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FOIA Number:

# FOIA MARKER

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**Record Group/Collection:** George H.W. Bush Presidential Records  
**Collection/Office of Origin:** Speechwriting, White House Office of  
**Series:** Speech File Draft Files  
**Subseries:** Chron File, 1989-1993

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**OA/ID Number:** 13487  
**Folder ID Number:** 13487-013

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**Folder Title:**  
Cuban Independence Day, 5/22/89

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| Stack:   | Row:      | Section: | Shelf:   | Position: |
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| <b>G</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>6</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>7</b>  |

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# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/18/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5:00 TODAY

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

|                | ACTION FYI                          |                                     |            | ACTION FYI                   |  |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------|--|
| VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | MCCLURE    | <i>N/C phone</i>             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> |
| SUNUNU         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NEWMAN     |                              | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| SCOWCROFT      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | PORTER     | <i>B Fed tagged</i>          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> |
| DARMAN         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | STUDDERT   | <i>N/C phone</i>             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> |
| BATES          | <i>N/C phone</i>                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | UNTERMAYER |                              | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| BREEDEN        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | WINSTON    | <del>_____</del>             | <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| CARD           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | ROGERS     | <i>Wont get them in GONE</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CICCONI        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | PINKERTON  |                              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> |
| DEMAREST       | <i>N/C</i>                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | BOSKIN     | <i>5042 N/C phone</i>        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> |
| FITZWATER      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | _____      |                              | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| GRAY           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____      |                              | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| HAGIN          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____      |                              | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>            |

REMARKS:

Please provide your comments/recommendations directly to Chiss Winston's office with an info copy to my office by 5:00 TODAY Thursday, May 17, 1989. Thnak you.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi  
 Assistant to the President  
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
 Ext. 2702

(Smith/Blessey)  
May 18, 1989  
Draft Three  
CUBA

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY  
ROOM 450, OEOB  
MONDAY, MAY 22, 1989

My friends, it is truly a pleasure to be with you to celebrate this wonderful occasion: The 87th anniversary of Cuban independence.

Now, I know that the official anniversary was Saturday, not today. Let's get that straight [PAUSE] . . . after all, remember Pearl Harbor.

But, you know, I would be delighted to be here on any day. For we Americans owe a debt of gratitude to the Cuban people.

That debt dates back to 1776, when George Washington's troops were dreadfully short of food and supplies. Some of you may remember how the women of Havana banded together and raised 1.2 million livres for the cause of American freedom.

One hundred and twenty-six years later, another people fought bravely for the cause of freedom. For it was on May 20, 1902, after a long and brutal struggle, that the Cuban Republic was born.

We gather here to remember that victory. And the fact that freedom knows no boundaries. Perhaps it was ~~the Abraham Lincoln of Cuba~~, <sup>Cuba's George Washington</sup> that great patriot Jose Marti [Mar-TEE], who said it best. He remarked, "To beautify life is to give it an object."

My friends, our object is human liberty. And a free, united, and democratic Cuba. As President, I am absolutely, unalterably committed to Cuba Libre. And I will never falter in that support.

I know that you are with me. And so is America. For we oppose those who mock the rights we treasure: rights of speech, religion, assembly, and economic freedom. And in response, our demand is plain and simple: "Democracy, Mr. Castro -- not some time, not some day, but now."

This morning, I call on Fidel Castro to free all political prisoners. And to conform to accepted international standards regarding human rights. I challenge him to allow unrestricted access to <sup>(the United Nations and other)</sup> organizations monitoring their compliance. And a policy of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states.

A useful first step would be to accept ~~the~~ proposed debate in Cuba.

On this, Cuban Independence Day, I challenge Castro to take concrete and specific steps <sup>leading to free and fair elections and full democracy</sup> to ~~begin democracy's electoral~~ process. <sup>→ I challenge Castro to allow Cuban citizens who wish to leave Cuba</sup> And to allow free and unrestricted travel to and from Cuba for all persons -- <sup>to do so -- a fundamental human right guaranteed by ~~truly~~ free nations</sup> including present citizens and residents. <sup>genuinely</sup>

→ I challenge Castro to show that Cuba is truly independent by sharply reducing the Soviet ~~and~~ military presence.

*Castro is willing to change his policies and behavior, we will maintain our present policy towards Cuba. I also want to make it clear that*

This I pledge: Unless ~~these conditions are met~~ -- basic conditions, elemental -- we will oppose Cuba's re-entry to the

Organization of American States. And this, too, I promise: We will continue Radio Marti. We will create TV Marti. We will see that the people of Cuba know the truth -- about their dictator, and about the world.

*Push forward our proposal for*

*To help break down the monopoly on information that Castro has maintained for 30 years,*

In short, we want to advance that day when Cuban Independence Day achieves a new and richer meaning:

- Freedom from the evil of tyranny and oppression;
- Freedom from the economic misery wrought by communist misrule;
- The freedom that can liberate lives and lift the human heart -- yes, the freedom of democracy.

To achieve that freedom, heroes must lead the way. Well, in a sense they already have, and are. For Cuba can claim many heroes -- those who struggled valiantly almost ninety years ago, and those who struggle today.

Heroes, ~~for example~~, like Dr. Claudio Benedi, here in this audience, who has condemned -- eloquently, repeatedly -- Castro's

*Unsung heroes, for example, like Alfredo Mustelier Nuevo, one of the long-time political prisoners who Fidel Castro refuses to release, who refuses to give up ~~continuing~~ <sup>this</sup> hunger strike despite deteriorating ~~with~~*

violations of human rights. Or another great patriot of the Western Hemisphere -- a hero of our times.

I'm referring, of course, to Armando Valladares. He spent 22 years in Castro's prisons. And he wrote a book about that ordeal, and his ultimate release. It's titled Against All Hope. And it describes how he survived beatings, starvation, and unspeakable horror.

I'm sure many of you have read this unforgettable tribute. A tribute to the arching human spirit -- to that will to live which helped endure the cruelest of regimes. A tribute, also, to the courage of the Cuban people -- resolute and unafraid.

My friends, that courage has helped you endure. And it will one day unite a million free Cuban-Americans with their long-suffering Cuban brothers.

For if hope can stay alive in the heart of Armando Valladares, surely we will see Cuba free again.

Thank you for coming here, God bless you, God bless America, and Viva Cuba Libre.

