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CopyTo:
DisplayBlindCopyTo:
BlindCopyTo: CN=R ecord/O=ARRB
From: CN=Michelle Combs/O=ARRB
DisplayFromDomain:
DisplayDate: 03/26/1997
DisplayDate_Time: 3:04:58 PM
ComposedDate: 03/26/1997
ComposedDate_Time: 3:04:35 PM
Subject: ICC Documents

FYITo: Jeremy Gunn/ARRBcc: Manuel Legaspi/ARRB From: Michelle Combs/ARRBDate: 03/26/97 02:55:51
PMSubject: ICC DocumentsI spent part of Tuesday at DOS reviewing two cardboard boxes of Cuba material. The top secret box (lot file 66D501) has been reviewed under the systematic review process. We need to ask to have it moved up the priority list to be processed by NARA. In addition, under systematic review, State withdraws documents instead of redacting them. If there is even one word which needs protecting, the entire document is withdrawn. As a result, Nina has a folder of approximately 80 documents which were withdrawn from the top secret box (approximately 1/2 the documents in the box). For example, all the contents of the Mongoose file have been withdrawn. I brought back a sample of the types of documents in the withdrawn folder. Whenever you have a moment to look at them, these documents are in the SCIF. We need to decide what to do with the withdrawn documents. In my opinion, they answer the question of what was US policy toward Cuba in the 1962-64 time frame. If we do nothing, they will remain classified until the end of the Castro regime. Nina is not convinced that these documents are unique and is worried because her Cuba analyst is departing in three weeks and "is very busy until then." Five-sixths of the box could fairly be called EHU's; the last one-sixth is material related to a different country. Not having seen the Cuba material at the JFK Library, I am not in a position to judge whether or not this Cuba material is unique. In my opinion, it is an excellent and detailed overview of US policy toward Cuba during our relevant time frame. The secret box contains more general Cuban relations material. It has not been reviewed for release at all. Of this box, approximately half the files could be considered EHU's. The rest concern general matters of trade or crop production estimates. Again, I cannot judge whether the relevant files are unique, but they provide some very good details on US policy toward Cuba. The decision of what the Board wishes to do with these files needs to be made before April 10. Nina is very determined that the two boxes not "sit around her office." My offer to hold them in our SCIF was not well received. Nina wishes to return the boxes to State's storage facility as soon as possible. I don't think she will hold them longer than two weeks. If we want the material moved to our SCIF, we would have to submit a formal request.

Body:
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DeliveryPriority: N
DeliveryReport: B
ReturnReceipt:
Categories: