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GERALD PATRICK HEMMING

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RE: CONSTANTINE N. KANGLES ~~SECRET~~

contact RAUL CASTRO, Cuban Minister of Defense, whom he had personally known, during his activity in Cuba from October, 1958, to May, 1960, relative to efforts by Attorney CONSTANTINE KANGLES of Chicago to obtain the release from Cuban prison of ROBERT BERRELLEZ, a ILL reporter for the Associated Press who is from Chicago. GENTRY stated that on May 7 or 8, 1961, Mr. KANGLES had sent a telegram to RAUL CASTRO from Chicago pointing out that he, KANGLES, had assisted GENTRY in the U.S. in regard to problems arising over the issuance of a passport to GENTRY by the U. S. State Department and in return CASTRO should grant KANGLES the favor of releasing BERRELLEZ from custody. GENTRY stated that the telegram by KANGLES was addressed to Captain TAUREL, Chief of Staff, Havana. GENTRY explained that Captain TAUREL was the code name which RAUL CASTRO used during the revolution to overthrow FULGENCIO BATISTA from power in Cuba and the name has been utilized by KANGLES and GENTRY in their communications in order to avoid undue interest and curiosity on the part of telegraph company employees in the U.S. GENTRY said he expected that BERRELLEZ would be released probably on May 11, 1961, because he, GENTRY, had learned in his attempted phone calls to RAUL CASTRO that "REDBEARD," an officer of Cuban Intelligence, was then en route to Havana and GENTRY interpreted this to mean he was sent there by RAUL CASTRO to handle the release of BERRELLEZ.

"REDBEARD" has been reported as a nickname of Major MANUEL PINEIRO LOSADA, Deputy Chief of G-2, the Cuban Intelligence organization. (S) CUBA

GENTRY stated that he has been in occasional contact with CONSTANTINE KANGLES since the latter's trip to Cuba in January, 1961, but that they had not engaged in any recent efforts to obtain a reconciliation in the relations between the United States and Cuba.

GENTRY stated that in the beginning of March, 1961, RAUL CASTRO was in Eastern Cuba broadcasting an appeal to rebels in the mountains there to discontinue their resistance to the Cuban Government. GENTRY stated that those in the mountains of Eastern Cuba, who are