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*Lash-1*

5 June 1964

**CONTACT REPORT:**

**PERSONS PRESENT:**

New York City, AMWHIP/1's office,  
 31 W 47th Street, 4 June 1964, 1200-1630 hrs.

**PURPOSE:**

To debrief AMWHIP/1 after his recent trip to Europe, especially the Paris aspect of the trip and, in particular, his contact with AMLASH/2.

1. AMWHIP/1 was given the new sterile phone number in WH/SA front office - 628-1899.
2. The letter from Manolo OROPESA (Comde. Pedro Enrique OROPESA del Portal) was discussed with AMWHIP/1. AMWHIP/1 stated that the letter had no other meaning than to introduce the two basketball players from the University of Habana, Pacheco and Davis, to AMWHIP/1. If there were any underlying reason why AMLASH/1 did this, it would only be to point out his relationship with OROPESA. According to AMWHIP/1, OROPESA is a good man, anti-Communist, and a very close friend of AMLASH/1. He was in the Escambray during the fighting with AMLASH/1. He is approximately 26-28 years old, Chief of the Rebel Army AA, and an officer whom we can be sure that AMLASH/1 will use at the proper time. Juanito IZAGUIRRE is also a good friend of AMLASH/1 and of AMWHIP/1, He does not have an important position. He previously worked in AMWHIP/1's jewelry shop in Habana. AMWHIP/1 believes he is now unemployed but a trusted friend of AMLASH/1 whom AMLASH/1 uses for small jobs and errands of a confidential nature.

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3. Dr. Raul PORTELA, whom OROPESA mentioned in his letter as "still his friend," according to AMWHIP/1, Dr. PORTELA works in one of the hospitals in Miami. He believes it is Sinai but is not certain. The telephone number in Miami is CA 6-0113. Dr. PORTELA is married to Vivian RODRIGUEZ Favar. (Check this Dr. PORTELA as it previously thought Dr. Raul PORTELA was at present in Spain and listed with ISR.)
4. The letter from AMLASH/1 to AMWHIP/1 was hand-carried by "El Feo" CARBONELL. The original letter was obtained from AMWHIP/1 in order to check it for possible S/W from AMLASH/1. (No S/W in either AMLASH/1 system or AMTRUNK/10 system). CARBONELL accompanied the basketball team to Paris.
5. Marc SIEGEL: AMWHIP/1 was asked that if and when SIEGEL visits New York City, AMWHIP/1 should find out what SIEGEL's current situation is in Brazil, who he knows in Cuban community, what circles he travels in, and how active he is in these circles. In brief, a new assessment of SIEGEL's position and potential.
6. "El Mago" ROBRENO: AMWHIP/1 offered to help, if needed, in transcribing the two tapes of his conversation with "El Mago". AMWHIP/1 stated it was too bad he could not have had another session with "El Mago" but the hotel room was available for only one day and evidently, according to AMWHIP/1, the people in Paris were unable to arrange for another hotel room. AMWHIP/1 spent at least 15 days with Ambassador CARRILLO and the other Cubans in the Cuban Embassy in Paris. He claims he was with them every day and feels that much more could have been accomplished had he had closer direction and supervision while he was there. So many things

were talked about that he has been unable to remember all the details. AMWHIP/1 suggests we give him a portable tape recorder or some other means by which he could record all his conversations with these people. (AMWHIP/1's experience during this past trip point out the need of sending a C/O from HQS with him if maximum advantage is to be gained from his contacts with the Cubans. He needs close guidance and direction and not only expects it but welcomes it.)

7. "El Loco" IBARRA: According to "El Mago" it now appears that "El Loco" will not be coming to Europe.

8. S/W Training of "El Mago": AMWHIP/1 was trained in Paris and in turn trained "El Mago" in S/W. In order to cover his knowledge about S/W, AMWHIP/1 told "El Mago" that he had learned this particular system from contacts in Brussels who are in the international diamond business. AMWHIP/1 feels "El Mago" did not question the above story. When AMWHIP/1 left Paris, "El Mago" was planning to travel to Spain and agreed to write a practice S/W letter to AMWHIP/1 in New York. The letter from "El Mago" will be addressed to AMWHIP/1's personal address (in New York). (Paris Station did not give AMWHIP/1 the New Jersey accommodation address sent to Paris by HQS. "El Mago" expects an S/W letter from AMWHIP/1 during his stay in Spain.

