his election?

Bisset stops dead in his tracks, offended by this.

BISSET  
What kind of cheap remark is that? Who the hell are you to insinuate they helped Jack win the election?

LATHAM  
I was with Momo's pals during the election. I know the role they played in Illinois and West Virginia.

(MORE)

LATHAM (CONT'D)

I also know they're waiting for Kennedy to repay the debt. So spare me the theatrics.

Bisset is chagrined; his ruse is exposed. He looks away, mulling something over.

BISSET

That explains it then.

LATHAM

Explains what?

BISSET

Why Moyland can't approach the Mob. He said something that happened involving him and your CI Chief during the election put them on Momo's hit list.

LATHAM

He say what it was, exactly?

BISSET

No, I imagine it's classified.

LATHAM

What does this have to do with me?

BISSET

We want the Mafia to take up the contract, and we want to pay them from the same account funding the Cuban Project.

LATHAM

So it looks like we initiated the hit. More plausible deniability?

Bisset is again chagrined and evades the rhetorical question.

BISSET

We, um, understand Berard controls the account.

LATHAM

Yes, but I can't imagine him going along with this. He doesn't trust the Mob.

BISSET

We know. Rusk and I met with him and he balked at the idea. The president would like you to persuade him to go along. And he's hoping you'll oversee the operation.

LATHAM

But I agree with Berard.

BISSET

Warren, as long as the government can deny any involvement, it's worth the risk to get rid of Castro.

EXT. COCKROACH ALLEY - DAY

A view of the compound through the chain links of Gate #1.

INT. BERARD'S OFFICE

Latham and Berard are there. Berard is very concerned.

BERARD

What do you plan to do about Raines?

LATHAM

Keep eyes on him. We should know if anyone else is involved.

BERARD

Yes, you'll have to play that out.

He gets up and goes to the window.

BERARD (CONT'D)

I was at the White House earlier with Carl Bethune and Stewart. The Secretary of State requested I be there. I took that as a nod to you.

LATHAM

I don't understand.

BERARD

The president knows that informing me of his concerns about JMATE means they'll be passed on to you.

Latham is embarrassed.

BERARD (CONT'D)

Rusk recommended canceling Monday's air strike - and Kennedy agreed.

Latham shakes his head, disheartened at this.

BERARD (CONT'D)

There's no plausible deniability.

LATHAM

I know. It just never should have gotten to this point.

BERARD

Agreed. Coupled with this mole business, I imagine heads will roll around here - perhaps even mine.

Latham is surprised and saddened to hear this. He thinks a moment, then...

LATHAM

I met with Bisset earlier. He told me the president was approached with a plan to have the Mob kill Castro. Seems Kennedy and his team aren't aware Eisenhower approached us last year to do the same thing.

BERARD

Hmm, I was asked to fund it from the Bay of Pigs account... I agree Castro should be removed. But even when I put aside my own objections to using the Mob, I still see a problem - and that's keeping it compartmentalized. It's inevitable that knowledge of this arrangement will spread through the ranks of those involved in JMATE.

LATHAM

Not if I handle it.

Berard is surprised and pleased to hear this.

LATHAM (CONT'D)

I can keep it between myself and Brent Hayden over at Security.

BERARD

Why Hayden?

LATHAM

I'll need a cutout to approach the Mob. And he knows whom to contact.

BERARD

I see.... Warren, if this leaks out, it'll damage the Agency for years to come. If you take it, I'd expect you to prevent that from happening.

LATHAM

Understood, sir.

EXT. PINAR DEL RIO, CUBA - DAY

INSERT: "Pinar del Rio, Cuba"

Stock footage of a tobacco-rich town of rolling hills. The central square is packed with people, including news media. Holding court is CHE GUEVARA, obstreperous and angry, wearing fatigues and his signature beret. (He speaks Spanish.)

CHE

Si el ataque del viernes es el prelude de la invasión anunciada de los cinco mil gusanos, estamos preparados para una guerra larga y dura.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "If the attack Friday is the prelude to the announced invasion of the five thousand worms, we are prepared for a long and hard war."

The assembled throng CHEER loudly.

EXT. PLAYA GIRON, BAY OF PIGS - DAY

INSERT: "Playa Giron, La Bahía de Cochinos (The Bay of Pigs)"

A sleepy, seaside town of concrete bungalows near the beach. Faint Russian broadcasts from a shortwave radio are heard.

Inland, modest wood-frame houses predominate. A horse-drawn carriage stands by a trough at one such home. Tinny Zapateo music comes over a radio. A CUBAN MAN dressed in fatigues stands in the doorway. He watches Cuban troops march behind tanks and batteries of Soviet-made, 122mm Howitzers. The music is interrupted by a BROADCAST from FIDEL CASTRO.

CASTRO (O.S.)

Todas las unidades se dirigen a sus respectivos batallones. Afrontemos al enemigo con la convicción de que morir por el país es vivir, y vivir encadenado es vivir en la vergüenza y la desgracia.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "All units make their way to their respective battalions. Let us face the enemy with the conviction that to die for the country is to live, and to live in chains is to live in shame and disgrace."

Soviet T-33 jets and Sea Furies fly overhead. The Cuban Man proudly waves to the troops.

CUBAN MAN

Patria o Muerte!

INSERT TRANSLATION: "Country or Death!"

EXT. OFFICE PARK - DAY

INSERT: "FAA SOUTHERN REGIONAL OFFICE, ATLANTA, GEORGIA"

Stock footage of an office complex of period buildings.

INT. AIR ROUTE TRAFFIC CONTROL CENTER

Stock footage of AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS (ATC's) tracking flights on radar. A few ATC's stand over a U.S. Navy video generator that presents radar data on a horizontal surface.

An FAA EMPLOYEE tears a notice off a teletype and brings it to LEAD CONTROLLER GERALD HENDERSON.

