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23 April 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: AMWHIP/1 Meeting, New York City,
21 April 1964

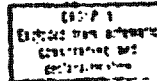
1. Meeting Time/Place: AMWHIP/1's office, New York City, 1215-1605 hours, 21 April 1964. (See previous reports for address, etc.)
2. Purpose of Meeting: Brief A/1 for his forthcoming trip to Europe, which includes stops at Paris, Geneva, and Rome.
3. Details of Meeting:

a. A/1 was met in New York in order to provide him with contact instructions for Paris and Geneva, and to brief him on his missions in those cities. These contact instructions may be found in related cable traffic in A/1's 201, but for the sake of completeness, they are included here and are as follows:

Paris: A/1 will stay at the Franklin Hotel as usual. He is to contact "Roberto" by telephone on Monday morning, 27 April, between 0900-1000 hours on ANJOJ 4700, ext. 6168, a number A/1 has used in the past. He will expect a short meeting to establish contact with the Paris C/O, who will identify himself as a "friend of Bill Thompson's".... the name used by undersigned when calling A/1's NYC office (and also used in past in Europe when arranging meetings for A/1 with C/O's he has not met previously). "Roberto" is to arrange details of meeting. A/1 ETA Paris is 26 April.

Geneva: According to instructions received from Geneva, A/1 is to stay at any hotel; to contact "Ben Damer" (Lapsley) at the Hotel de l'Ancre, phone 32 05 40. Latter will set up meeting arrangements, establish identity at meeting by indicating he is a "friend of Bill Thompson's." A/1's ETA Geneva is circa 29-30 April.

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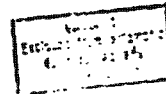
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b. A/1 was requested to meet Carlos Jorge ROBRENO Marquez aka "El Mago" who has communicated with A/1 by letter and phone from Paris on several occasions, having brought a "personal" message from AMLASH/1 for A/1. A/1 is also to get a good assessment of "El Mago", including a determination his reasons for leaving Cuba, or considering so, permanently. It is possible that "El Mago" may be a good prospect for recruitment; although as an individual, he is not particularly palatable. This opinion is also that of both AMLASH and A/1; but as an action type, he may be suitable for specific tasks. (See report of 28-29 February 1964 Meeting) A/1 was told to bear in mind that a person of this type could have been co-opted by the DSE in return for dropping of possible criminal charges for public brawls, etc. As discussed in the previous contact report, "El Mago" drinks heavily to the extent that he upon more than one occasion has gotten into serious brawls, including the one several years ago in which he shot an American citizen for alleged advances to a girl friend of his. ("El Mago's" motives and true allegiance remain clouded, to say the least.)

c. According to letters from "El Mago," Jose Alberto IBARRA Martin, aka "El Loco Blanco", is expected to follow "El Mago" to Paris; and he too has additional information from AMLASH. At this writing, "El Loco" has not arrived in Paris. ("El Loco" is of the same ilk, same crowd, as "El Mago," but not very bright.) A/1 was also asked to debrief him, assess, and report if he showed up while A/1 was in town.

d. According to a letter from [redacted] Embassy vice consul (U/9), Ambassador CARRILLO (U/19) [redacted] was most anxious to see and dine with A/1. Then, just prior to A/1's departure for Paris, he received a call from Havana from an old friend and former jeweler, Jose IGLASIAS (also a lawyer and university professor) who said that the Cuban government wished A/1 to go to Prague to appraise and arrange for the sale of a large quantity of jewelry taken from the Batistianos at the end of the revolution. The government was asking 300,000 dollars for the jewelry. A/1 said he refused to go to Prague as it would possibly jeopardize his standing with the U.S. Immigration Service. IGLASIAS said he understood and would relay A/1's answer.

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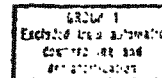
Sometime later the same day, IGLASIAS called back to say that the jewelry would be taken to Paris and placed in the care of CARRILLO, who was empowered to close the deal on the spot if the price were right. During this meeting with the undersigned A/1 stated that he was interested in looking into the deal, if we had no objections, as he had remembered seeing the jewelry in Havana in 1960 at which time he assessed it as being worth in the vicinity of some 250,000 dollars. A/1 also commented that he thought this particular batch of jewelry was that which "Che" GUEVARA had taken into his personal possession at the time. A/1 was told that there were no objections from KUBARK, as long as A/1 was aware of all the possible ramifications. A/1 was asked to get all the particulars on the transaction and its background. Paris is to keep Hqs. informed of this as developed by A/1.

e. A/1 was requested to spend the minimum time necessary in Paris to accomplish the above missions, then fly to Geneva to assist LAPSLEY at the UNCTAD activities. Upon being shown a list of the known delegates, he stated that he did not know any of them personally, but through several mutual friends and other ploys, he felt that he could inject himself into their circles to a useful degree. A/1 has valid reason to be in Switzerland as he often goes there in connection with jewelry purchases, and to see his business partner, AMWHIP/2, who resides in Geneva. A/1 also volunteered to check in with the Rome Station in the event there was something he could do for them. A/1 was asked to return to Paris in a reasonable amount of time in order to follow up with his contacts with "El Mago", CARRILLO, and possibly with "El Loco Blanco."

f. It was stressed to A/1 that his actions in all meetings with Castroites should be consistent with his reputation as a basically apolitical businessman who maintained friendly relations with his old acquaintances and friends still with the Castro government and/or resident in Cuba. We believe that he is fully aware of this, and will proceed with sufficient caution as not to jeopardize his entre into Castro government circles in Cuba and abroad.

g. The meeting, which included lunch at the restaurant next door to A/1's office, terminated at 1605. A/1 was told to contact the undersigned on the sterile number if there were any further developments or changes in A/1's travel plans.

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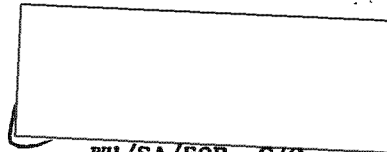
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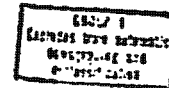
h. The gist of this briefing was forwarded to Paris Station in DIR 16696 for its use in handling A/1. Geneva Base was also advised as appropriate. *Also CI Rems, see DIR.*

4. Security: There were no incidents of a security nature of which A/1 or the undersigned were aware. It should be noted, however, that ANSPORT/1 again observed the undersigned in A/1's offices.

End of Report



WH/SA/EOB, C/O



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