Cuban Missile Crisis

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Oct 23, 1962: US announced USSR had started building aggressive missile bases in Cuba.

Pres. Kennedy ordered US naval + air forces to establish immed "quarantine" (partial blockade) of Cuba to prevent further delivery of aggressive weapons aboard Soviet-bloc or any other ships.

USSR said US action could end in thermonuclear war; warned that Soviet ships would not submit to search.

UN Security Council convoked; Acting Secy. Gen. U Thant pleaded for negotiation.

Kennedy charged Soviet-Cuban action had upset precarious status quo which had long existed between East + West in regard to nuclear weapons.

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by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS
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