HENDERSON

Give me your attention, please...  
Everyone, listen up. We've received  
a NOTAM issued by the air control  
center in Havana. It reads: 'For  
security reasons all flights over  
the Cuban territory and in the  
vicinity of Cuba canceled  
immediately until further notice.'

ATC #1

Looks like Castro's air force is  
ready to retaliate.

There's indistinct murmuring. Henderson picks up the phone.

HENDERSON

This is Gerald Henderson at the  
FAA's Southern Regional Office in  
Atlanta. I'd like to speak to  
Admiral Clifton... Yes, the  
President's military aide.

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

A view of the compound through the chain-link fence.

INT. OPERATIONS ROOM

The silent loudspeakers allow the usual PURL of teletype machines, chatter and ringing phones to come through. DUTY OFFICERS JARED STOKES and TOM PERCY man the Duty Desk with MISSION PLANNING'S REID NICHOLS. Latham enters.

LATHAM

You have something for me, Jared?

STOKES

The air control center in Havana  
issued a Notice to Airmen canceling  
all flights over Cuban territory.  
And MI6 says Cuba's G-2 have rounded  
up a large number of dissidents.

NICHOLS

Looks like it's D-Day there, too.

PERCY

Bethune and Kensington were here asking for you, sir. They'd like you to drop by C Building when you have a moment - quote, unquote.

INT. CIA OPEN-PLAN OFFICE - DAY

Some JMATE OFFICERS eat lunch; others smoke at their desks.

CORNER OFFICE

Moyland, Bethune and Kensington eat lunch. Latham stands apart, determinedly presenting his position.

LATHAM

Castro still controls the skies.

BETHUNE

Yes, we heard about the NOTAM.

LATHAM

Then you can't let the brigade land; it's suicide.

Moyland, Bethune and Kensington glance guiltily at each other.

BETHUNE

Warren, after your comments a few weeks ago-

KENSINGTON

And D-Int's memo.

The interruption annoys Bethune. Moyland rolls his eyes.

BETHUNE

I wondered if there was enough popular support in Cuba to overthrow Castro. The group still felt there was. So, to insure that success, we decided to make a change to JMATE.

KENSINGTON

One Kennedy wasn't aware of.

BETHUNE

We came up with two scenarios that would legitimize a call for an all-out attack by our military.

Latham is incredulous but remains silent.

BETHUNE (CONT'D)

One was to get Castro to attack our Naval base at Guantanamo by making him believe the rebels were attacking from there.

MOYLAND

The other was to interpose one of our ships in a rebel attack and get it blown up.

LATHAM

You didn't consider just calling the damn thing off?

KENSINGTON

For Chrissakes, Warren!

BETHUNE

Stewart...

Kensington HUFFS and looks away.

BETHUNE (CONT'D)

Somehow O.N.I. found out. They were angry they weren't brought in initially and nixed both plans.

MOYLAND

They were probably the ones leaking all our foul-ups to Kennedy.

LATHAM

And the upshot to all this?

BETHUNE

Kennedy refuses to allow any direct military participation in JMATE. He also canceled any further air strikes, though he did authorize the use of the early warning destroyers.

MOYLAND

Provided they stay at least 30 miles from Cuban territory.

LATHAM

If the rules of engagement haven't changed, then what good are the destroyers other than to warn you that the brigade is under attack?

Moyland, Bethune and Kensington look at each other resignedly.

BETHUNE

Point taken.



MOYLAND

Despite that, we still feel the operation can succeed - with your help.

BETHUNE

Yesterday we learned the value of your expertise. You were right to assume operational command when you did. We're hoping you'll continue to sit in.

LATHAM

What was your last commo with the brigade regarding the landing?

MOYLAND

I gave them the go-ahead.

LATHAM

That makes me little more than an observer.

BETHUNE

One we desperately need.

ACT TWO

EXT. SAMUEL GOMPERS PARK - DAY

LAWRENCE JONES (SMOTH) and Latham stroll. Latham yawns.

JONES

Havana station got word from Castro's personal barber. The bloke said Castro was livid. Seems the KGB have a double agent code-named Elian inside the CIA - something you'd already presumed. Elian's been working Cuba's Foreign Minister Raúl Roa, trying to get him to defect.

LATHAM

That was part of the Cuban Project's propaganda plan.

JONES

Well, Castro knew all about it - but he didn't tell Roa.

LATHAM

Hm, so he questioned Roa's loyalty.

JONES

You're amazingly alert for someone  
who looks like death warmed over.

Latham throws him a sidelong glance.

JONES (CONT'D)

Anyway, when Roa canceled the lift,  
Castro figured someone must have  
told him that Elian was doubling.

LATHAM

Since when is Castro so forthcoming?

JONES

Since his mistress decided to  
accompany him for a trim.

LATHAM

Wait... What am I missing here?

JONES

No more than usual.

He smiles mischievously. Latham sneers back.

JONES (CONT'D)

According to the barber, when she's  
around 'el jefe' likes to boast  
about his knowledge of the CIA's  
plans against him.

LATHAM

Hm, just enough to end Elian's  
career as a double agent.

JONES

And protect someone else's?

INT. LATHAM'S OFFICE - DAY

Tired, Latham enters. He doffs his trench coat and checks the  
24-hour wall clock: 16:05. He takes an old-fashioned, bell  
alarm clock from his desk drawer. As he sets the time and  
alarm, Bazzo enters drinking a Diet-Rite Cola.

BAZZO

You look all in.

LATHAM

Thanks. I thought you hated diet  
soda?

BAZZO

Hey, if it helps keep the pounds  
off...

He sits and sees that something is bothering Latham.

BAZZO (CONT'D)  
Something on your mind?

LATHAM  
I was talking with Bisset earlier.  
He said Moyland approached them  
about using the Mob to kill Castro.

BAZZO  
Picking up where he left off with  
Ike and Nixon.

LATHAM  
I get that. But Moyland told them he  
couldn't get involved because he and  
MOTHER had done something during the  
election to put them on Momo's hit  
list.