# # # #

REMARKS: CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY  
ROOM 450, OEOB  
MONDAY, MAY 22, 1989

MY FRIENDS, IT IS TRULY A PLEASURE TO BE WITH YOU TO CELEBRATE THIS WONDERFUL OCCASION: THE 87TH ANNIVERSARY OF CUBAN INDEPENDENCE.

A SPECIAL DAY, BUT, YOU KNOW, I WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO BE HERE ON ANY DAY. FOR WE AMERICANS OWE A DEBT OF GRATITUDE TO THE CUBAN PEOPLE.

- 2 -

THAT DEBT DATES BACK TO 1776, WHEN GEORGE WASHINGTON'S TROOPS WERE DREADFULLY SHORT OF FOOD AND SUPPLIES. SOME OF YOU MAY REMEMBER HOW THE WOMEN OF HAVANA BANDED TOGETHER AND RAISED 1.2 MILLION LIVRES FOR THE CAUSE OF AMERICAN FREEDOM.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SIX YEARS LATER, ANOTHER PEOPLE FOUGHT BRAVELY FOR THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM. FOR IT WAS ON MAY 20, 1902, AFTER A LONG AND BRUTAL STRUGGLE, THAT THE CUBAN REPUBLIC WAS BORN.

WE GATHER HERE TO REMEMBER THAT VICTORY. AND THE FACT THAT FREEDOM KNOWS NO BOUNDARIES. PERHAPS IT WAS CUBA'S GEORGE WASHINGTON, THAT GREAT PATRIOT JOSE MARTI [MAR-TEE], WHO SAID IT BEST. HE REMARKED, "TO BEAUTIFY LIFE IS TO GIVE IT AN OBJECT."

MY FRIENDS, OUR OBJECT IS HUMAN LIBERTY. AND A FREE, UNITED, AND DEMOCRATIC CUBA. AS PRESIDENT, I AM ABSOLUTELY, UNALTERABLY COMMITTED TO A FREE DEMOCRATIC CUBA. AND I WILL NEVER FALTER IN THAT SUPPORT.

I KNOW THAT YOU ARE WITH ME. AND SO IS AMERICA. FOR WE OPPOSE THOSE WHO MOCK THE RIGHTS WE TREASURE: RIGHTS OF SPEECH, RELIGION, ASSEMBLY, AND ECONOMIC FREEDOM. AND IN RESPONSE, OUR DEMAND IS PLAIN AND SIMPLE: "DEMOCRACY, AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS -- NOT SOME TIME, NOT SOME DAY, BUT NOW."

THIS MORNING, I CALL ON FIDEL CASTRO TO FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS. AND TO CONFORM TO ACCEPTED INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS.

I CHALLENGE HIM TO ALLOW UNRESTRICTED ACCESS TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS MONITORING THEIR COMPLIANCE. AND A POLICY OF NON-INTERVENTION IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER STATES.

ON THIS, CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY, I CHALLENGE CASTRO TO TAKE CONCRETE AND SPECIFIC STEPS LEADING TO FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS AND FULL DEMOCRACY. A USEFUL FIRST STEP WOULD BE TO ACCEPT A PROPOSED PLEBISCITE IN CUBA.

I ALSO STRONGLY BELIEVE CUBAN CITIZENS WHO WISH TO LEAVE CUBA SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO DO SO -- A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT GUARANTEED BY FREE NATIONS.

AND, I CHALLENGE CASTRO TO SHOW THAT CUBA IS TRULY INDEPENDENT BY SHARPLY REDUCING THE SOVIET MILITARY PRESENCE.

THIS I PLEDGE: UNLESS CASTRO IS WILLING TO CHANGE HIS POLICIES AND BEHAVIOR, WE WILL MAINTAIN OUR PRESENT POLICY TOWARDS CUBA.

I ALSO WANT TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT WE OPPOSE CUBA'S RE-ENTRY TO THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES. AND THIS, TOO, I PROMISE: TO HELP BREAK DOWN THE MONOPOLY ON INFORMATION THAT CASTRO HAS MAINTAINED FOR 30 YEARS, WE WILL CONTINUE RADIO MARTI. WE WILL PUSH FORWARD OUR PROPOSAL FOR TV MARTI. WE WILL SEE THAT THE PEOPLE OF CUBA KNOW THE TRUTH -- ABOUT THEIR DICTATOR, AND ABOUT THE WORLD.

THE THIRST FOR DEMOCRACY IS UNQUENCHABLE. TOTALITARIAN SYSTEMS EVERYWHERE ARE FEELING NEW PRESSURES FROM THE PEOPLE. CUBANS WANT FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY. I CHALLENGE CASTRO TO LET THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE PREVAIL.

IN SHORT, WE WANT TO ADVANCE THAT DAY WHEN CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY ACHIEVES A NEW AND RICHER MEANING:  
-- FREEDOM FROM THE EVIL OF TRYANNY AND OPPRESSION;

-- FREEDOM FROM THE ECONOMIC MISERY WROUGHT BY COMMUNIST MISRULE;

-- THE FREEDOM THAT CAN LIBERATE LIVES AND LIFT THE HUMAN HEART -- YES, THE FREEDOM OF DEMOCRACY.

TO ACHIEVE THAT FREEDOM, HEROES MUST LEAD THE WAY. WELL, IN A SENSE THEY ALREADY HAVE, AND ARE. FOR CUBA CAN CLAIM MANY HEROES -- THOSE WHO STRUGGLED VALIANTLY ALMOST NINETY YEARS AGO, AND THOSE WHO STRUGGLE TODAY.

UNsung HEROES, FOR EXAMPLE, LIKE LONG-TIME POLITICAL PRISONER ALFREDO MUSTELIER NUEVO [MOOSTEHLER NOOEHVO] WHO REFUSES TO GIVE UP.

HEROES LIKE DR. CLAUDIO BENEDI, HERE IN THIS AUDIENCE, WHO HAS CONDEMNED -- ELOQUENTLY, REPEATEDLY -- CASTRO'S VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS. OR ANOTHER GREAT PATRIOT OF THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE -- A HERO OF OUR TIMES.

- 11 -

I'M REFERRING, OF COURSE, TO ARMANDO VALLADARES [VAHLAHDARES]. HE SPENT 22 YEARS IN CASTRO'S PRISONS. AND HE WROTE A BOOK ABOUT THAT ORDEAL, AND HIS ULTIMATE RELEASE. IT'S TITLED AGAINST ALL HOPE. AND IT DESCRIBES HOW HE SURVIVED BEATINGS, STARVATION, AND UNSPEAKABLE HORROR.

- 12 -

I'M SURE MANY OF YOU HAVE READ THIS UNFORGETTABLE TRIBUTE. A TRIBUTE TO THE ARCHING HUMAN SPIRIT -- TO THAT WILL TO LIVE WHICH HELPED ENDURE THE CRUELEST OF REGIMES. A TRIBUTE, ALSO, TO THE COURAGE OF THE CUBAN PEOPLE -- RESOLUTE AND UNAFRAID.

MY FRIENDS, THAT COURAGE HAS HELPED YOU ENDURE. AND IT WILL ONE DAY UNITE A MILLION FREE CUBAN-AMERICANS WITH THEIR LONG-SUFFERING CUBAN BROTHERS.

- 13 -

FOR IF HOPE CAN STAY ALIVE IN THE HEART OF ARMANDO  
VALLADARES, SURELY WE WILL SEE CUBA FREE AGAIN.

THANK YOU FOR COMING HERE, GOD BLESS YOU, GOD BLESS  
AMERICA.

# # # #

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 19, 1989

1989 MAY 19 AM 11:11

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *cw*

FROM: CURT SMITH *CS*

SUBJECT: REMARKS FOR CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

*— 2:30*

I. SUMMARY

At 2:30, on Monday, May 22, you will address about 230 members of the Cuban-American community in Room 450. The event is to celebrate the 87th anniversary of Cuban Independence Day which occurs on Saturday, May 20.

II. DISCUSSION

The enclosed remarks discuss freedom, and the U.S.-Cuban relationship. The text also challenges Castro to take steps to bring democracy to Cuba.

(Smith/Blessey)  
May 18, 1989  
Draft Four  
CUBA

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY  
ROOM 450, OEOB  
MONDAY, MAY 22, 1989

My friends, it is truly a pleasure to be with you to celebrate this wonderful occasion: The 87th anniversary of Cuban independence.

Now, I know that the official anniversary was Saturday, not today. Let's get that straight [PAUSE] . . . after all, remember Pearl Harbor.

*A special day, but,*  
But, you know, I would be delighted to be here on any day.  
For we Americans owe a debt of gratitude to the Cuban people.

That debt dates back to 1776, when George Washington's troops were dreadfully short of food and supplies. Some of you may remember how the women of Havana banded together and raised 1.2 million livres for the cause of American freedom.

One hundred and twenty-six years later, another people fought bravely for the cause of freedom. For it was on May 20, 1902, after a long and brutal struggle, that the Cuban Republic was born.

We gather here to remember that victory. And the fact that freedom knows no boundaries. Perhaps it was Cuba's George Washington, that great patriot Jose Marti [Mar-TEE], who said it best. He remarked, "To beautify life is to give it an object."

My friends, our object is human liberty. And a free, united, and democratic Cuba. As President, I am absolutely, unalterably committed to Cuba Libre [~~KOOBA LIBREH~~]. And I will never falter in that support. *a free democratic cuba*

I know that you are with me. And so is America. For we oppose those who mock the rights we treasure: rights of speech, religion, assembly, and economic freedom. And in response, our demand is plain and simple: "Democracy, ~~Mr. Castro~~ *and respect for human rights.* -- not some time, not some day, but now."

This morning, I call on Fidel Castro to free all political prisoners. And to conform to accepted international standards regarding human rights. I challenge him to allow unrestricted access to the United Nations and other organizations monitoring their compliance. And a policy of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states.

On this, Cuban Independence Day, I challenge Castro to take concrete and specific steps leading to free and fair elections

I N S E R T     A

The thirst for democracy is unquenchable. Totalitarian systems everywhere are feeling new pressures from the people. Cubans want freedom and democracy. I challenge Castro to let the will of the people prevail.

and full democracy. A useful first step would be to accept a proposed plebiscite in Cuba.

*I also strongly believe*

*How this language been cleared*

~~The fight for democracy is unquenchable. Totalitarian systems can where are feeling our presence from the people. Cubans want freedom~~

I challenge Castro to allow Cuban citizens who wish to leave Cuba to do so -- a fundamental human right guaranteed by free nations.

*Should be allowed to leave*

I challenge Castro to show that Cuba is truly independent by sharply reducing the Soviet military presence.

*I challenge Castro to let the will of the people prevail*

This I pledge: Unless Castro is willing to change his policies and behavior, we will maintain our present policy towards Cuba. I also want to make it clear that we oppose Cuba's re-entry to the Organization of American States. And this, too, I promise: To help break down the monopoly on information that Castro has maintained for 30 years, we will continue Radio Marti. We will push forward our proposal for TV Marti. We will see that the people of Cuba know the truth -- about their dictator, and about the world.

*Insert A \**

In short, we want to advance that day when Cuban Independence Day achieves a new and richer meaning:

-- Freedom from the evil of tyranny and oppression;

-- Freedom from the economic misery wrought by communist misrule;

-- The freedom that can liberate lives and lift the human heart -- yes, the freedom of democracy.

To achieve that freedom, heroes must lead the way. Well, in a sense they already have, and are. For Cuba can claim many heroes -- those who struggled valiantly almost ninety years ago, and those who struggle today.

Unsung heroes, for example, like long-time political prisoner Alfredo Mustelier Nuevo [MOOSTEHLEHR NOOEHVO] who refuses to give up. ~~-- who, despite deteriorating health, continues his hunger strike for freedom.~~

Heroes like Dr. Claudio Benedi, here in this audience, who has condemned -- eloquently, repeatedly -- Castro's violations of human rights. Or another great patriot of the Western Hemisphere -- a hero of our times.

I'm referring, of course, to Armando Valladares [VAHLAHDAHRES]. He spent 22 years in Castro's prisons. And he wrote a book about that ordeal, and his ultimate release. It's titled Against All Hope. And it describes how he survived beatings, starvation, and unspeakable horror.

I'm sure many of you have read this unforgettable tribute. A tribute to the arching human spirit -- to that will to live which helped endure the cruelest of regimes. A tribute, also, to the courage of the Cuban people -- resolute and unafraid.

My friends, that courage has helped you endure. And it will one day unite a million free Cuban-Americans with their long-suffering Cuban brothers.

For if hope can stay alive in the heart of Armando Valladares, surely we will see Cuba free again.