9. "El Mago" Plans: "El Mago" plans and hopes to be able to return soon to Cuba. AMWHIP/1 feels that after an appropriate cooling off period, "El Mago" will be permitted to return to Cuba. During Ambassador CARRILLO's recent trip, he talked to President DORTICOS in "El Mago's" behalf, using the ploy that after all, "El Mago" was one of their people, proven by the fact that he had reported "El Cojo" ROCHE's <sup>attempt</sup> attempt to recruit "El Mago" on behalf of the Americans. According to CARRILLO, DORTICOS reportedly stated: "Oh, yes, we know all about 'El Cojo' ROCHE. His activity has also been reported by Ambassador MARISTANY and by MAS in Chile. We know all about his activity." AMWHIP/1 believes "El Mago" will be able to return to Cuba as his political loyalty is not questioned and the same reason he left Cuba was more of a personal nature (beating his wife, getting into fights and landing in jail because of this.) Regarding "El Mago's" relationship with AMLASH/1, AMWHIP/1 does not believe "El Mago" is aware of AMLASH/1's contact with ODYOKE. "El Mago" is aware of AMLASH/1's anti-regime plans, is trusted by AMLASH 1 and AMTRUNK/10. AMWHIP/1 feels that if "El Mago" returns to Cuba, he can be counted on to maintain his S/W contact and report the situation of the AMLASH/1 group. AMWHIP/1 briefed "El Mago" not to tell AMLASH/1 about their S/W as he had offered this S/W system to AMLASH/1 and he brushed it off as not wanting to bother with it. "El Mago" agreed.



According to AMWHIP/1, "El Mago" is the type of person known by everyone and with the ability of talking to or going anywhere he pleases; this being part of the man's totally extrovert personality. Because of this trait, AMWHIP/1 feels that "El Mago" will be able to develop information of interest. "El Mago" talked to AMWHIP/1 about the Cuban government's concern that the mails are being used for intelligence purposes and also the need for postal controls mentioned by Domingo PORTELA Placeres, Vice Minister of Communications. AMWHIP/1 did not ask "El Mago" for details but reported that "El Mago" had stated the following: In order to try and control the problem, Habana has been divided into postal zones; each zone is issued and sells a different series of stamps. The government tries to establish patterns and tries to isolate zones from which suspicious letters are mailed. They then intensify their efforts in the areas from which these letters are mailed. The censors are especially alert for patterns of suspicious incoming letters to a given address. Based on an arrival pattern of suspicious letters, a more thorough investigation is then made of the family living at that address. (AMWHIP/1 could not fill in any of the details regarding the above but will question "El Mago" further on this subject the next time he sees him.)

10. According to "El Mago", the old PSP members control many of the operations of the DSE. They have this control because they organized and placed their people throughout the DSE structure. The DSE has offices under cover in all parts of Habana. "El Mago" mentioned the use of a seamstress shop, for example. It is especially in these small deep cover segments where the old PSP exercises

control. According to "El Mago" even Ramiro VALDES does not realize the extent that his organization is penetrated by the old communists. Justo HERNANDEZ, who was recently in Paris, is a member of the DSE and one of Ramiro VALDES' secretaries. He is approximately 38-40 years old; born in Cienfuegos.

11. Juan DAVID Fosada: JDP is Cultural Attache, Paris. AMWHIP/1 assesses DAVID as anti-commie, anti-regime and possibly recruitable provided the right person is used to make the contact. AMWHIP/1 has a gift (tablecloth) from Juan DAVID which he asked AMWHIP/1 to give to his brother-in-law, Raul GONZALEZ Jerez (a Bay of Pigs veteran) who lives in Miami and is the owner of the "21 Club" on Venetian Way, Miami Beach. AMWHIP/1 was requested to personally deliver the present to Raul and assess Raul as the man we should use in approaching DAVID. If we get a good assessment from AMWHIP/1, Raul can then be approached independently of AMWHIP/1 (to protect AMWHIP/1) and asked if he is willing to travel to Paris and attempt to recruit his brother-in-law (DAVID) in place.