BAZZO  
What? No, that was MOTHER trying to  
take advantage of the election.  
Moyland wasn't involved in that.

LATHAM  
I know. Momo's beef is strictly  
with MOTHER.

BAZZO  
Thanks to you. So why would Moyland  
put himself in the picture?

LATHAM  
I don't know... It's such an odd  
thing to lie about.

BAZZO  
Well, he's out of the picture now  
so... What did SMOTH have to say?

LATHAM  
His informant says Castro admitted  
to having a double agent code-named  
Elian inside CIA.

BAZZO  
Confirms what you already suspected.

LATHAM  
He also believes Castro's offering  
him up to protect someone else.

BAZZO  
Great. What else can go wrong here?

LATHAM

Please... Where are you with Raines?

BAZZO

I arranged with Security to have two teams at the theater tonight, along with Carla and me.

Latham nods and yawns as he winds the alarm clock.

BAZZO (CONT'D)

You sleeping here tonight?

LATHAM

Huh? No, I'm just gonna take a nap in the Infirmary. Bethune asked me to monitor JMATE with them.

BAZZO

Why? They're way past the point of no return.

LATHAM

They know. They also know it's their last hurrah. When the IG reviews this, only the least culpable will survive. So I've been recruited to bear witness to their best efforts.

BAZZO

Could be your chance to clear out the dead wood on the third floor.

Latham considers this as he sets the alarm clock on his desk. Bazzo gets up.

BAZZO (CONT'D)

Oh, before I forget - Jared wants you to stop by the Ops Room.

Latham waits until Bazzo leaves then dials the Gray phone.

LATHAM

Brent, it's Warren Latham.

HAYDEN (O.S.)

You're gonna ruin my Sunday, I know it.

LATHAM

I need your help. Can you meet me in the Infirmary in an hour?

HAYDEN (O.S.)

Is this about Raines? 'Cause I already gave Paul some backup.

LATHAM

No, no. Look, you know I wouldn't bother you if it wasn't urgent.

HAYDEN (O.S.)

Yeah... When did you say - an hour?

LATHAM

Uh huh. And don't let anyone see you go into the Infirmary.

HAYDEN (O.S.)

Right.

Latham hangs up, grabs the alarm clock and leaves.

OPERATIONS ROOM

Latham enters. Stokes does a double-take at seeing Latham cradle the alarm clock.

LATHAM

What have you got, Jared?

STOKES

The Cuban Revolutionary Council issued two press bulletins...

(reads from one bulletin)

The first one says, 'Before dawn, the island of Cuba will rise up en masse in a coordinated wave of sabotage and rebellion that will sweep communism from our country.'

(hands it to Latham)

The second one claims that much of the militia in the countryside has already defected from Castro.

He scoffs as he hands Latham the second press bulletin.

PERCY

Straight from the pen of JMATE's propaganda minister, Phillips.

NICHOLS

You'd think he'd at least tell them to wait until the brigade lands.

LATHAM

That's the problem with operations like this - they tend to generate their own momentum.

PERCY

Well, this one's hanging on by its fingernails.

Pronounced worry fills everyone's faces. Latham hands the press bulletins back to Stokes.

LATHAM  
I'll be in the Infirmary.

He leaves.

INFIRMARY

The window blinds are drawn but sunlight sneaks past the slats. Latham lies on one of the cots, eyes shut. A bedpan and urinal sit on a nearby cart. After a moment, BRENT HAYDEN enters and SHUTS the door. Latham sits up and stretches while Hayden pulls up a folding chair and sits.

HAYDEN  
You realize I'm gonna miss The Bullwinkle Show.

LATHAM  
I wondered how you kept current on the KGB.

HAYDEN  
Okay, tell me why I'm here.

LATHAM  
I have an Op that requires gangster-types. I need an asset, a cut-out who can approach the Mob.

HAYDEN  
To do what?

LATHAM  
Kill Castro.

Hayden is nonplussed and leans back.

LATHAM (CONT'D)  
It has to be someone with access to Sam Giancana and Santo Trafficante.

HAYDEN  
Exploiting the revenge angle?

LATHAM  
Wouldn't you?

HAYDEN  
Remember when Moyland got with them?

LATHAM  
Yeah, AMDOFF/1, Castro's private secretary - he was our inside man.

HAYDEN

TSD finally got him those poison pills last month - but he got cold feet. By then Castro had caught on. Now our joe's holed up in the Venezuelan Embassy trying to get safe conduct to Mexico.

LATHAM

That's gonna make others reluctant to cooperate.

Latham leans on the cart, his hand on the bedpan.

HAYDEN

You're not gonna use that now, are you?

LATHAM

Huh?

Hayden points to the bedpan. Latham feigns umbrage.

LATHAM (CONT'D)

I don't know. Maybe.

They exchange evil, schoolboy grins.

LATHAM (CONT'D)

Is the Mob still on board?

HAYDEN

They claim they'd do it out of patriotism. Of course, what they really want is to regain control of Cuba's vice squad so they can run roughshod over the country again. How much are you offering for the hit?

LATHAM

Same as before, 150 large.

HAYDEN

I can put you in touch with a former FBI agent here in D.C., Bob Maynard. The Mob calls him The Fixer. He also works as a private dick doing odd jobs for Howard Hughes.

LATHAM

That's quite a step up - I think.

HAYDEN

He still slums it. We give him \$500 a month just to front for us.

LATHAM

The BIGOT list for this is you, me,  
Berard and the Chief. But no details  
should ever reach the third floor.

HAYDEN

Got it. I'll set up a meeting.

He gets up and points to the bedpan.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

You can use that now.

He grins slyly and leaves. Latham rolls his eyes and lies  
back down.

EXT. 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

YURI GVOZDEV sits at his desk. DINA enters and stands before  
him.

GVOZDEV

Ne zabyvayte - chto Elian budet v  
kinoteatre v vosem' chasov.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "Don't forget - Elian will be at the  
cinema at eight o'clock."

