

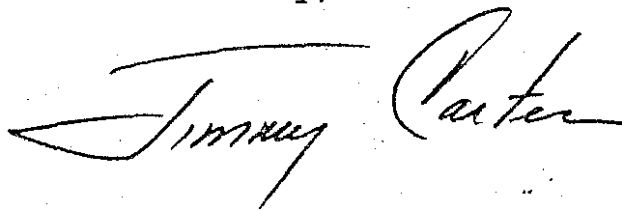
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 7, 1978

Dear Mr. President:

I have asked Mr. Paul Austin, who is a trusted friend and advisor, to talk to you about certain matters which are of great importance to me and to the relationship between our two countries. As you know, I have hoped it would be possible for you and me to move towards full normalization of relations, and I would like to see progress made in removing the obstacles that impede forward movement. Mr. Austin has my complete confidence and is fully familiar with my thinking. No one would be better qualified to represent me in this mission, and I ask you to convey to him any thoughts you may have.

Sincerely,



His Excellency
Dr. Fidel Castro Ruz
President of the Council of State
of the Republic of Cuba
Havana

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E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6

PER 3/28/03 NSC RE NLC-03-001
BY BAZ NARS DATE 6/18/03