12. Jose IGLESIAS: AMWHIP/1's jeweler friend in Habana. IGLESIAS, according to AMWHIP/1 is the source of the information regarding Fidel CASTRO's bank account (26P) in the Bco. Nacional de Cuba. IGLESIAS was the man in Habana who contacted AMWHIP/1 in regard to the jewelry which Fidel CASTRO wanted to sell. When CASTRO found out that IGLESIAS was the man who arranged the deal, he called IGLESIAS to his office, gave him \$1,000.00 in cash and a bank draft from the Bco. Nacl de Cuba on which was written "Cuenta (account) Fidel Castro Ruz 26P to the name of Jose IGLESIAS \$9,000.00, Banque Nord d'Europe. IGLESIAS was told by CASTRO to present this

draft at the Banque Nord d'Europe where he would be given the \$9,000.00. CASTRO informed IGLESIAS that this money was to be spent in any way IGLESIAS so desired and was being given to him for arranging the jewelry deal with AMWHIP/1. IGLESIAS was also given a trip to Europe where AMWHIP/1 was in contact with him. According to AMWHIP/1, IGLESIAS, before Castro, owned the largest jewelry store in Habana. His business was confiscated by the State and IGLESIAS filed a suit against the government. During his visit with CASTRO, IGLESIAS was asked by Fidel what he was doing, to which IGLESIAS answered, "nothing since you took my business away from me." Fidel then went on to say how stupid the people running the Consolidados were and promised IGLESIAS he would arrange for his business to be returned to him after he returned from Europe. In addition to 4,700 pkgs of jewelry which the government has confiscated, they also have original oil paintings and a stamp collection valued at \$230,000.00 per the latest Scott catalog. According to IGLESIAS, an English firm offered \$1,200,000.00 for the jewelry, paintings, stamp collection, and a collection of gold coins but Fidel refused. Because of the bungling by his underlings, Fidel and Celia Sanchez are personally handling this little project. The jewelry, paintings, etc. are kept in vaults in the Bco. Nacl. de Cuba. In the bank it is Pepin SANCHEZ, Celia's brother-in-law, who is approximately 45-50 years old, who helps Fidel and Celia in this project. According to IGLESIAS, Pepin SANCHEZ, regardless of title, is the man who runs the Bco. Nacl de Cuba. Pepin is also the man who personally handles the P26 bank account and approves or disapproves sales. The Cubans want to continue to send packages

of jewelry valued at approximately \$50,000.00 each to AMWHIP/1 through the Embassy in Paris. AMWHIP/1 paid 1,287,000 Sw frcs. for the first package of jewelry which he bought. In addition to the package which was valued at \$300,000, there was an additional package of jewelry valued at \$10,500.00 which AMWHIP/1 also bought. The Cuban Embassy in Paris deposited the Swiss francs in the Banque Nord d'Europe on either 12 or 19 May 1964. (AMWHIP/1 was not sure of the exact date.) In the Cuban Embassy in Paris, TOLON, the code clerk, was the actual custodian of the jewelry.

(TOLON - married; colored. Lives with his wife in the Embassy. He has been in Paris approximately eight months but AMWHIP/1 did not know exactly.) He seldom leaves the Embassy. According to AMWHIP/1, he is the custodian of the Embassy and the code clerk. AMWHIP/1 says he is a simple, good-natured sort of pleasant. AMWHIP/1 had the opportunity of talking to him several times as the jewelry he inspected and later bought was kept at the Embassy by TOLON.)

When AMWHIP/1 decided that he would buy the jewelry, the Ambassador (CARRILLO) did not have the authority to close the deal. A cable was sent to Pepin SANCHEZ in Habana for approval. According to CARRILLO and IGLESIAS, Fidel has boxes of gold (no details), which he wants to make into objects of art and sell. He feels this way he can expect better returns from it. CASTRO wants AMWHIP/1 to

advise him what he can do along these lines. In order to give CASTRO some answer AMWHIP/1 informed them that probably the best they could do would be to mint gold medals which could then be sold outside of Cuba. (AMWHIP/1 feels even this would be difficult for them to arrange but felt he had to give some kind of an answer.) CASTRO has extended an invitation to AMWHIP/1 to visit Cuba for 15 days so they could discuss the above business - (AMWHIP/1's comment: "Thanks, but no thanks.") Before and after discussing the details of his jewelry deals, AMWHIP/1 asked that the record be made abundantly clear that he would not and will not buy any more jewelry if he is so asked by the USG (i.e., if USG doesn't want him to do so). AMWHIP/1 states that these deals have and will continue to give him an excellent entree with the Cubans but for the record he also wishes to state he does make a profit from it.