DINA

Ya ne zabudu.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "I won't."

EXT. COLUMBIA HEIGHTS - TIVOLI THEATER - NIGHT

A view of this jewel of a theater and its marquee: "Federico  
Fellini's La Dolce Vita." A crowd enters the theater.

INT. MOVIE THEATER

Two-thirds full; the last few rows are dotted with couples.

NEXT-TO-LAST ROW

Bazzo and DiLauria share a box of popcorn. Bazzo chows down  
like there's no tomorrow.

DILAURIA

Save some for the opening credits.

Bazzo glances over his shoulder then leans close to DiLauria.



BAZZO  
So where's Raines?

The house lights dim. A trailer for "West Side Story" runs. Bazzo and DiLauria nuzzle each other, all the while keeping an eye on the back row.

EXT. TIVOLI THEATER - NIGHT

The sidewalk is empty of people. The BOX OFFICE CASHIER reads a paperback, "From Russia With Love," by Ian Fleming.

INT. MOVIE THEATER

The feature is playing. DiLauria leans on Bazzo's shoulder, allowing her to peek at the last row of seats.

A MAN approaches the center aisle from the rear of the theater. DiLauria TAPS Bazzo on the arm. She watches the Man linger there and eye the last row on both sides of the aisle.

Finally, the Man walks down the aisle and sits in the seat right in front of Bazzo. He's so tall he blocks Bazzo's view. DiLauria shrugs, disappointed; Bazzo is pissed off.

THEATER LOBBY

The audience exits to the movie's CLOSING THEME. Bazzo and DiLauria pause by the concession stand. COUPLE #1 stops a few feet away. The woman subtly shakes her head no at DiLauria. COUPLE #2 walks by. The Man subtly shakes his head at Bazzo.

EXT. TIVOLI THEATER - NIGHT

Bazzo and DiLauria exit the theater along with the other patrons. Both Couples join them.

BAZZO  
Meet up outside Raines's place.

CORNER OF 14TH STREET AND TEWKESBURY PLACE, NW - NIGHT

Bazzo and DiLauria alight from their sedan. Two more sedans with the other Couples pull up.

BAZZO  
(to Couple #1)  
Watch the front.  
(to Couple #2)  
You take the back. Don't let him  
make a scene.

The sedans move into position. Bazzo and DiLauria enter 6425 14th Street.

INT. CORRIDOR

Bazzo and DiLauria stop at apartment door #12. Bazzo KNOCKS; no response. He KNOCKS again - nothing. DiLauria takes a set of Lock Picks from her bag and unlocks the door. The Two enter...

THE APARTMENT

It's dark; Bazzo flips the wall light switch. Lying prone in the living room by the sofa is Raines. Blood has pooled at his neck where his throat has been cut. His face is a motley pulp, beaten so badly he's unrecognizable.

DILAURIA

This looks familiar.

BAZZO

Come on, let's get to it.

They take his wallet and wristwatch then move about, taking a passport and other fake identification from a dresser drawer and a Colt 1911M from a shelf in a closet. Finally, Bazzo flips off the lights and he and DiLauria leave.

MID-SHOW BREAK

EXT. PLAYA GIRÓN, BAY OF PIGS - NIGHT

There's a waxing crescent moon. Set back from the beach under a group of palm trees is a jeep with MARIANO and FERNANDO, two of the Five Men Commander Almeida assigned to watch the beach. Fernando checks the luminous dial on his watch: 11:45. Through binoculars Mariano sees something - a red beacon bobbing in the sea. He hands Fernando the binoculars.

MARIANO

Allí - esa luz roja.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "Over there - that red light."

FERNANDO

Podría ser simplemente un barco perdido. Muéstreles dónde está la cabeza de playa.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "Could just be a lost boat. Show them where the beachhead is."

Mariano turns the headlights on and off. Gun shots CRACKLE; the headlights are shot out.

MARIANO

Mierda!

He ducks below the dashboard.

Fernando grabs his rifle and blindly SHOOTS back.

FERNANDO  
Sal de aquí! Vamos, ve!

INSERT TRANSLATION: "Get out of here! Come on, go!"

Mariano starts the jeep and drives away while Fernando keeps shooting.

PUNTA PERDIZ - RADIO STATION

The jeep pulls up, kicking up dust as it SKIDS to a stop. Mariano and Fernando jump out and run into the building.

INT. CONTROL ROOM

The Two Cuban militiamen burst in, startling the ENGINEER. Soft music is playing. Mariano grabs the microphone.

FERNANDO  
Está esto conectado al ingenio  
azucarero?

INSERT TRANSLATION: "Is this connected to the sugar mill?"

The Engineer flips a switch.

ENGINEER  
Esto es ahora.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "It is now."

FERNANDO  
Trescientos treinta y nueve, este  
es Rojo Uno. Reconocer.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "339, this is Red One. Acknowledge."

No response.

FERNANDO (CONT'D)  
Trescientos treinta y nueve, este  
es Rojo Uno. Reconocer.

MARIANO  
Por qué no responden?

INSERT TRANSLATION: "Why don't they answer?"

The Engineer shrugs helplessly.

FERNANDO  
(to the Engineer)  
Estás seguro de que esto está  
funcionando?

INSERT TRANSLATION: "You sure this thing is working?"

ENGINEER

Si!

FERNANDO

Trescientos treinta y nueve, este  
es Rojo Uno. Reconocer. Los  
norteamericanos han llegado!

INSERT TRANSLATION: "339, this is Red One. Acknowledge. The  
North Americans have arrived!"

The Engineer grows frightened.

FERNANDO (CONT'D)

Repito, los norteamericanos han  
llegado!

INSERT TRANSLATION: "I repeat, the North Americans have  
arrived!"

INT. CIA OPEN-PLAN OFFICE - NIGHT

A report comes over the loudspeakers.