Thank you for coming here, God bless you, God bless America,  
~~and Viva Cuba Libre~~

# # # #

3791



# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/18/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5:00 TODAY

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

|                | ACTION FYI                          |                                     |                  | ACTION FYI                          |                                     |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | MCCLURE          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| SUNUNU         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NEWMAN           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| SCOWCROFT      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | PORTER           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| DARMAN         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | STUDDERT         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| BATES          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | UNTERMAYER       | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| BREEDEN        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <u>WINSTON</u>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| CARD           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>ROGERS</u>    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| CICCONI        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>PINKERTON</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| DEMAREST       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <u>BOSKIN</u>    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| FITZWATER      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | _____            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| GRAY           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| HAGIN          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

REMARKS:

Please provide your comments/recommendations directly to Chiss Winston's office with an info copy to my office by 5:00 TODAY Thursday, May 18, 1989. Thnak you.

RESPONSE:

TO: CHRISS WINSTON May 19, 1989

The NSC Staff concurs with the draft remarks attached with changes as noted.

*Brent Scowcroft*  
Brent Scowcroft

James W. Cicconi  
Assistant to the President  
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
Ext. 2702

cc: Cicconi

(Smith/Blessey)  
May 18, 1989  
Draft Three  
CUBA

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY  
ROOM 450, OEOB  
MONDAY, MAY 22, 1989

My friends, it is truly a pleasure to be with you to celebrate this wonderful occasion: The 87th anniversary of Cuban independence.

Now, I know that the official anniversary was Saturday, not today. Let's get that straight [PAUSE] . . . after all, remember Pearl Harbor.

But, you know, I would be delighted to be here on any day. For we Americans owe a debt of gratitude to the Cuban people.

That debt dates back to 1776, when George Washington's troops were dreadfully short of food and supplies. Some of you may remember how the women of Havana banded together and raised 1.2 million livres for the cause of American freedom.

One hundred and twenty-six years later, another people fought bravely for the cause of freedom. For it was on May 20, 1902, after a long and brutal struggle, that the Cuban Republic was born.

We gather here to remember that victory. And the fact that freedom knows no boundaries. Perhaps it was the Abraham Lincoln of Cuba, that great patriot Jose Marti [Mar-TEE], who said it best. He remarked, "To beautify life is to give it an object."

My friends, our object is human liberty. And a free, united, and democratic Cuba. As President, I am absolutely, unalterably committed to Cuba Libre. And I will never falter in that support.

I know that you are with me. And so is America. For we oppose those who mock the rights we treasure: rights of speech, religion, assembly, and economic freedom. And in response, our demand is plain and simple: "Democracy, Mr. Castro -- not some time, not some day, but now."

This morning, I call on Fidel Castro to free all political prisoners. And to conform to accepted international standards regarding human rights. I challenge him to allow unrestricted access to <sup>The United Nations and other</sup> organizations monitoring their compliance. And a policy of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states.

A useful first step would be to accept the proposal for a plebiscite in Cuba.

On this, Cuban Independence Day, I challenge Castro to take concrete and specific steps <sup>leading to free and fair elections and full democracy.</sup> to ~~begin democracy's electoral process.~~ And to allow free and unrestricted travel to and from Cuba for all persons -- including present citizens and residents. <sup>Cuban citizens who want to leave Cuba should be allowed to do so, for this is a right states normally accord to their citizens.</sup>

I challenge Castro to show that Cuba is truly independent by sharply reducing the Soviet military presence.

*Castro is willing to change his policies and*  
 This I pledge: Unless ~~these conditions are met~~ *basic*  
*behavior, we will maintain our present policy towards Cuba. I also want it clearly understood that*  
 conditions, ~~elemental~~ *we will* oppose Cuba's re-entry to the  
 Organization of American States. And this, too, I promise: *We*  
 will continue Radio Marti. We will ~~create~~ *push forward with our proposal for* TV Marti. We will see  
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In short, we want to advance that day when Cuban Independence Day achieves a new and richer meaning:

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Heroes, (~~for example~~) like Dr. Claudio Benedi, here in this audience, who has condemned -- eloquently, repeatedly -- Castro's

Unsung heroes, for example, like Alfredo Mustelier Nuevo, one of the long-time political prisoners who Fidel Castro refuses to release. The last word we have from Havana is that he continues a hunger strike and his health is deteriorating.

violations of human rights. Or another great patriot of the Western Hemisphere -- a hero of our times.

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# # # #

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 19, 1989

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *sw*

FROM: CURT SMITH *CS*

SUBJECT: REMARKS FOR CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

I. SUMMARY

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May 18, 1989  
Draft Four  
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One hundred and twenty-six years later, another people fought bravely for the cause of freedom. For it was on May 20, 1902, after a long and brutal struggle, that the Cuban Republic was born.

We gather here to remember that victory. And the fact that freedom knows no boundaries. Perhaps it was Cuba's George Washington, that great patriot Jose Marti [Mar-TEE], who said it best. He remarked, "To beautify life is to give it an object."

My friends, our object is human liberty. And a free, united, and democratic Cuba. As President, I am absolutely, unalterably committed to Cuba Libre [KOOPA LIBREH]. And I will never falter in that support.

I know that you are with me. And so is America. For we oppose those who mock the rights we treasure: rights of speech, religion, assembly, and economic freedom. And in response, our demand is plain and simple: "Democracy, Mr. Castro -- not some time, not some day, but now."

This morning, I call on Fidel Castro to free all political prisoners. And to conform to accepted international standards regarding human rights. I challenge him to allow unrestricted access to the United Nations and other organizations monitoring their compliance. And a policy of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states.

On this, Cuban Independence Day, I challenge Castro to take concrete and specific steps leading to free and fair elections

and full democracy. A useful first step would be to accept a proposed plebiscite in Cuba.

I challenge Castro to allow Cuban citizens who wish to leave Cuba to do so -- a fundamental human right guaranteed by free nations.

I challenge Castro to show that Cuba is truly independent by sharply reducing the Soviet military presence.

This I pledge: Unless Castro is willing to change his policies and behavior, we will maintain our present policy towards Cuba. I also want to make it clear that we oppose Cuba's re-entry to the Organization of American States. And this, too, I promise: To help break down the monopoly on information that Castro has maintained for 30 years, we will continue Radio Marti. We will push forward our proposal for TV Marti. We will see that the people of Cuba know the truth -- about their dictator, and about the world.

In short, we want to advance that day when Cuban Independence Day achieves a new and richer meaning:

-- Freedom from the evil of tyranny and oppression;

-- Freedom from the economic misery wrought by communist misrule;

-- The freedom that can liberate lives and lift the human heart -- yes, the freedom of democracy.

To achieve that freedom, heroes must lead the way. Well, in a sense they already have, and are. For Cuba can claim many heroes -- those who struggled valiantly almost ninety years ago, and those who struggle today.