13. Ambassador CARRILLO: AMWHIP/1 does not feel we could successfully approach CARRILLO at this particular time. CARRILLO is very much impressed with his disposition and the confidence CASTRO has placed in him. CARRILLO is responsible for the coordination of the work of all of the other embassies in Western Europe, what could be called the Supervisory Ambassador for Europe. His contact with the Spanish Embassy in Paris is extensive and he is playing a major role in expanding Cuba's trade with Europe, especially Spain. CARRILLO is opposed to and speaks against the old line communists, especially Anibal ESCALANTE and Blas ROCA. (AMWHIP/1 feels CARRILLO is very pro-Spanish and anti-communist but at this time not anti-FIDEL.) Regarding the role recently played by CARRILLO regarding

US-Cuban relations, AMWHIP/1 is certain that CARRILLO was acting on orders from Fidel. According to AMWHIP/1 in such matters as this, no one in Cuba today, including CARRILLO, would dare act on his own. Upon his return from Cuba, CARRILLO was much less interested in the subject of reaching an understanding with the U.S. AMWHIP/1 again interprets this as orders from Fidel. When AMWHIP/1 asked CARRILLO about the subject after his return, CARRILLO passed it off by stating that as long as the U.S. continued its aggressive moves against Cuba, nothing could be done until they were willing to sit down and discuss the matter as equals.

14. The Marcos-Rodriguez Trial: AMWHIP/1 stated most of the info he received on this subject from ROBRENO should be one one of the tapes. In summary, ROBRENO told AMWHIP/1 that Faure Chomon got the letter which he later made public from his contacts inside the DSE. Fidel was furious with CHOMON for making the letter public but once he had and the trial developed, Fidel took CHOMON's side in the affair. After the end of the trial, CHOMON and AMLASH/1 spent two days at Varadero with Fidel fishing. Because of the circumstances, Fidel was forced into the position of siding with CHOMON but according to "El Mago", CHOMON is not deceived that Fidel will ever forgive him for "rocking the boat" and causing the uproar in the PURS. There never has been and never will be any love lost between CHOMON and Fidel. (On the surface Faure CHOMON came out unhurt from the latest crisis. If anybody was hurt, it was the old line communists, especially Edith GARCIA Buchaca.)



15. Cuban Real Estate in Paris: CARRILLO is planning to move out of the Embassy Building and into an apartment for which CARRILLO has already offered \$600 a month. The real estate agent who talked to CARRILLO about the apartment on 24 May 1964 spoke English and looked like an American. The Cubans plan to move the Consulate into the Embassy Bldg. and hope to get \$25,000.00 for the key rent on the Consulate Bldg. According to CARRILLO, the Chicoms have offered \$5,000,000.00 for a building on Av. Foch, 1 or 2 blocks toward the Eifel Tower from the Cuban Embassy. The house is pink, has a large garden in the front, covers one whole block.

16. UNSNAFU/9: AMWHIP/1 is concerned over UNSNAFU/9's attitude and loose talk. He talked to him about it but feels he accomplished very little. Even "El Mago" got into the act and nearly had a fight with UNSNAFU/9. Regarding MORALES, AMWHIP/1 believes he has contact with the French. He is a good person and the same type as UNSNAFU/9. According to AMWHIP/1 they <sup>MORALES + TRAVANCES</sup> simply do not have enough sense to know when to keep their mouths shut. Because of the way they act, AMWHIP/1 is surprised they have been able to keep their jobs as long as they have. AMWHIP/1 stated that UNSNAFU/9 was used for all sorts of jobs in the Embassy and feels that if he used his head he could do much more for us than he is doing. AMWHIP/1 drew a rough floor plan of the Embassy and feels UNSNAFU/9 can get the information on the part of the Embassy that he did not visit and where TOLON, the code clerk, works.

17. AMWHIP/1 plans another trip to Europe the end of June 1964, to see Jose IGLESIAS before he returns to Cuba. Also, for further discussions on his jewelry deals. If he does go, he would like to have a detailed plan on what we want him to do for us.

18. Ways and means of getting to IGLESIAS were discussed at length as AMWHIP/1 assesses him as anti-communist and anti-regime. AMWHIP/1 also states that it is very important to get the right person to establish contact with IGLESIAS. He could come up with no suggestions except himself. AMWHIP/1 feels that IGLESIAS would be a good man to be in contact with, especially now that he is working closely with Fidel, Celia and Pepin SANCHEZ on the jewelry business. It was agreed that we would like to establish a working relationship with IGLESIAS but our concern is keep AMWHIP/1 uncontaminated. A covert business relationship was suggested to AMWHIP/1 as one possible avenue. AMWHIP/1 wanted to think this possibility over as his first feeling was that it would be difficult to develop.

19. Sugar: According to CARRILLO, the Cubans expect this year's sugar crop to be in excess of last year's. In four to five years they expect the crop to top the five million ton mark and up to ten million tons in seven to ten years. (Cuban pipe dreams). CARRILLO also talked about a long term sugar contract with Tunis for 11¢ per lb. The recent sugar purchase of 10,000 tons by the Cubans was a planned ploy to raise the sugar price.