VOICE #1 (O.S.)

Diver #1 reached Blue Beach and  
placed the beacon. Headlights were  
spotted on the beach but the diver  
shot them out. Otherwise, no  
opposition.

The JMATE personnel generally look pleased. Moyland is stoic.

OPERATIONS ROOM

Packed. Some people are on their phones, but most listen to  
the reports over the loudspeakers. NIGHT DUTY OFFICERS JAMES  
OWENS and PETE FARRELL now man the Duty Desk along with  
MISSION PLANNING'S WILSON BRADLEY. Stokes, Percy and Nichols  
sit behind them. Across from them sit Bethune, Kensington and  
Latham. Owens is on the Red phone.

VOICE #1 (O.S.)

It's no longer slack water in the  
bay; the tide's coming in. There's  
a strong undertow current out there  
that could affect the landing.

OWENS

(hangs up)

Mr. Latham, NPIC confirms only  
minimal damage was inflicted on  
Castro's air force from the air  
strike.

(MORE)

OWENS (CONT'D)

Ten planes were hit but only six were actually operational. Four were being serviced.

BETHUNE

You were right, Warren.

Latham looks at him and Kensington; both men are apprehensive. Latham then looks at the 24-hour clock: 01:50.

LATHAM

Any of our people on board the support ships?

KENSINGTON

Grayston's on the Blagar.

LATHAM

James, send him a message, FLASH precedence.

Owens grabs his pen and a legal pad.

LATHAM (CONT'D)

'Castro still has operational aircraft. Expect you to be hit at dawn. Unload troops and supplies and take ships to sea as soon as possible.'

OWENS

Right.  
(calls out)  
Weston...

WESTON gets up and hurries over. Owens hands him the message.

OWENS (CONT'D)

Get this to Grayston Hamilton; he's on the Blagar.

Weston nods and hurries off.

KENSINGTON

Why are you only telling Gray?

LATHAM

I don't want to panic the brigade.

ABOARD THE HOUSTON - NIGHT

BRIGADE COMMANDER DIAZ scans the sea through binoculars. He sees nothing but water and HUFFS angrily. BRIGADE OFFICER CARON approaches him. Diaz takes out a notepad and writes. He hands it to Caron. Using a cigarette lighter Caron reads the note: "No hay LCI's. Usa las lanchas patrulleras."

INSERT TRANSLATION: "No LCI's. Use the patrol boats."

Caron is worried. Diaz urgently points to the bridge; Caron quickly leaves.

INT. OPERATIONS ROOM

The 24-hour wall clock reads 02:05. Everyone closely follows the announcement over the loudspeakers.

VOICE #1 (O.S.)

Commo from the Houston... The LCI's have failed to materialize. Repeat, no LCI's have rendezvoused with the Houston. The brigade will have to use the ship's patrol boats.

OWENS

That's a problem.

KENSINGTON

Why?

OWENS

I was in the Navy. Those patrol boats are a hell of a lot smaller than LCI's. It'll take forever to get the men ashore.

PERCY

They're outboard launches, right?

KENSINGTON

So?

BRADLEY

They're supposed to maintain strict silence, sir. But those outboard motors are noisy as hell. You can hear them coming a mile away.

Kensington is chagrined.

OWENS

It's not just the motors. The Houston uses those steam-operated davits to lower the patrol boats. Those things are noisy as hell.

BETHUNE

Enough to alert Castro's militia?

OWENS

If they're waiting on shore.

This last remark puts everyone on edge.

CIA OPEN-PLAN OFFICE

Quiet as a morgue. As the announcements continue, hand-wringing begins among some of the JMATE Officers.

VOICE #1 (O.S.)  
Unloading of troops on the Caribe  
is completed.

For female JMATE OFFICER #1, this is cause for concern.

JMATE OFFICER #1  
One ship. It's taking 20 minutes  
for a patrol boat to reach the  
shore - that's way too long.

VOICE #1 (O.S.)  
The landing of the Second Battalion  
at Red Beach has been slowed by  
motor trouble with the ship's  
launches. On Blue Beach, most of the  
supplies have yet to get ashore.

Moyland appears less concerned than the others.

EXT. PLAYA GIRÓN - BLUE BEACH - NIGHT

A lone patrol boat approaches the shore carrying a handful of brigade members and supplies. It cuts its engine as it nears the beach. Brigade Commander San Roman disembarks first. Encountering no opposition, he and the brigade members begin unloading the supplies - a slow methodical process.

FURTHER INLAND

The BUZZ of an outboard motor grows, then silence. Commander Almeida sits in his jeep; Battalion 339 flanks him.

AT THE SHORE

A second patrol boat is unloaded and returns to the ship, motor BUZZING. Brigade members prepare their weapons.

EXT. SAN ANTONIO AIR BASE, CUBA - NIGHT

Insert: "San Antonio Air Base - 20 miles west of Havana"

Stock footage of T-33 jets and Sea Furies taking off.

ON THE BEACH AT PLAYA GIRON

The brigade suddenly comes under mortar, tank and rifle fire. Amid the DIN come SCREAMS from wounded men. The brigade FIRES back. A sudden ROAR of jet engines and propjets fills the air as T-33's and Sea Furies SCREECH by on their sorties.

INT. OPERATIONS ROOM

The usual PURL has less chatter as announcements come rapidly over the loudspeakers. The Red phone RINGS; Owens answers it.

OWENS

0-4-3-3...

VOICE #1 (O.S.)

Only two of the nine patrol boats on the Houston are operational. The Fifth Battalion has been delayed due to boat trouble. They're waiting on new orders from... Just a moment... The battalion on Blue Beach has come under heavy fire. Similar reports are coming from Red Beach. The brigade commander has canceled the landing at Green Beach and redeployed this force to Blue Beach.

Half-smoked cigarettes are snuffed out in ashtrays. Kensington nervously looks about; Bethune's breathing grows shallow. Owens hangs up the Red phone.

