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TO : DIRECTOR
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*Travel from
me to Havana*

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DIR CITE

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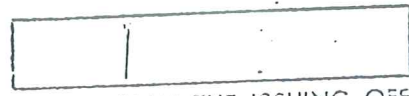
1. SOVIET EMB AND CONSULATE ARE NOT OPEN TO PUBLIC. OFFICES ARE IN COMPOUND ACCESSIBLE TO PUBLIC BY APPOINTMENT. SOVIET GUARDS ARE ON OUTSIDE GATE AROUND CLOCK. NORMAL WORK HOURS SEP 1963 WERE 0900 TO 1800 BUT RECENTLY CHANGED 0900 TO 1400 MONDAY AND FRIDAYS. SIXTEEN SOVIET FAMILIES LIVE IN COMPOUND. VISITORS RING BELL AT GATE AT ALL HOURS. RUSSIAN SPEAKERS CAN GET IN ANYTIME. OTHERS USUALLY TURNED AWAY BY GUARD AFTER HOURS. SOVIETS ARE NOT KNOWN TO ISSUE PERMITS FOR TRAVEL CUBA.

2. CUBAN EMB AND CONSULATE IN SAME COMPOUND BUT HAVE SEPARATE ENTRANCES. CONSULATE RECEIVES VISITORS FROM 1200 TO 1400 HOURS MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY. EMBASSY WORKING HOURS ARE FROM 0900 TO 1700 HOURS SAME DAYS BUT MOST EMBASSY VISITORS USUALLY ATTENDED BEFORE 1400 HOURS. THESE HOURS ALSO APPLIED DURING SEPT 63.

3. CUBAN EMB PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS FOR ISSUING PERMITS FOR TRAVEL TO AND THROUGH CUBA: VISAS NORMALLY VALID FOR THREE MONTHS FROM DATE OF ISSUE. PRIOR AUTHORIZATION FROM HABANA INVARIABLY

Document Number 683291

for FOIA Review dh JUN 1976



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REQUIRED BEFORE ISSUANCE ANY VISA. APPLICANT COMPLETES VISA APPLICATION FORM AT CONSULATE, PERMISSION OFTEN OBTAINED IN EXCHANGE OF CABLES BETWEEN EMBASSY AND MINREX HABANA. IN MANY CASES VISAS ISSUED ON SEPARATE SHEET PAPER IN EFFORT CONCEAL FACT OF TRAVEL.

4. MEXICAN GOVT PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS RE TRAVEL U.S. CITIZENS TO AND THROUGH CUBA UNCHANGED SINCE HMMA 20887 DATED 3 MAY 1963. U.S. CITIZENS WITH PASSPORTS AND CUBAN VISAS ARE FREE TO TRAVEL TO CUBA. U.S. CITIZENS CAN OBTAIN TOURIST CARDS FROM MEXICAN CONSUL HAVANA FOR RETURN VIA MEXICO. WU

Comment: *Warren Commission requested AGENCY furnish hours when Cuban and Soviet Embassies and Consulates in Mexico City are open to public; their normal working hours; their procedures and regulations formal and informal involved in issuing permits for travel to and through Cuba.