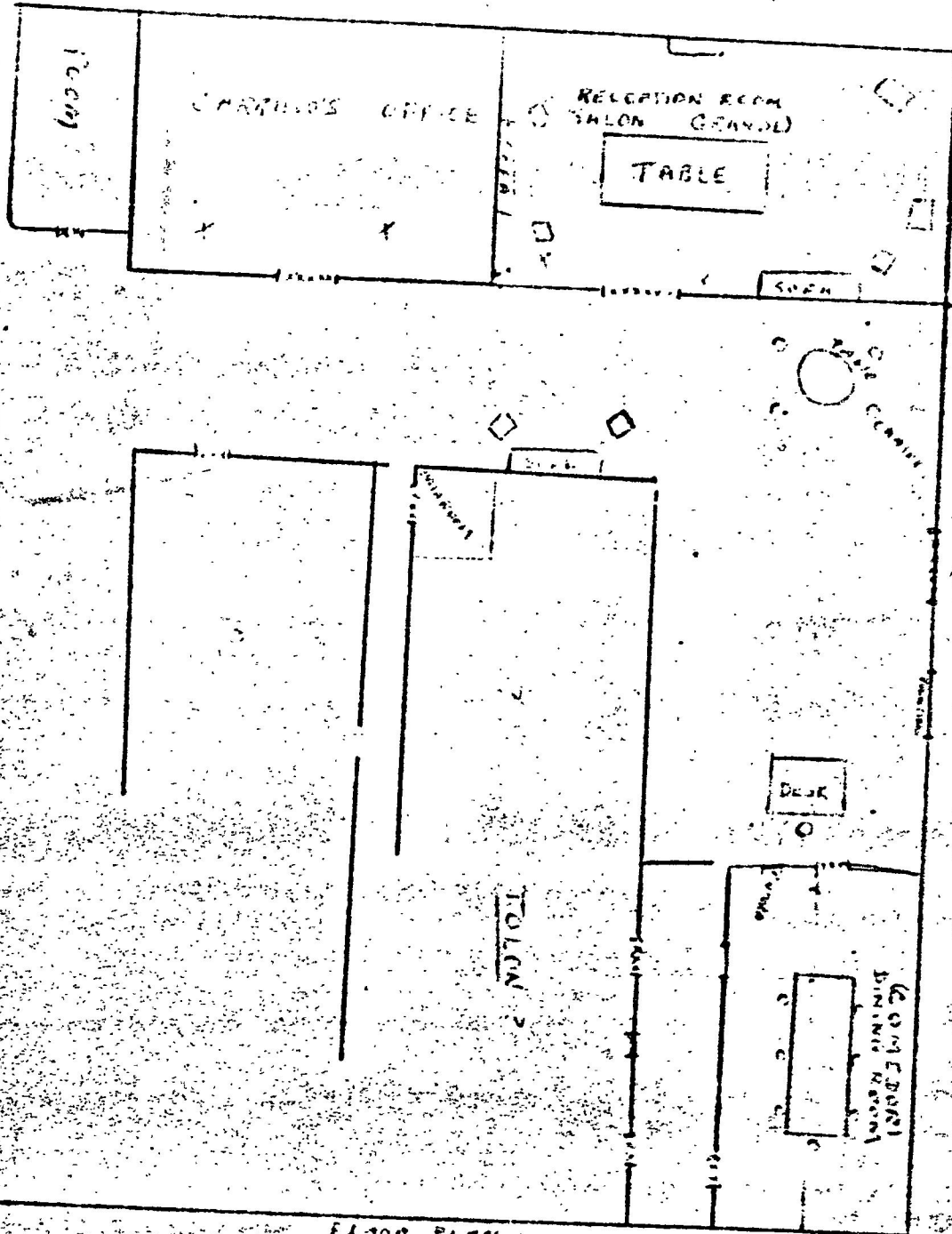
20. ABRAHANTES: According to "El Mago", Abrahantes has been moved off of Fidel's personal security detachment and back full time with the DSE working on internal security matters.
21. Ambassador CARRILLO is very conscious about the Embassy being bugged and the telephones being tapped. In talking to AMWHIP/1, he suggested they be careful what they discussed as "we do not know what may be in here." In discussing the recent news about the mikes in the American Embassy in Moscow, CARRILLO mentioned to AMWHIP/1 that they had recently discovered mikes in their Embassy in Canada. CARRILLO also stated that two months ago the technical people had swept the Embassy in Paris and found nothing.
22. Geneva: AMWHIP/1 stated he felt the trip to Geneva was totally unsuccessful and, even though he made every effort, could see no possibilities of establishing contact with Cubans who were there. He stated that CAMEJO (INDEVOUT/3) was a sour type and felt he would have been wasting his time trying to get close to him.
23. According to "El Mago", AMLASH/1 planned an attempt against Fidel in early 1964. The site he had selected was the stadium in Habana. AMLASH/1, according to "El Mago", at the last minute decided the effort was not feasible at this location.
24. Jose IGLESIAS plans to return to Cuba in late 1964. His address in Cuba is Moro 7 altos, Habana; tel: A 0392. IGLESIAS is visiting his mother who lives in Spain at Pravia Penaulan in Oviedo, Espana. He can be reached at Andres Torrejon #4, Madrid c/o Ma. Alvarez, a niece.

25. According to CARRILLO, Fidel plans using the money received from the recent sale of jewelry to buy lab equipment for a hospital in Habana. Dr. <sup>U. S. name</sup> ~~Curie~~ (Kouri or Khoury) is in Paris and authorized to purchase this equipment.

26. Angel MORA Riestra (home tel 6-5836, Mgr. of Banco Nacional de Cuba, Habana) --- According to AMWHIP/1 who spent several days with MOYA in Paris, is a decent person, anti-communist and gets the distinct impression, based strictly on his general conversations with him, that MOYA can be approached. AMWHIP/1 could not provide any leads to MOYA. MOYA has two daughters.

27. Jose VENEGAS, VP of the Int. Union of Students in Prague --- AMWHIP/1 was informed that VENEGAS had telephoned UNSNAFU/9 from Prague and had told him that AMLASH/1 was unhappy that he had not received an answer to his letter, that VENEGAS was writing to TRASANCOS and also was trying to telephone AMWHIP/1 in Rome. AMWHIP/1 believes AMLASH/1 is trying to get an answer to his last message but does not believe that AMLASH/1 has cut VENEGAS in. AMWHIP/1's feeling is based on his conversations with AMLASH/1 in November 1963 and their meetings with VENEGAS at that time. AMWHIP/1 feels AMLASH/1 would not cut VENEGAS in at this stage although he plans to use him later.

27. Security: No security problems were encountered. As AMSPORT/1 works in AMWHIP/1's office, an exchange of pleasantries with him was unavoidable as I had previously met him in Paris. AMWHIP/1 thinks AMSPORT/1 is a nice fellow but a little on the lazy side.



