



## Source 3

British map and document showing the range of missiles on Cuba, 22 October 1962  
(Catalogue ref: PREM 11/3689)



3a



3b

### Questions

1. Why would this information have disturbed the people of the USA?
2. Would this information have disturbed the British?
3. What pressures would the release of this information have placed on Kennedy, bearing in mind that the mid-term elections were due in November 1962?
4. Do you agree or disagree with the view that Kennedy had no real choice but to take firm action against the USSR over the missiles in Cuba? Explain your point of view.



# HEROES & VILLAINS

Kennedy & Cuba > What triggered the missile crisis?

## Source 3a





## Source 3b

TOP SECRET

On October 14 there was another U-2 mission, the first since late September. Photography disclosed a MRBM site for missiles with 1100 mile range. Then followed many reconnaissance flights, substantially covering the Island.

We have now identified 21 in all of IL 28 crates on airfields. One is already being assembled. This process of uncrating and assembly should not require more than 10 days.

In the course of this photography we find there are two MRBM sites in Western Cuba, each with 4 launchers, and each launcher has 2 missiles assigned to it, with a refire capability within 4 to 6 hours.

East of Havana there are another two MRBM sites.

There is preliminary evidence of two additional sites near San Cristobal.

Re the two sites in Western Cuba, we believe both are in a state of operational readiness. We expect the 2 sites East of Havana to be ready by November 1.

IRBM.

We also know there are two sites 21 miles West of Havana, near Guanagay. They are fixed sites similar to those in Soviet Union used for IRBM (with range of 2200 nautical miles). We think they may be operational about December 1.

Pictures disclose the presence of MRBM's; a special type of Soviet ship capable of carrying 80-foot IRBM missiles has made two trips to Havana (August 3, September 14) and is again due in Havana October 29.

We have no evidence of nuclear warheads, and probably will not get any, since it is almost impossible to detect them, when they are well hidden, by photography.