

SECRET EYES ONLY

OGC 62-2597

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Cuban Prisoners

On 25 October,

1. Harry Williams of the Cuban Families Committee called me as Mr. Donovan's assistant to say that he had received a telephone call from Alvaro Sanchez from Havana. Sanchez is the President of the Cuban Families Committee who has been in Havana since the end of August in connection with the Donovan negotiations for the release of the Cuban prisoners.

2. According to Williams, Sanchez said that Sanchez and Mrs. Barreto, a resident of Havana and a member of the Cuban Families Committee, during the last several days have been especially well treated. They have been told by high officials of the Cuban Government (otherwise unidentified) that Castro considers the negotiations still open. Sanchez and Mrs. Barreto were to see various officials in the Cuban Government, possibly including Castro, today to discuss the negotiations. Williams also reported that after two months of requesting Castro to allow Sanchez to see the prisoners, permission suddenly was granted and he was to see the prisoners today or tomorrow.

3. Williams had an appointment to see the Attorney General today and will give me the substance of his conversation later this afternoon.

[Redacted Signature Box]

Assistant General Counsel

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GROUP 1
downgrading and
declassification