

05/09/

SECRET

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STAFF

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SECRET 041743Z MAY 78 STAFF
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*File HSCA
SNEP [initials]*

TO: DIRECTOR,
WNINTEL RYBAT CODEL
REF: DIRECTOR 215771

THERE ARE SEVERAL CONSIDERATIONS WHY I WOULD PREFER NOT TO INCREASE THE KNOWLEDGE OF THIS OPERATION AND THEREFORE THE RISK OF ADDITIONAL LEAKS BY CONSENTING TO THE RELEASE OF THE TESTIMONY GIVEN TO THE CHURCH COMMITTEE. FIRST AND MOST IMPORTANT IS THAT THE AGENT IDENTIFIED IN THE TESTIMONY IS STILL IN A CUBAN JAIL. LEAKS IN THE PAST GENERATED SENSATIONAL MEDIA COVERAGE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE LAX CONTROL PROCEDURES OF THE NOW-DEFUNCT HOUSE SELECT (PIKE) COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE COULD HAVE COMPROMISED SENSITIVE DOCUMENTS. ALTHOUGH AS A SECURITY PRECAUTION I TESTIFIED IN ALIAS AND WAS KNOWN TO THE AGENT IN ALIAS, I UNDERSTAND THAT IN A RELATED DOCUMENT PREVIOUSLY RELEASED TO THE CONGRESS I WAS IDENTIFIED IN TRUE NAME. THEREFORE, HOS CAN APPRECIATE I HAVE CERTAIN PROFESSIONAL CONCERN IF THESE DOCUMENTS ARE PUBLICLY SURFACED OR BECOME KNOWN TO A HOSTILE SERVICE. IN THE PAST TWO YEARS WE HAVE HAD A SERIES OF ARTICLES EXPOSING STATION PERSONNEL IN SPAIN. THUS FAR I HAVE BEEN FORTUNATE NOT TO HAVE BEEN ONE OF THEM. I PREFER NOT INCREASING THE RISK. FINALLY WE FIND IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND HOW FURTHER REGURGITATION OF THIS OPERATION CAN REVEAL INFORMATION OF SUFFICIENT VALUE TO JUSTIFY THE RISKS RELATED TO THE INCREASED AND CONTINUING CIRCULATION OF THIS TESTIMONY. E2 IMPDET

*SANCHEZ "NO"
ON RELEASE OF
SENATE TESTIMONY*

END OF MESSAGE

SECRET

#06271