



December 08, 1962
Report on Talk between Nicolae Ceaușescu and Nikita Khrushchev, Moscow, 8 June 1963 (excerpt)

Citation:

“Report on Talk between Nicolae Ceaușescu and Nikita Khrushchev, Moscow, 8 June 1963 (excerpt),” December 08, 1962, History and Public Policy Program Digital Archive, C.H.N.A., the Central Committee of Romanian Communist Party – Foreign Relations Department Collection, file 17U/1963, p. 46. Translated by Petre Opris.

<https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/115795>

Summary:

Ceaușescu was sent in the USSR by Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej to establish a meeting between Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej and Nikita Khrushchev. During the meeting, Nikita Khrushchev said to Nicolae Ceaușescu: “By sending missiles to Cuba, we ourselves put our head in a bind. I know comrade Gheorghiu-Dej was upset that I had not informed about sending missiles to Cuba. And he has been rightly upset.”

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from the Leon Levy Foundation.

Original Language:

Romanian

Contents:

- English Translation

Report on Talk between Nicolae Ceaușescu and Nikita Khrushchev, Moscow, 8 June 1963
(excerpt)

Ceaușescu was sent in the USSR by Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej to arrange a meeting between Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej and Nikita Khrushchev.

During the meeting, Nikita Khrushchev said to Nicolae Ceaușescu:

“By sending missiles to Cuba, we ourselves put our head in a bind. I know comrade Gheorghiu-Dej was upset that I had not informed about sending missiles to Cuba. And he has been rightly upset. When I will meet him, I will explain. Last year I met him personally to tell. Gomulka, Zhivkov, Novotný, Ulbricht knew. I told to Ulbricht’s ear.

Comrade [Gheorghe Gheorghiu-]Dej didn’t know, but I think he will understand me. I didn’t want to inform him through Ambassadors. Here, not even the whole general staff didn’t know. Only the Presidium knew. I went to the adventure. The Chinese didn’t know that we have missiles in Cuba. China thinks the US will absorb Cuba. Do you know when I got the idea of sending missiles to Cuba? When I returned from Romania [18-25 June 1962—P.O.]. I thought well and I realized that the socialist camp will lose Cuba. I sent missiles there to frighten America. The presence of Soviet strategic missiles in Cuba would have been a danger of destruction to American cities.”