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AM LASH 1

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SECRET 2515206

PRIORITY AIR CITE 6019 (BINGHAM ACTING)

DEC 8 15 59 264

DESENSITIZED TYPIC AMLASH

1. ONTRICH MET WITH AMLASH ONE EVENING 6 DECEMBER AND 7 DECEMBER.

REVIEWED GENERAL SITUATION CUBA AND ATTITUDES TOWARDS REGIME AT 6 DECEMBER MEETING. SEPARATE CABLES FOLLOW EACH SUBJECT.

2. CUBA FACED WITH SERIOUS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. COUNTRY HAS MANY PROBLEMS WHICH DEFY SOLUTION BUT WHAT WORRIES ANTHUG MOST IS HE UNABLE SEE WAY OUT OF AND SOLUTION TO CRISIS. ALL ECONOMIC PLANS END IN FAILURE. ANTHUG BLAMES PERSONALITIES INVOLVED AND PUBLICLY CASTIGATES THEM BUT REFUSES BELIEVE SYSTEM IS WRONG.

RESULT IS ANTHUG ASSUMES PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR MORE PROGRAMS AND FEWER PEOPLE ARE WILLING TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PLANNING. "EVEN ANTHUG," ACCORDING TO AMLASH ONE, IS UNABLE TO DIRECT ALL PROGRAMS HE HAS ASSUMED. CUBA REALIZES SOVIET UNION CANNOT CARE FOR ALL HER NEEDS UNDER EXISTING CONDITIONS. THEREFORE, CUBA'S CHANGE IN FOREIGN COMMERCIAL POLICY PLACING INCREASED EMPHASIS ON TRADE WITH NON-BLOC COUNTRIES. IN BEGINNING WHEN CUBA HAD FOREIGN EXCHANGE THIS POLICY SHOWED SOME PROMISE BUT WITH EXCHANGE LACKING CUBA UNABLE MEET TERMS PRESENT COMMERCIAL AGREEMENTS AND IS FINDING IT DIFFICULT NEGOTIATE NEW AGREEMENTS. THE FEW AGREEMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN NEGOTIATED CONTAIN TERMS UNFAVORABLE TO CUBA. THE ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL DILEMMA IS PRIMARY REASON FOR AMBASSADOR CARRIL

Ps 1-3 refer to Mr. Wiedemann's pending plan.

AM LASH 1

201-25-2234 Cy for Navy Sanchez March 50 Asset + Candle

RETURN TO HAVANA. PIERRE NIETO, FRENCH BUSINESSMAN, WHO IS IN HAVANA IS PROPOSING A SIXTY MILLION DOLLAR TRADE PACKAGE FOR WHICH NIETO CLAIMS HE CAN ARRANGE FRENCH FINANCING. THIS IS ONE OF THE SPECIFICS WHICH CARRILLO IS DISCUSSING WITH AMTHUG AND CHE GUEVARA. (COMMENT: CARRILLO DOES NOT LIKE AND DOES NOT GET ALONG WITH NIETO). AMLASH ONE STATES THAT IN FEW WEEKS BEFORE HE LEFT HAVANA NOVEMBER 64 THERE WAS DISTINCT CHANGE IN ATTITUDES HIGH CUBAN OFFICIALS WITH RESPECT TO UNITED STATES. BASED ON CONVERSATIONS WITH OFFICIALS CLOSE TO AMTHUG, AMLASH ONE IS CONVINCED AMTHUG IS WILLING AND SEARCHING FOR OPENINGS TO TRY ENTER INTO COMMERCIAL DIALOGUE WITH UNITED STATES.