Unsung heroes, for example, like long-time political prisoner Alfredo Mustelier Nuevo [MOOSTEHLEHR NOOEHVO] who refuses to give up -- who, despite deteriorating health, continues his hunger strike for freedom.

Heroes like Dr. Claudio Benedi, here in this audience, who has condemned -- eloquently, repeatedly -- Castro's violations of human rights. Or another great patriot of the Western Hemisphere -- a hero of our times.

I'm referring, of course, to Armando Valladares [VAHLAHDAHRES]. He spent 22 years in Castro's prisons. And he wrote a book about that ordeal, and his ultimate release. It's titled Against All Hope. And it describes how he survived beatings, starvation, and unspeakable horror.

I'm sure many of you have read this unforgettable tribute. A tribute to the arching human spirit -- to that will to live which helped endure the cruelest of regimes. A tribute, also, to the courage of the Cuban people -- resolute and unafraid.

My friends, that courage has helped you endure. And it will one day unite a million free Cuban-Americans with their long-suffering Cuban brothers.

For if hope can stay alive in the heart of Armando Valladares, surely we will see Cuba free again.

Thank you for coming here, God bless you, God bless America, and Viva Cuba Libre.

# # # #

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/19/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: -----

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

|                | ACTION FYI               |                                     |                             | ACTION FYI               |                                     |
|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | MCCLURE                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| SUNUNU         | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NEWMAN                      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| SCOWCROFT      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | PORTER                      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| DARMAN         | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | STUDDERT                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| BATES          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | UNTERMAYER                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| BREEDEN        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <u>BOSKIN</u>               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| CARD           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>ROGERS</u>               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| CICCONI        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>WINSTON</u>              | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| DEMAREST       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>PINKERTON</u>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| FITZWATER      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>                    </u> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| GRAY           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>                    </u> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| HAGIN          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <u>                    </u> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

**REMARKS:**

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

**RESPONSE:**

James W. Cicconi  
Assistant to the President  
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 19, 1989

1989 MAY 19 PM 14 10

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *cw*

FROM: CURT SMITH *CS*

SUBJECT: REMARKS FOR CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

I. SUMMARY

At 2:30, on Monday, May 22, you will address about 230 members of the Cuban-American community in Room 450. The event is to celebrate the 87th anniversary of Cuban Independence Day which occurs on Saturday, May 20.

II. DISCUSSION

The enclosed remarks discuss freedom, and the U.S.-Cuban relationship. The text also challenges Castro to take steps to bring democracy to Cuba.

(Smith/Blessey)  
May 18, 1989  
Draft Four  
CUBA

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY  
ROOM 450, OEOB  
MONDAY, MAY 22, 1989

My friends, it is truly a pleasure to be with you to celebrate this wonderful occasion: The 87th anniversary of Cuban independence.

Now, I know that the official anniversary was Saturday, not today. Let's get that straight [PAUSE] . . . after all, remember Pearl Harbor.

But, you know, I would be delighted to be here on any day. For we Americans owe a debt of gratitude to the Cuban people.

That debt dates back to 1776, when George Washington's troops were dreadfully short of food and supplies. Some of you may remember how the women of Havana banded together and raised 1.2 million livres for the cause of American freedom.

One hundred and twenty-six years later, another people fought bravely for the cause of freedom. For it was on May 20, 1902, after a long and brutal struggle, that the Cuban Republic was born.

We gather here to remember that victory. And the fact that freedom knows no boundaries. Perhaps it was Cuba's George Washington, that great patriot Jose Marti [Mar-TEE], who said it best. He remarked, "To beautify life is to give it an object."

My friends, our object is human liberty. And a free, united, and democratic Cuba. As President, I am absolutely, unalterably committed to Cuba Libre [KOOBA LIBREH]. And I will never falter in that support.

I know that you are with me. And so is America. For we oppose those who mock the rights we treasure: rights of speech, religion, assembly, and economic freedom. And in response, our demand is plain and simple: "Democracy, Mr. Castro -- not some time, not some day, but now."

This morning, I call on Fidel Castro to free all political prisoners. And to conform to accepted international standards regarding human rights. I challenge him to allow unrestricted access to the United Nations and other organizations monitoring their compliance. And a policy of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states.

On this, Cuban Independence Day, I challenge Castro to take concrete and specific steps leading to free and fair elections

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This I pledge: Unless Castro is willing to change his policies and behavior, we will maintain our present policy towards Cuba. I also want to make it clear that we oppose Cuba's re-entry to the Organization of American States. And this, too, I promise: To help break down the monopoly on information that Castro has maintained for 30 years, we will continue Radio Marti. We will push forward our proposal for TV Marti. We will see that the people of Cuba know the truth -- about their dictator, and about the world.

In short, we want to advance that day when Cuban Independence Day achieves a new and richer meaning:

-- Freedom from the evil of tyranny and oppression;

-- Freedom from the economic misery wrought by communist misrule;

-- The freedom that can liberate lives and lift the human heart -- yes, the freedom of democracy.

To achieve that freedom, heroes must lead the way. Well, in a sense they already have, and are. For Cuba can claim many heroes -- those who struggled valiantly almost ninety years ago, and those who struggle today.

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I'm sure many of you have read this unforgettable tribute. A tribute to the arching human spirit -- to that will to live which helped endure the cruelest of regimes. A tribute, also, to the courage of the Cuban people -- resolute and unafraid.

My friends, that courage has helped you endure. And it will one day unite a million free Cuban-Americans with their long-suffering Cuban brothers.

For if hope can stay alive in the heart of Armando Valladares, surely we will see Cuba free again.

Thank you for coming here, God bless you, God bless America, and Viva Cuba Libre.

# # # .#

**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

DATE: 5/18/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5:00 TODAY

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

|                | ACTION FYI                          |                                     |                  | ACTION FYI                          |                                     |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | MCCLURE          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| SUNUNU         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NEWMAN           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| SCOWCROFT      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | PORTER           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| DARMAN         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | STUDDERT         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| BATES          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | UNTERMAYER       | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| BREEDEN        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <u>WINSTON</u>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| CARD           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>ROGERS</u>    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| CICCONI        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>PINKERTON</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| DEMAREST       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <u>BOSKIN</u>    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| FITZWATER      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | _____            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| GRAY           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| HAGIN          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

**REMARKS:**

Please provide your comments/recommendations directly to Chiss Winston's office with an info copy to my office by 5:00 TODAY Thursday, May 17, 1989. Thnak you.