OWENS

JMWAVE just received a report from MI6. The word from the tourist site Laguna del Tesoro is that there's gun and cannon fire now around Playa Larga. The local militia say a Cuban battalion is on the way. They also told the locals that the black shapes in the water moving up the coast are definitely U.S. boats.

KENSINGTON

No way! The ships have no markings! There's no way they could know that.

STOKES

They've seen similar shapes in the bay come from Guantanamo, sir.

VOICE #1 (O.S.)

The firefight continues at Blue Beach. But the forces at Red Beach are advancing past the local militia and pushing north...

Kensington and Bethune look hopeful. Latham remains stoic.

VOICE #1 (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Wait... We've just received word of an air strike on the Houston.



Farrell looks at the 24-hour wall clock: 04:45.

FARRELL

Geezus, it's dawn already. The Cubans can see the ships.

VOICE #1 (O.S.)

Reports are she's been hit. The Barbara J is also under fire. The Houston attempted to launch a patrol boat but it was strafed by a T-33. The eight men aboard the launch are presumed dead. All further landing operations from the Houston have been canceled.

NICHOLS

For Chrissake, get the out of there.

BRADLEY

No, it's too late.

VOICE #1 (O.S.)

The Houston has been hit by two more rockets from a Sea Fury and now appears to be disabled... We have unconfirmed reports of men jumping into the water and swimming toward the Barbara J... What?... We've received a report that the Barbara J, instead of picking up the survivors, revved her engines and began moving in the opposite direction. Castro's planes are strafing the survivors in the water. This report also states that the men left on the Houston opened fire against the Barbara J in apparent retaliation. Again, this is an unconfirmed report.

The Duty Officers are furious; some SWEAR, another KICKS a chair. One CIA OFFICER is so distraught she unconsciously digs her fingernails into her wrist, drawing blood. Latham glances at Kensington and Bethune in disgust, then looks away.

### ACT THREE

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

It's a crisp April day. CIA Officers stroll about lazily.

INT. BERARD'S OFFICE

Latham reads from a SITREP to Berard.

LATHAM

Here's what we know so far: Rockets hit the Houston nine times, causing extensive damage. The captain had no choice but to beach the ship. The Rio Escondido was sunk by a direct hit from a rocket. The explosion was so great that crews on the escort ships thought Castro had exploded an A-bomb.

BERARD

My God...

LATHAM

The ship carried a ten-day supply of ammunition, food and hospital equipment; plus 3,000 gallons of aircraft fuel, 145 tons of munitions and 38,000 gallons of diesel fuel.

BERARD

Leaving the brigade with nothing.

Latham nods. Berard sighs. He takes a pill from a tin he keeps in his vest pocket, swallowing it with a glass of water.

LATHAM

The Barbara J lost two of its engines but managed to get to open sea. This, despite leaving brigade members from the Houston to die in the water.

BERARD

I presume the captain will face disciplinary action.

LATHAM

Normally, yes.

BERARD

(upset)  
Why not?

LATHAM

The contract skipper in charge of radio contact with the ships was given a standing order from HQ: 'If air coverage was not immediately available, the ships would put out to sea.' A destroyer code-named Santiago ordered all ships to get out of range of Castro's coastal batteries.

BERARD

Who signed that order?

LATHAM

Bethune, Moyland and Kensington.

BERARD

(dourly)

Go on.

LATHAM

We received an update on the air strike. As you know, the B-26's we provided were purposely configured to match those in the Cuban air force.

BERARD

Except for that nose foul-up.

LATHAM

Yes. At the time of the strike, dawn had just broken. In the heat of battle all the troops could see were silhouettes. They couldn't tell our planes from Castro's and ended up shooting at two or three of ours. One plane was hit; it managed to make an emergency landing at Grand Cayman.

BERARD

How many of our B-26's were lost?

LATHAM

Four.

BERARD

(frustrated)

Let's hear what else you have.

LATHAM

Two freighters withdrawing from the bay came under continued attack from Castro's air force. One of the ships, the Caribe, had been intended for resupply operations.

Berard agonizes at this. Latham tries to be more optimistic.

LATHAM (CONT'D)

Brigade troops were able to clean up Red Beach. And contrary to CASTRO's claims, several hundred of his militia did surrender.

(MORE)

LATHAM (CONT'D)

But the brigade encountered resistance on the road crossing the swamp. That's where the men fled.

BERARD

Into the swamp... With no supplies.

LATHAM

At Blue Beach, all troops who disembarked made it ashore. However, radio communications on Blue Beach were nonexistent during the entire operation and are still out.

BERARD

Why?

LATHAM

Since the troops had to wade ashore, most of the portable radios got wet and stopped functioning.

Berard is so distressed he shuts his eyes.

LATHAM (CONT'D)

Last item... First Battalion seized the road leading into San Blas, just northeast of Blue Beach. They established outposts to cover routes north and east into the beachhead.

BERARD

Alright... You've been up all night and half the morning, Warren. Go and get some sleep.

LATHAM

Right after I meet someone.

EXT. DUPONT CIRCLE - DAY

Stock footage of an aerial view of the park and its environs.

CORNER OF N STREET, NW AND CONNECTICUT AVENUE

A taxi pulls up. Latham alights and walks down the entrance to the underground trolley station.

INT. N STREET STATION

Dirty and deteriorating. Two people wait on the platform: an OLD WOMAN and BOB MAYNARD, bald and stocky. Latham enters and walks up to him.

MAYNARD

Haven't seen you in a while.

Latham shrugs. Maynard looks around and recoils at the filth.

MAYNARD (CONT'D)

You had to meet down here.

LATHAM

Yes. Every alphabet-soup agency in town has your office bugged.

The Old Woman takes notice. Latham and Maynard walk away, toward the end of the platform.

MAYNARD

So what do you want?

LATHAM

I'd like the Mob to find someone to kill Castro.

MAYNARD

What, again?

