



Above and Beyond: John F. Kennedy and America's Most Dangerous Cold War Spy Mission

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From the authors of the bestselling *The Finest Hours* comes the riveting, deeply human story of President John F. Kennedy and two U-2 pilots, Rudy Anderson and Chuck Maultsby, who risked their lives to save America during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

On the day the Cold War reached its terrifying peak, two things saved humanity: the strategic wisdom of John F. Kennedy and the U-2 aerial spy program.

On October 27, 1962, Kennedy, strained from back pain, sleeplessness, and days of impossible tension, was briefed about two missing U-2 planes. The first belonged to Chuck Maultsby, a former POW and combat pilot who had inadvertently steered into Soviet airspace on a secret mission. The second plane was piloted by Rudy Anderson, who was in the midst of another top-secret mission to find evidence of Soviet missile sites in Cuba. If any of these three men made the wrong move, the Cold War could turn nuclear.

Above and Beyond is the intimate, gripping, firsthand account of the lives of these three war heroes who were brought together during a day that changed history.

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From Reader Review Above and Beyond: John F. Kennedy and America's Most Dangerous Cold War Spy Mission for online ebook

Steve says

A interesting book on the Cuban Missile Crisis and the two U-2 pilots who flew over Cuba for reconnaissance missions of Soviet missile sites.

Joanne says

I was 12 years old during the Cuban missile crisis but I remember the tension in the adults very clearly. This account of those days told in this book brought the adult me face to face with the the reality of how fragile things were.

Peter L says

Above & Beyond: The Cuban Missile Crisis through the eyes of the U-2 Pilots

Above & Beyond focuses on the U-2 Pilots as well as through the eyes of the political figures involved in this tense retelling of the crisis. Much information, which will be new to many readers like myself, will be fascinated by this account.

Elaine Lovejoy says

Interesting read...perfect for anyone who loves historical fiction books. Very well written.

victor harris says

A pleasant surprise of a much-covered topic with the emphasis on the U-2 pilots who did the reconnaissance in Cuba. There were a number of mini-crises that could have escalated the confrontation over the Soviet missiles into an all out nuclear war. Fortunately JFK kept a cool head and deterred military men such as LeMay from taking more aggressive actions that certainly would have resulted in catastrophe. Very enjoyable, fast-paced, informative work.

Richard Rediker says

One of the scariest books I have ever read.

I knew we were close to nuclear war during the Cuban Missile Crisis but I didn't know how close we really were. It is really scary at how many of the generals and advisors wanted war. And especially Curtis Lemay, who even after Khrushchev said he would remove the missiles, told Kennedy he was lying and that we should bomb and invade Cuba immediately.

JFK, because he had been involved in war, stood up to his advisors and the generals and did everything he could to give peace a chance by putting himself in Khrushchev's shoes.

What is really scary is if our current president ever faces a similar crisis.

Andrew says

Engaging, detailed, and thoughtful. While it read like a novel, it was history from declassified documents and audio, plus interviews. I thoroughly enjoyed reading up on events, locations, and the technology involved as the story progressed from JFK's military years through the Cuban Missile Crisis. Highly recommend it!