**RESPONSE:**

*See changes*

James W. Cicconi  
 Assistant to the President  
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
 Ext. 2702

(Smith/Blessey)  
May 18, 1989  
Draft Three  
CUBA

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY  
ROOM 450, OEOB  
MONDAY, MAY 22, 1989

My friends, it is truly a pleasure to be with you to celebrate this wonderful occasion: The 87th anniversary of Cuban independence.

Now, I know that the official anniversary was Saturday, not today. Let's get that straight [PAUSE] . . . after all, remember Pearl Harbor.

But, you know, I would be delighted to be here on any day. For we Americans owe a debt of gratitude to the Cuban people.

That debt dates back to 1776, when George Washington's troops were dreadfully short of food and supplies. Some of you may remember <sup>the history of</sup> how the women of Havana banded together and raised 1.2 million livres for the cause of American freedom.

One hundred and twenty-six years later, another people fought bravely for the cause of freedom. For it was on May 20, 1902, after a long and brutal struggle, that the Cuban Republic was born.

Draft  
x4770

We gather here to remember that victory. And the fact that freedom knows no boundaries. Perhaps it was ~~the Abraham Lincoln~~ <sup>Cuba's George Washington</sup> of Cuba, that great patriot Jose Marti [Mar-TEE], who said it best. He remarked, "To beautify life is to give it an object."

My friends, our object is human liberty. And a free, united, and democratic Cuba. As President, I am absolutely, unalterably committed to Cuba Libre. And I will never falter in that support.

I know that you are with me. And so is America. For we oppose those who mock the rights we treasure: rights of speech, religion, assembly, and economic freedom. And in response, our demand is plain and simple: "Democracy, Mr. Castro -- not some time, not some day, but now."

This morning, I call on Fidel Castro to free all political prisoners. And to conform to accepted international standards regarding human rights. I challenge him to allow unrestricted access to organizations monitoring their compliance. And a policy of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states.

On this, Cuban Independence Day, I challenge Castro to take concrete and specific steps to begin democracy's electoral process. And to allow free and unrestricted travel to and from Cuba for all persons -- including present citizens and residents.

This I pledge: Unless these conditions are met -- basic conditions, elemental -- we will oppose Cuba's re-entry to the Organization of American States. And this, too, I promise: We will continue Radio Marti. We will <sup>work hard to</sup> create TV Marti. We will see that the people of Cuba know the truth -- about their dictator, and about the world.

*Dubois*  
+4770

In short, we want to advance that day when Cuban Independence Day achieves a new and richer meaning:

- Freedom from the evil of tyranny and oppression;
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- The freedom that can liberate lives and lift the human heart -- yes, the freedom of democracy.

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violations of human rights. Or another great patriot of the Western Hemisphere -- a hero of our times.

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Thank you for coming here, God bless you, God bless America, and Viva Cuba Libre.

# # # #

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 18, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*  
SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Cuban Independence Day

I concur with the recommendations suggested by Jim Pinkerton. If you have any questions or I can help in any other way, please let me know.

cc: James W. Cicconi

**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

DATE: 5/18/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5:00 TODAY

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

|                | ACTION FYI                          |                                     |                  | ACTION FYI                          |                                     |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | MCCLURE          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| SUNUNU         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NEWMAN           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| SCOWCROFT      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | PORTER           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| DARMAN         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | STUDDERT         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| BATES          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | UNTERMEYER       | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| BREEDEN        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <u>WINSTON</u>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| CARD           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>ROGERS</u>    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| CICCONI        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>PINKERTON</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| DEMAREST       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <u>BOSKIN</u>    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| FITZWATER      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | _____            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| GRAY           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| HAGIN          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

**REMARKS:**

Please provide your comments/recommendations directly to Chiss Winston's office with an info copy to my office by 5:00 TODAY Thursday, May 17, 1989. Thnak you.

**RESPONSE:**

James W. Cicconi  
 Assistant to the President  
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
 Ext. 2702

(Smith/Blessey)  
May 18, 1989  
Draft Three  
CUBA

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY  
ROOM 450, OEOB  
MONDAY, MAY 22, 1989

My friends, it is truly a pleasure to be with you to celebrate this wonderful occasion: The 87th anniversary of Cuban independence.

Now, I know that the official anniversary was Saturday, not today. Let's get that straight [PAUSE] . . . after all, remember Pearl Harbor.

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That debt dates back to 1776, when George Washington's troops were dreadfully short of food and supplies. Some of you may remember how the women of Havana banded together and raised 1.2 million livres for the cause of American freedom.

One hundred and twenty-six years later, another people fought bravely for the cause of freedom. For it was on May 20, 1902, after a long and brutal struggle, that the Cuban Republic was born.

We gather here to remember that victory. And the fact that freedom knows no boundaries. Perhaps it was the Abraham Lincoln of Cuba, that great patriot Jose Marti [Mar-TEE], who said it best. He remarked, "To beautify life is to give it an object."

My friends, our object is human liberty. And a free, united, and democratic Cuba. As President, I am absolutely, unalterably committed to Cuba Libre. And I will never falter in that support.

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# # # #

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/18/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5:00 TODAY

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

|                | ACTION FYI                          |                                     |                    | ACTION FYI                          |                                     |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <del>MCCLURE</del> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| SUNUNU         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NEWMAN             | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| SCOWCROFT      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | PORTER             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| DARMAN         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | STUDDERT           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| BATES          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | UNTERMAYER         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| BREEDEN        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <u>WINSTON</u>     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| CARD           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>ROGERS</u>      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| CICCONI        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>PINKERTON</u>   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| DEMAREST       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <u>BOSKIN</u>      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| FITZWATER      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | _____              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| GRAY           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| HAGIN          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

**REMARKS:**

Please provide your comments/recommendations directly to Chiss Winston's office with an info copy to my office by 5:00 TODAY Thursday, May 17, 1989. Thank you.

**RESPONSE:**

*ok*  
*JW*

James W. Cicconi  
Assistant to the President  
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 18, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT  
FOR COMMUNICATIONS

FROM: PATRICIA MACK BRYAN *PMB/kw*  
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Cuban Independence Day

Pursuant to James W. Cicconi's staffing memorandum of May 18, 1989, Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced remarks. We have no legal objection to those remarks. We do, however, suggest the following two changes on page 2.

Paragraph 3; Sentence 2:

We assume that the President is pledging the support of the United States. Consequently, to avoid offending those Cubans or other Central and South Americans who view the term "America" as broader than the President would appear to be using it here, we recommend substituting the words "the United States" for "America."