3. BECAUSE AMTHUG IS TAKING PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR MANY OF THE ECONOMIC PROGRAMS AND ALSO FAILING, MORE PEOPLE ARE BEGINNING TO CRITICIZE AMTHUG, BUT STILL NOT TO DEGREE PERMITTING THEMSELVES DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF GETTING RID OF HIM. IN THIS RESPECT, AMLASH ONE IS MORE CONVINCED THAN EVER THAT AMTHUG IS ONLY KEY TO THE CUBAN PROBLEM AND WHILE IN PLACE NO ONE DARES ATTEMPT ORGANIZE COUP AGAINST HIS REGIME. THIS INCLUDES INDIVIDUALS SUCH AS CMDTE EFIGENIO AMEIJERAS DELGADO AND JOSE NARANJO MORALES WHO ALTHOUGH OPPOSED TO WHAT IS HAPPENING IN CUBA ARE AFRAID TO WORK OR EVEN PLAN A MOVE AGAINST AMTHUG. AMLASH ONE STATES THEY ACT THIS WAY WITH GOOD REASON. ONCE THEY DECLARE ~~THEMSELVES AGAINST AMTHUG~~ ~~FROM GOVERNMENT~~ TO ANYBODY INSIDE CUBA THEY RUN VERY HIGH RISK OF BEING COMPROMISED. OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHO REACH POINT OF TOTAL FRUSTRATION EITHER LEAVE CUBA, IF THEY CAN, OR RESIGN THEIR POSITIONS AS DID JOSE ASSEF YARA. ASSEF HELD SECOND POSITION IN HAVANA AND HAD BEEN OFFERED JOB AS CHIEF JUCEI MARIANO. ASSEF WAS CONVINCED EVERY HIGH OFFICIAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY MUST BE REPLACED AND BECAME CONVINCED THAT IF HE DID

REMOVE THEM HE WOULD NOT RECEIVE THE BACKING OF THE REGIME. ASSEF PRESENTLY ATTENDING CLASSES AT THE UNIVERSITY HOPING TO CONTINUE HIS MEDICAL STUDIES. AMLASH ONE RECENTLY TALKED TO JUAN NUIRY SANCHEZ ABOUT THE DISASTROUS SITUATION IN THEIR COUNTRY. IN SIMPLY LISTENING TO AMLASH ONE TALK, NUIRY TURNED PALE. SO CONTINUES THE SITUATION BUT AMLASH ONE BELIEVES THAT WITHOUT ITS BEING ADMITTED, MORE OFFICIALS IN REGIME ARE REACHING THE SAME CONCLUSION HE REACHED THREE YEARS AGO "THE ONLY CURE FOR RABIES IS GET RID OF THE DOG."

4. AMLASH ONE ALTHOUGH UNHAPPY BECAUSE UNABLE PROCEED WITH HIS PLANS, STILL FEELS THIS ONLY SOLUTION AND HE MUST CONTINUE TRYING. AMLASH ONE STATED HE WAS GLAD BE ABLE GET OUT OF CUBA AS SAFETY VALVE FOR RELIEVING PRESSURES WHICH DEVELOP AND WHICH PERSON UNABLE EVEN TALK ABOUT WITHOUT COMPROMISING HIMSELF INSIDE CUBA. AMLASH ONE REPORTS HE HAD FEW SCARES IN PAST YEAR BUT NOTHING SERIOUS

ENOUGH PREVENT HIS RETURN. THE INCIDENT WITH THE POLICE IN WHICH CHOMOD ~~INTERVIEWED WAS~~ NOT AS SERIOUS AS REPORTED. IN AUGUST 1964

AMLASH ONE RENTED A HOUSE NEXT TO THAT OF ANHUG AT VARADERO BUT BEFORE HE WAS ABLE TO MOVE IN THE SECURITY SERVICE CONFISCATED THE HOUSE. QUESTIONS ABOUT AMLASH ONE WERE ASKED OF SEVERAL PEOPLE IN VARADERO BUT AS FAR AS AMLASH ONE CAN ASCERTAIN NOTHING MORE DEVELOPED. THIS FRUSTRATED AMLASH ONE AUGUST PLAN.

5. AMLASH ONE HAS NOT RAISED SUBJECT OF AMBIDY/1. FEEL THIS SUBJECT WILL BE RAISED AFTER AMWHIP/1 RETURNS FROM SPAIN AS SUSPECT THIS PROBABLY REASON FOR TRIP.

6. AMLASH ONE TRAVELING ON DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT, RANK OF MINISTER. PLANS RETURN CUBA AFTER 1 JANUARY 65.

SECRET

SYED FOR CONFIRMATION

XX PORTION GIBELD - 2000 000

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