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# Cuba Red 'Colony,' Defector Asserts

By MERWIN SIGALE

The acting chief of Cuba's United Nation's mission in Geneva, Switzerland, turned up in New York yesterday and charged that Fidel Castro was converting Cuba into "another colony of imperial Russia." The U.S. has granted him asylum.

Agustin Sanchez Gonzalez, 32, who disappeared from his Geneva apartment in mid-August with his wife and two small daughters, reappeared in a midtown hotel suite and said Cuba is now toeing the Moscow line in return for an increase in Soviet economic aid.

## "Lost All Hope"

"I have lost all hope that Cuba can be effectively extracted from the domination of Soviet influence," he added.

In a prepared statement followed by questions and answers,

Sanchez described the "anguish and desolation" he had found on his last stay at home, from May to July.

"An incredible state of chaos and misery reigns in Cuba today," he said.

He said there is unhappiness in the Cuban foreign service over a virtual requirement that all Cuban diplomats "collaborate" in intelligence operations.

"This is a situation that the diplomatic corps rejects in general," he said. Sanchez disclosed that he had accepted some assignments of an intelligence nature, including one to contact Latin Americans in Geneva and evaluate them as prospective intelligence agents.

Sanchez' defection was the second from Cuba's diplomatic corps reported this year. Orlando Castro Hidalgo, an intelligence officer at Cuba's embassy in Paris, switched allegiances last March and is now in the United States.

Castro Hidalgo told of a reputed Havana-Moscow pact committing Castro to take a more pro-Soviet line in return for financial backing. Sanchez said he knew nothing of any such pact but said Cuba's urgent need for more Soviet aid was met only after the premier endorsed the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia.

Sanchez, a foreign trade specialist, was charge d'affaires of the Cuban mission in Geneva which deals with the numerous UN specialized agencies in Europe. Previously the No. 2 man, he was filling in for the Cuban Ambassador, who had returned to Havana on vacation.

Sanchez said he was pondering his future but had made no decision about a job or a place to live. But he said that he, his wife, Carmen, and their daughters Ileana, 7, and Ivonne, 5, would not stay in New York.

## Describes Cuba

Describing conditions in Cuba, Sanchez said: "There is no democracy. There is no freedom. . . . The jails are full of prisoners. There is hunger, lack of food, clothing, medicines. . . . Work is done under the pressure of threats, in very long workdays without any incentive.

"It is forbidden to travel abroad. Ideas are persecuted. You have to agree with the imposed line. And there is a general mood of chaos in the country."

Asked why he waited this long to defect, Sanchez replied: "The situation in Cuba has been deteriorating progressively. Many young men like myself, who were practically born with the revolution and had great faith in Fidel Castro and loved their country, have not found it easy to abandon their country."

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