Paragraph 4; Sentence 4:

We recommend adding the words "to adopt" between the words "And" and "a".

cc: James W. Cicconi

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON



May 18, 1989

MEMORANDUM TO CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: JIM PINKERTON 

SUBJECT: Cuban Independence Day

-----  
pg.2, para. 1, line 2 We wonder if Jose Marti is not better characterized as the "George Washington of Cuba" inasmuch as he was a revolutionary leader and the symbol of Cuban independence. Incidentally, Marti was a poet like Armando Valladares. The latter was cited by the President as one of his heros in the Presidential Debates.

Staffed For 5pm - Make File

(Smith/Blessey)  
May 18, 1989  
Draft Three  
CUBA

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY  
ROOM 450, OEOB  
MONDAY, MAY 22, 1989

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That debt dates back to 1776, when George Washington's troops were dreadfully short of food and supplies. Some of you may remember how the women of Havana banded together and raised 1.2 million livres for the cause of American freedom.

One hundred and twenty-six years later, another people fought bravely for the cause of freedom. For it was on May 20, 1902, after a long and brutal struggle, that the Cuban Republic was born.

We gather here to remember that victory. And the fact that freedom knows no boundaries. Perhaps it was the Abraham Lincoln of Cuba, that great patriot Jose Marti [Mar-TEE], who said it best. He remarked, "To beautify life is to give it an object."

My friends, our object is human liberty. And a free, united, and democratic Cuba. As President, I am absolutely, unalterably committed to Cuba Libre. And I will never falter in that support.

I know that you are with me. And so is America. For we oppose those who mock the rights we treasure: rights of speech, religion, assembly, and economic freedom. And in response, our demand is plain and simple: "Democracy, Mr. Castro -- not some time, not some day, but now."

This morning, I call on Fidel Castro to free all political prisoners. And to conform to accepted international standards regarding human rights. I challenge him to allow unrestricted access to organizations monitoring their compliance. And a policy of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states.

On this, Cuban Independence Day, I challenge Castro to take concrete and specific steps to begin democracy's electoral process. And to allow free and unrestricted travel to and from Cuba for all persons -- including present citizens and residents.

This I pledge: Unless these conditions are met -- basic conditions, elemental -- we will oppose Cuba's re-entry to the Organization of American States. And this, too, I promise: We will continue Radio Marti. We will create TV Marti. We will see that the people of Cuba know the truth -- about their dictator, and about the world.

In short, we want to advance that day when Cuban Independence Day achieves a new and richer meaning:

- Freedom from the evil of tyranny and oppression;
- Freedom from the economic misery wrought by communist misrule;
- The freedom that can liberate lives and lift the human heart -- yes, the freedom of democracy.

To achieve that freedom, heroes must lead the way. Well, in a sense they already have, and are. For Cuba can claim many heroes -- those who struggled valiantly almost ninety years ago, and those who struggle today.

Heroes, for example, like Dr. Claudio Benedi, here in this audience, who has condemned -- eloquently, repeatedly -- Castro's

violations of human rights. Or another great patriot of the Western Hemisphere -- a hero of our times.

I'm referring, of course, to Armando Valladares. He spent 22 years in Castro's prisons. And he wrote a book about that ordeal, and his ultimate release. It's titled Against All Hope. And it describes how he survived beatings, starvation, and unspeakable horror.

I'm sure many of you have read this unforgettable tribute. A tribute to the arching human spirit -- to that will to live which helped endure the cruelest of regimes. A tribute, also, to the courage of the Cuban people -- resolute and unafraid.

My friends, that courage has helped you endure. And it will one day unite a million free Cuban-Americans with their long-suffering Cuban brothers.

For if hope can stay alive in the heart of Armando Valladares, surely we will see Cuba free again.

Thank you for coming here, God bless you, God bless America, and Viva Cuba Libre.

# # # #

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/18/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5:00 TODAY

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

|                | ACTION FYI                          |                                     |                  | ACTION FYI                          |                                     |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | MCCLURE          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| SUNUNU         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NEWMAN           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| SCOWCROFT      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | PORTER           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| DARMAN         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | STUDDERT         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| BATES          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | UNTERMEYER       | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| BREEDEN        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <u>WINSTON</u>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| CARD           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>ROGERS</u>    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| CICCONI        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>PINKERTON</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| DEMAREST       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <u>BOSKIN</u>    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| FITZWATER      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | _____            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| GRAY           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| HAGIN          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

**REMARKS:**

Please provide your comments/recommendations directly to Chiss Winston's office with an info copy to my office by 5:00 TODAY Thursday, May 17, 1989. Thank you.

*NC*

**RESPONSE:**

James W. Cicconi  
Assistant to the President  
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
Ext. 2702

(Smith/Blessey)  
May 18, 1989  
Draft Three  
CUBA

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY  
ROOM 450, OEOB  
MONDAY, MAY 22, 1989

My friends, it is truly a pleasure to be with you to celebrate this wonderful occasion: The 87th anniversary of Cuban independence.

Now, I know that the official anniversary was Saturday, not today. Let's get that straight [PAUSE] . . . after all, remember Pearl Harbor.

But, you know, I would be delighted to be here on any day. For we Americans owe a debt of gratitude to the Cuban people.

That debt dates back to 1776, when George Washington's troops were dreadfully short of food and supplies. Some of you may remember how the women of Havana banded together and raised 1.2 million livres for the cause of American freedom.

One hundred and twenty-six years later, another people fought bravely for the cause of freedom. For it was on May 20, 1902, after a long and brutal struggle, that the Cuban Republic was born.

We gather here to remember that victory. And the fact that freedom knows no boundaries. Perhaps it was the Abraham Lincoln of Cuba, that great patriot Jose Marti [Mar-TEE], who said it best. He remarked, "To beautify life is to give it an object."

My friends, our object is human liberty. And a free, united, and democratic Cuba. As President, I am absolutely, unalterably committed to Cuba Libre. And I will never falter in that support.

I know that you are with me. And so is America. For we oppose those who mock the rights we treasure: rights of speech, religion, assembly, and economic freedom. And in response, our demand is plain and simple: "Democracy, Mr. Castro -- not some time, not some day, but now."

This morning, I call on Fidel Castro to free all political prisoners. And to conform to accepted international standards regarding human rights. I challenge him to allow unrestricted access to organizations monitoring their compliance. And a policy of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states.