LATHAM

This time I want someone reliable.

MAYNARD

Hey, don't blame me for that. Castro was on to him. You'd run too if you knew you'd be facing a firing squad.

LATHAM

Let's skip that for now. You'll be representing a syndicate of business leaders whose interests were appropriated by Castro. I'll supply you with flash-aliases before you approach Giancana and Trafficante.

MAYNARD

You mean Johnny Roselli.

LATHAM

No. I want people with a personal stake in this.

Maynard habitually checks the tunnel for approaching trolleys.

MAYNARD

They certainly lost a helluva lot when they got kicked out of Havana. But you can't hit an entrenched leader like Castro.

LATHAM

You can get to anyone for the right price.

MAYNARD

Yeah, I forgot. You guys did Arbenz.

LATHAM

Who's that?

MAYNARD

Right... Look, if all you're interested in is some names...

LATHAM

I want more than just a list. I want you to see that the job gets done. Now, I'll be your project officer for this.

MAYNARD

(scoffs)

My project officer...

LATHAM

That's right. What?

MAYNARD

You wanna use my office as cover to spy on some prick student, fine. I got no problem with that. But this is different. You want me directly involved in a hit. I used to put guys away for shit like this.

LATHAM

All the more reason for you to see that it's done right.

Maynard shakes his head, clearly unhappy about this.

MAYNARD

This isn't worth your damn stipend.

LATHAM

Then do it because you're a patriot.

MAYNARD

Huh? What are you getting at?

LATHAM

It's war, Bob. Think of it - if we'd removed Hitler in '33, we could've saved millions of lives. If we eliminate Castro, we keep communism from gaining a foothold here.

Maynard looks Latham in the eyes, then rubs his hand over his one-day's stubble of beard.

MAYNARD

You still have that same number?

LATHAM

Same number.

MAYNARD

Before we start, I wanna say something - and this is the same thing I told Moyland two years ago. These wiseguys may not sound like your Ivy League pals over at Cockroach Alley, but that doesn't mean they're stupid. They know how to cover their tracks, and they know how to set people up - even smart guys like you.

A trolley arrives. Maynard boards it along with the Old Woman. As the trolley pulls away, Latham ponders Maynard's warning.

EXT. COCKROACH ALLEY - DAY

A view of the compound through the chain-link fence.

INT. THE HOLE

Bazzo and DiLauria eat lunch. Latham enters and sits.

LATHAM

So what happened?

BAZZO

Someone must have called Dzerzhinsky Square 'cause Raines never showed up. We went over to his place to see if he'd flown, but the KGB were already on the move - they'd cut his throat to ensure his silence.

LATHAM

How do you know it was the KGB?

DILAURIA

Remember what Gvozdev's Number One, Dina, did to those men who attacked Fiona? She disfigured their faces to send them a message. Well, Raines's face was unrecognizable.

LATHAM

Hmm... Sending a message to whomever they're protecting.

DILAURIA

Saying what?

BAZZO  
Stay loyal or else.

DiLauria is flabbergasted by this.

BAZZO (CONT'D)  
So, where do we go from here?

DILAURIA  
Where can we go? We have nothing to go on.

BAZZO  
What about Moyland?

DILAURIA  
What about him?

BAZZO  
He lied, didn't he?

DILAURIA  
How often have you hedged on the truth?

Bazzo smiles, chagrined.

BAZZO  
Look, it's not like we're gilding the lily here. Something's definitely going on with Moyland.

DILAURIA  
Maybe. Whatever it is, it could just be between him and the Mob.

BAZZO  
Which makes him vulnerable.

DILAURIA  
And if that's the case, it's a matter for Security. But that doesn't make him KGB.

BAZZO  
See? You can't escape that thought, can you?

Latham is strangely quiet during this discussion. Bazzo and DiLauria turn to him, looking at him curiously.

DILAURIA  
Boss... You haven't said much during all this.



LATHAM

I was thinking. This is how careers get ruined. You've seen it often enough: MOTHER interprets and misinterprets someone's words until their every move is suspect. Next thing you know, they're forced to resign... I have no clue why Moyland lied. And given SMOTH's warning, I can understand why Paul would suspect him. But we don't know if this mole is here in the Agency or somewhere else in Washington. And there's no evidence whatsoever against Moyland, just supposition - Raines reported to him. Yes, there's his fable about him and MOTHER. But Raines also worked on four other Desks here, reporting to God knows how many people. So, I suggest we back off this rush to judgment and get on with our work. Leave the mole hunt to Security - for now at least.

Bazzo and DiLauria nod.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - UNITED NATIONS PLAZA - DAY

Stock footage of the Tower and General Assembly buildings.

INT. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

At a packed session of the General Assembly, the Soviet delegate reads a telegram from Premier KHRUSHCHEV to President KENNEDY. WE HEAR the voice of the INTERPRETER.

INSERT: Stock footage of...

- An aerial view of Cuba - then footage of Havana, Guantanamo Naval Base, and the Bay of Pigs;
- Fighting between Brigade 2506 and Castro's forces;
- Soviet MIGs soaring overhead;
- The U.S. Army Munitions Command (MUCOM) emblem;
- Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant (AAP) employees on a .50 caliber linked production line;
- B-26's dropping bombs;
- A CIA-created map of the Caribbean entitled "PHASE II (post-strike) showing routes of the ships between Florida, Cuba and several ports in Central America;

- The U.S. Capitol building;
- Brigade 2506's flag and its members training at Fort Trax in Guatemala;
- Andrei Gromyko and Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev;
- Adlai Stevenson and U.S. President John F. Kennedy;
- President Kennedy and his Cabinet meeting in the Oval Office;
- The Pentagon;
- A session of the Joint Chiefs of Staff;
- The Kremlin;
- A session of the Politburo;
- Castro on television;
- An editorial cartoon of a Cuban cigar blowing up in President Kennedy's face;
- President Kennedy meeting with his brother Robert;
- A chicken sitting on top of the White House, laying an egg;
- Nikita Khrushchev's 1960 address to the U.N.;
- A Moscow May Day parade of conventional and nuclear weapons;
- People on the streets of New York City, Moscow and Havana;
- U.S. and Soviet delegates at the U.N.;
- An atomic bomb explodes.