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Cta. Fidel Castro Rus

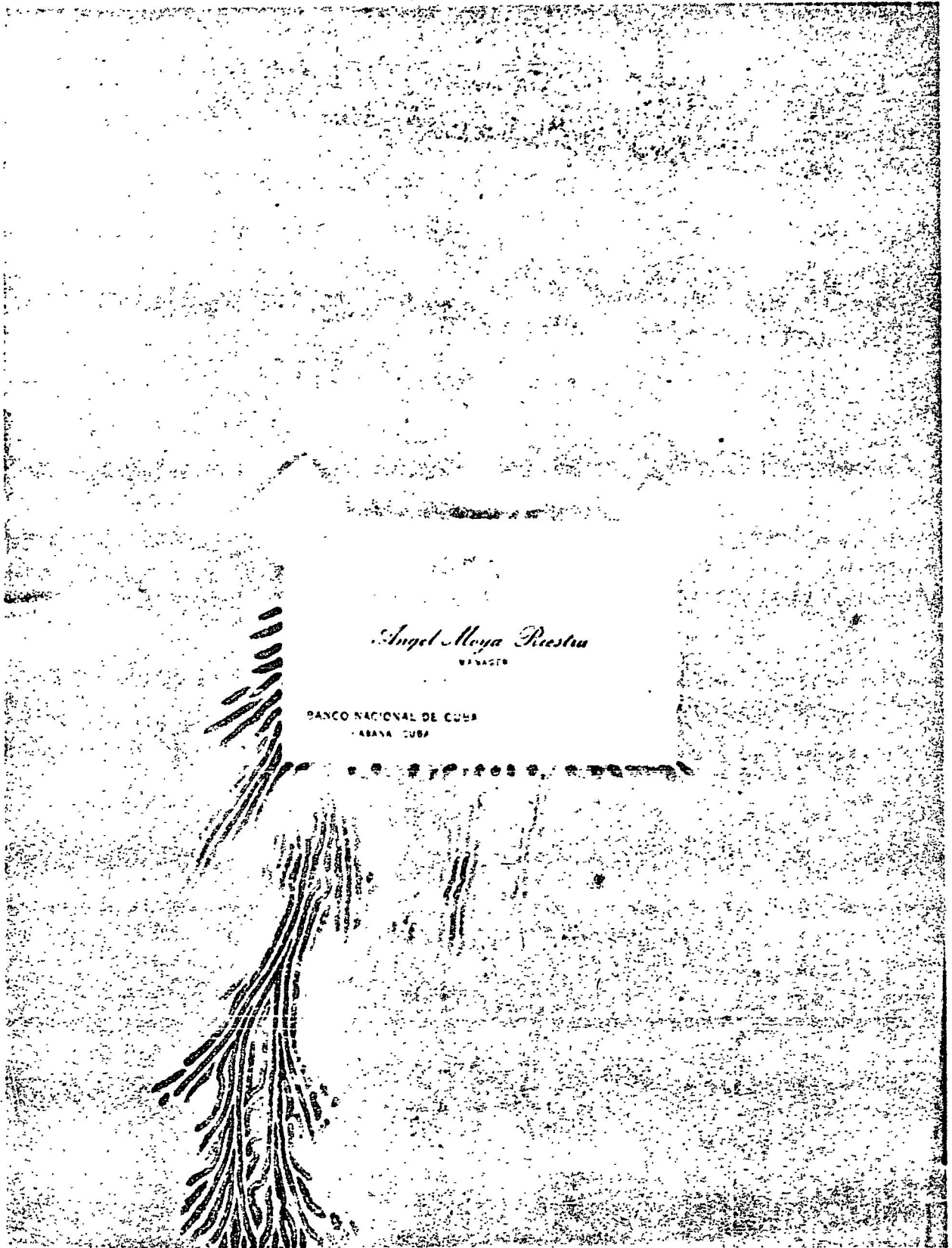
26 P

a Jose Iglesias

\$9,000.00 (in dollars)

Banque Nord d'Europe





*Angel Moya Pietsu*

MANAGER

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