On this, Cuban Independence Day, I challenge Castro to take concrete and specific steps to begin democracy's electoral process. And to allow free and unrestricted travel to and from Cuba for all persons -- including present citizens and residents.

This I pledge: Unless these conditions are met -- basic conditions, elemental -- we will oppose Cuba's re-entry to the Organization of American States. And this, too, I promise: We will continue Radio Marti. We will create TV Marti. We will see that the people of Cuba know the truth -- about their dictator, and about the world.

In short, we want to advance that day when Cuban Independence Day achieves a new and richer meaning:

- Freedom from the evil of tyranny and oppression;
- Freedom from the economic misery wrought by communist misrule;
- The freedom that can liberate lives and lift the human heart -- yes, the freedom of democracy.

To achieve that freedom, heroes must lead the way. Well, in a sense they already have, and are. For Cuba can claim many heroes -- those who struggled valiantly almost ninety years ago, and those who struggle today.

Heroes, for example, like Dr. Claudio Benedi, here in this audience, who has condemned -- eloquently, repeatedly -- Castro's

violations of human rights. Or another great patriot of the Western Hemisphere -- a hero of our times.

I'm referring, of course, to Armando Valladares. He spent 22 years in Castro's prisons. And he wrote a book about that ordeal, and his ultimate release. It's titled Against All Hope. And it describes how he survived beatings, starvation, and unspeakable horror.

I'm sure many of you have read this unforgettable tribute. A tribute to the arching human spirit -- to that will to live which helped endure the cruelest of regimes. A tribute, also, to the courage of the Cuban people -- resolute and unafraid.

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For if hope can stay alive in the heart of Armando Valladares, surely we will see Cuba free again.

Thank you for coming here, God bless you, God bless America, and Viva Cuba Libre.

# # # #

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

May 22, 1989

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT  
AT THE CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY BRIEFING

Room 450  
Old Executive Office Building

2:34 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. What a great pleasure, and thank you for that warm welcome. It's I who should be welcoming you to celebrate this wonderful occasion, the 87th anniversary of Cuban independence, and a special day, but you know, I would be delighted to be here on any day, for we Americans owe a debt of gratitude to the Cuban people, and that debt goes back to 1776, when George Washington's troops were short of food and supply. Some of you may remember how the women of Havana banded together and raised 1.2 million livres for the cause of American freedom.

And 126 years later, another people fought bravely for the cause of freedom, for it was on May 20th, 1902, after a long and brutal struggle, that the Cuban Republic was born. And we gather here to remember that victory and the fact that freedom knows no boundaries. Perhaps it was Cuba's George Washington, that great President, Jose Marti, who said it best: "To beautify life is to give it an object."

My friends, our object is human liberty and a free, united and democratic Cuba -- (applause) -- and as President I am unalterably committed to a free, united, democratic Cuba, and I'm not going to ever falter in that support. I know that you all are with me in that, and so is our country, for we oppose those who mock the very rights that we treasure -- rights of speech -- freedom of speech, religion, assembly, economic freedom, and in response, our demand is plain and simple -- democracy and respect for human rights -- not sometime, not someday, but now. And this afternoon I call on Fidel Castro to free all political prisoners and to conform -- (applause) -- to accepted international standards regarding human rights. And I challenge him to allow unrestricted access to the United Nations and other organizations monitoring their compliance, and a policy of nonintervention in the internal affairs of other states. (Applause.)

And on this celebration of Cuban Independence Day I challenge him, Fidel Castro, to take concrete and specific steps leading to free and fair elections and full democracy. A useful first step would be to accept a proposed plebiscite in Cuba. (Applause.) I also strongly believe that Cubans who wish to leave

we will continue to oppose Cuba's reentry to the Organization of American States. And this too I promise -- to help break down the monopoly on information that Castro has maintained for 30 years, we will continue radio marti and we will push forward our proposal on TV marti. (Applause.)

It is important that the people of Cuba know the truth, and we will see that the people of Cuba do know the truth about their dictator and about the world. And the thirst for democracy is unquenchable. And totalitarian systems everywhere are feeling new pressures from the people. You see it today on the television sets coming out of China. We've seen those beginnings of it in the Soviet Union and many, many other countries around the world. And so don't tell me that Cubans don't want freedom and democracy -- they do. And I challenge Fidel Castro to let the will of the people prevail. (Applause.)

In short, what we want to do is to advance that day when Cuban Independence Day achieves and new and a richer meaning. Freedom from the evil of tyranny and oppression; freedom from the economic misery wrought by the communist misrule; the freedom that can liberate lives and lift the human heart; and, yes, the freedom of democracy.

To achieve that freedom, heroes must lead the way. In a sense, they already have, and are. For Cuba can claim many, many heroes -- those who struggled valiantly almost 90 years ago, and those who struggle today. Unsung heroes -- for example, like long-time political prisoner, Alfredo Mustelier Nuevo, who refuses to give up; heroes like Dr. Claudio Benedi, here on stage -- (applause) -- who has condemned eloquently -- repeatedly -- Castro's violation of human rights -- or another great patriot of the Western Hemisphere, a hero of mine -- a hero of our times -- and I'm referring, of course, to -- Armando Valladares -- (applause) -- 22 years. Let the American people see him now -- 22 years in Castro's prisons. And he wrote a book about that ordeal. It meant a lot to the entire Bush family, and has certainly been an inspiration to me. You've all read it, I hope. And if not, why, we can boost the sales by recommending it. (Laughter.) It's called "Against All Hope," and it describes how he, how Armando, survived beatings and starvations and unspeakable horror. And I'm sure many of you have read it, but it's a tribute to the arching human spirit -- to that will to live, which helped endure the cruelest of regimes. A tribute, also, to the courage of the Cuban people -- resolute and unafraid.

I had a discussion -- I told Armando, I think, this, with one of the great leaders in this hemisphere. And he wondered why we were doing what we were doing in Central America. And I said, well, I'll tell you why. It's a book called, "Against All Hope." That book relates to the deprivation of human rights in Cuba, and he said, "Well, what does that have to do with Central America?" I said, "Read the book and you'll see. Read the book because you'll understand that a deprivation of human rights in a Cuban prison is no different than the deprivation of human rights in a prison in Nicaragua." And he did, and I hope it's made a difference in that country's approach to foreign policy.

But whether it did or not. the respect I have for Armando

- 3 -

Valladares, surely we will see Cuba free again. Thank you for  
coming. God bless you. And God bless America. Thank you very, very  
much.

END

2:45 P.M. EDT