SUIT IMAGES TO WORDS

INTERPRETER

Mr. President, I send you this message in an hour of alarm, fraught with danger for the peace of the whole world. Armed aggression has begun against Cuba. It is a secret to no one that the armed bands invading this country were trained, equipped and armed in the United States of America. The planes which are bombing Cuban cities belong to the United States of America, the bombs they are dropping are being supplied by the American Government.

(MORE)

INTERPRETER (CONT'D)

All of this evokes here in the Soviet Union an understandable feeling of indignation on the part of the Soviet Government and the Soviet people. Only recently, in exchanging opinions through our respective representatives, we talked with you about the mutual desire of both sides to put forward joint efforts directed toward improving relations between our countries and eliminating the danger of war. Your statement a few days ago that the USA would not participate in military activities against Cuba created the impression that the top leaders of the United States were taking into account the consequences for general peace and for the USA itself which aggression against Cuba could have. How can what is being done by the United States in reality be understood, when an attack on Cuba has now become a fact? It is still not too late to avoid the irreparable. The Government of the USA still has the possibility of not allowing the flame of war ignited by interventions in Cuba to grow into an incomparable conflagration. I approach you, Mr. President, with an urgent call to put an end to aggression against the Republic of Cuba. Military armament and the world political situation are such at this time that any so-called 'little war' can touch off a chain reaction in all parts of the globe. As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, there should be no mistake about our position: We will render the Cuban people and their government all necessary help to repel armed attack on Cuba. We are sincerely interested in a relaxation of international tension, but if others proceed toward sharpening, we will answer them in full measure. And in general it is hardly possible so to conduct matters that the situation is settled in one area and conflagration extinguished, while a new conflagration is ignited in another area.

(MORE)

INTERPRETER (CONT'D)

I hope that the Government of the USA will consider our views as dictated by the sole concern not to allow steps which could lead the world to military catastrophe.

EXT. WASHINGTON, D.C. - NIGHT

Stock footage of the White House and the Lincoln Memorial, finishing with busy streets and people out on the town.

2430 E STREET, NW - COCKROACH ALLEY

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

INT. CIA OPEN-PLAN OFFICE

A haze of cigarette smoke lingers; ashtrays are full of crooked cigarettes.

Some people are on their phones; some are pensive, gazing at the wall map of Cuba. A few wander about, stopping to look out the windows at the compound or at the corner office where Moyland sits alone, quietly staring into space.

OPERATIONS ROOM

The Duty Desk is manned by the night crew of Owens, who is on his Gray phone, Farrell, and Mission Planning's Bradley. It's business as usual, despite the gloom that hovers over Bethune and Kensington. Those Two move about the edges of the room, avoiding the direct, accusing glances of fellow CIA officers.

The Woman wearing the headset repositions some of the model ships on the map of the Caribbean Sea away from Cuba; two others she lays on their side in the Bay of Pigs.

Some people gaze at the wall map of Cuba then at the retreat of ships on the Caribbean Sea map.

No one gives their rapt attention to the loudspeakers during an announcement. Instead, resignation has replaced expectancy and anger. The Voice is now just part of the PURL, the soundtrack to their working lives.

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

The light flickering in several apartment windows comes from their television sets.

INT. LATHAM'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

Latham is on the phone; it's Red light shining steadily.

LATHAM

No, it's what I expected. Thanks  
for the update, James.

He hangs up and joins FIONA lying on the couch watching "87th  
Precinct" on television. Latham holds her closely.

LATHAM (CONT'D)

Castro's troops have retaken Red  
Beach. Blue Beach is under attack  
from Soviet MIGs and T-33's.

FIONA

I'm surprised they didn't ask you  
to come in.

LATHAM

There's nothing more I can do; we're  
out of options. I asked the White  
House earlier to reconsider it's ban  
on a second air strike, but they  
refused. All we can do now is wait  
for the inevitable.

FIONA

We knew you were in dire straits  
when we heard Radio Swan's  
broadcast. They urged the Cubans to  
sabotage the electrical grid by  
turning on all the lights and  
plugging in all their electrical  
appliances.

LATHAM

(scoffs)

It'd be comical if it weren't so  
tragic.

FIONA

Are you getting any direction from  
the White House?

LATHAM

No. Kennedy's saying he was misled.  
He expected a quiet invasion of  
1500 exiles into Cuba. Instead, he  
got a huge, unwieldy operation that  
was doomed to failure.

FIONA

He was excoriated by the Soviet  
delegate at the U.N. today.

LATHAM

I heard it, along with condemnation  
from some of our allies.

(MORE)

LATHAM (CONT'D)

They called us immoral. That hurt.  
But to be called incompetent on top  
of it - that's something we never  
expected.

FIONA

You tried to tell Kensington.

LATHAM

Not hard enough.

Fiona sits up and looks Latham in the eye.

FIONA

You're not responsible for what  
happened.

Latham shrugs. Fiona cups his face in her hands.

FIONA (CONT'D)

You're not.

She kisses him.

LATHAM

How could they have been so blind,  
Fiona?

FIONA

I told you how hard life was before  
I came to England. It wasn't just  
because we were Black. It's that  
dire poverty, the kind that comes  
when you there's no work; when you  
don't even have a pot to piss in. I  
wonder if your people ever took  
into account what life was like for  
Cubans under Batista. How hard it  
was living hand-to-mouth; how  
frightened they were of him and  
that brutal Bureau for the  
Repression of Communist Activities  
of his. And how much better life is  
for them now under Castro. They've  
become a little freer, and that's  
an ideal worth fighting for.

Her words have struck a nerve in Latham.

END