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February 27, 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BUNDY

SUBJECT: U. S. Lard to Cuba via Canada

State is still digging for more information on the report of a U. S. lard shipment to Cuba via Canada. Here is what they have thus far.

1. We have no confirmation of the deal, but we believe it is true.
2. Export of non-subsidized foods and medicines to Cuba are permissible (now checking on the basic authority). In the past, such exports have been very small -- e. g. shipping has been a problem; no Cuban demand for such goods.
3. My preliminary view is that we will have to try to live with the deal. We have always been rather proud of the fact "that we weren't trying to starve the Cuban people." Of course, now that someone is taking up on it, it hurts a bit.

Gordon Chase

P. S. I have been in touch with Mike Feldman.

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