

3. I would be aware, Coerr went on, that, in USA view, there was no repeat no question of “mediation” between USA and Cuba. The problem had much wider implications as between the Western hemisphere and the Sino-Soviet bloc. Nor, in USA view, was there any question of “negotiation” between USA and Castro. In case there were any truth in the statements attributed to Mr. Green, the State Department wished to reemphasize these points with us at once.

4. There was no repeat no element of sharpness or even criticism in Coerr’s manner which throughout our interview remained entirely calm and courteous. Nevertheless there was no repeat no room for doubt that he reflected and intended to reflect concern on the part of high USA authorities as to the views attributed to the Minister in the Associated Press story.

5. In response I said that, while I was not repeat not in a position to deny or confirm the accuracy or otherwise of the AP report, I wished to draw the attention of the State Department in the connection to the clearly-stated views of the Canadian Government. I made reference in particular to the Prime Minister’s statement in the House of Commons on April 19 (at the time that the landings were known to have failed) and also to Mr. Green’s remarks on Cuba in the NATO Council on May 8 (Geneva telegram 529 May 11). I gave him copies of both of these statements and suggested to him that it was in these records rather than in newspaper stories that the Canadian position was to be sought.

6. Commenting personally on the AP story, I suggested that it might be quite misleading for USA to attach precise significance to the term “mediate” even if it had in fact been employed (and I did not repeat not know whether or not repeat not it had). From what was said by Mr. Green in the Council at Oslo and from our report of a private conversation which the Minister had had with the Secretary of State, it was my impression that the Canadian attitude was one of willingness to do what we could to assist toward a solution of a problem which we recognized as a complicated and serious one.

7. Finally I said that, while not repeat not attempting to dissemble the difference in the Canadian and USA points of view on Cuba (concerning which USA authorities should be in no repeat no doubt) I felt that it would be a mistake on their part to attach undue importance to remarks attributed to the Minister in this newspaper story. Nevertheless I would, of course, report our interview immediately to Ottawa and Mr. Green and Mr. Rusk would presumably be getting together very shortly in Geneva.

8. Incidentally the byline on the AP story as it appeared in the *Washington Post* and *Times Herald* of yesterday, May 12, was “Arthur Gavshon.”

[A.D.P.] HEENEY