

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/DC/ER

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REVIEWED BY WJL DATE MAR. 5 1987

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JAN 10 1969

Mr. Carlos Ybitars
Coca Cola Bottling Company
of Cuba Inc.
P. O. Box 22
Havana, Cuba, WPA 96910

Dear Carlos:

Thank you for your letter of December 20, 1968. I am relieved to learn that you are on the good and trust that your "retirement" from politics will be a short one.

I am most grateful for your report on the current political climate in the West Territory, because I value your judgment. Regrettably, your firsthand observations confirm indications from a variety of other sources that all is not going as smoothly as it should.

Although the proposed resolutions mentioned in Mr. Mann's letter to you are extreme examples, I can only conclude that support in the West Territory is now stronger within the territory than it was previously with a program to improve the political status of the territory. As you know, the House has passed legislation to support the proposed legislation by the Senate but not by the House. It is at this time precisely how the way the House will proceed but I can assure you that the House will be a priority subject.

I hope you will continue to give us the benefit of your views from time to time and I need not emphasize how much I appreciate having you as my good friend in

PO 2 19 PAGE 17

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Gum. I still regret that I was not able to stop off to see you in Gum in 1967 when my route came so close.

Warmest regards and best wishes for the New Year.

Sincerely,

Joseph J. Sisco
Assistant Secretary for
International Organization Affairs

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