DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

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January 20, 1975

The Secretary

From:

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ARA - William D. Rogers

The Mankiewicz Trip

Further again to the earlier memos from me and Larry, I make an additional suggestion:

-- that we ask Frank himself to say that the Cubans should consider permitting some family visits. He could point out that such a move would be favorably received in this country.

A message passed in this fashion has several advantages:

-- It uses Frank, and his credentials as a Democrat and a liberal, to emphasize to the Cubans the importance of the human rights issue to the normalization process.

-- But it does so in a way which will permit the Cubans to move, since the suggestion could be interpreted as not linked to any forthcoming moves on our part in the trade area, such as a license for Litton or the Council of the Americas trip.

Recommendation:

That we ask Mankiewicz to say that the Cubans should consider permitting some family visits:

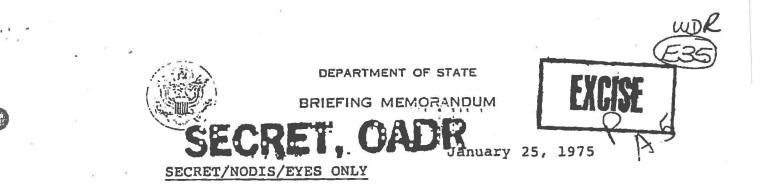
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To: The Secretary

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From: ARA - William D. Rogers

Cuba

There are three recent Cuban developments you should know about:

1. Deputy Prime Minister Carlos Rafael Rodriguez has told <u>Le Monde</u> (Tab A):

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- -- that there is "no revolutionary process in Latin America leading to any great changes similar to those which have taken place in Cuba...";
- -- that the lifting of the blockade is an essential first step to US-Cuban normalization, but that this "could comprise various phases and assume various forms..."
 - that at Quito the U.S. "eschewed its historic responsibility by abstaining, thus avoiding giving an impression that it was trying to exert pressure..." We thought there were 14 votes, he says; the U.S. "would have preferred to see the Latin American countries compel the U.S. to change its attitude toward Cuba..."

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2. Several in various posts have A5 been contacted by Cuban intelligence agents (Tab B is an example). The purpose seems to be to establish contact, and to suggest that Cuba is prepared to consider better relations. No effort has been made to use these intelligence channels to communicate a package proposal. One Cuban has told A5 that there is already another channel established for this purpose.

3. CIA attaches particular significance to one contact, in which who is close to Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, took pains to stress that Cuba would consider a variety of techniques for resolution of the problem of compensation for the expropriated properties (Tab C).

I have asked L for some concrete comments on the proposal. The source also echoed Carlos Rafael's statement that Havana would respond favorably to a gradual lifting of sanctions.

Attachments:

Tab A - Le Monde interview with Cuban Deputy Prime Minister Carlos Rafael Rodriguez



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