

H A T T A N N A

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and we became butterflies

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HAVANNA

JOSE MIGUEL ALONSO

WE BECAME BUTTERFLIES

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HAVANNA

*„Yes, Cuba does have a future,
but what it does not have,
is a present“*

WE BECAME BUTTERFLIES



HAVANNA



WE BECAME BUTTERFLIES

And we became Butterflies

Conversations with Jose Miguel Alonso

” My father build the house in 1926, when he was in a good position. The price of the land in Vedado was low. This was one of the first houses build in the neighborhood. They had to come from Central Havana to this place by railroad, so it was in the outskirts of Havana. He invested most of his money in this house.”

„He was working at the railroad company of Cuba. In this time the railroad business was great, because at that time, we didn't had the central road from north to south. All transportation, not only for the people, for example sugar was transported with the railroad, as I said, the railroad was a good business.”

„He started as a low class employee at the administration. Beginning of the 19th century, there was a special line in the northern part of the central provinces and this railroad was in bad condition, it was not well administrated and several managers didn't do it well.”

„Because my father was very formal and correct working man, so even he was a low class employee, they decided to send him in the northern provinces, to see if he could solve the problem, and he did.”

„The railroad was after that in such a good condition they named my father the vice-president of the railroad company. That was around 1915, 1920, something like that. Then from then on, my father was a high post officer, he was the vice president. The president at this time was this Colonel Taraffa. He was not only a railroad man, he was also a sugar man, he owned three or four sugar factories. He and my father got along very, very well.

As a matter of fact, my name Jose Miguel is after him,

he was called Jose Miguel Taraffa, so I was called after him. They were such good friends.”

„The railroad was a good business, as I said, until 1940. A central road was build in 1930 and the price for transportation was lower by buses and trucks, and the railroad began to deminiche, and the rail road got worth and worth every year, until now.”

„I was born here, in this house, seven years after the house was build, in 1933 and I have been living here since than. I would say I am one of the very view owners of a place more or less big then this house, who is still living in it.

I would say, we are less then half docent owners, how still life in there place. Because many died, because they was old, some left the country after the revolution and some of them have traded the houses, because they are difficult to maintain, they have traded it to the government for something smaller. Of course they got some money, maybe a tens of what it was actually worth, but they got some money and they moved to a smaller place.”

„Nothing happened to me, but a lot could have happened, because I knew many people who had to change there house against there will.”

„A close friend of me, a very, very famous sergeant in Havana, he was even president of the medical association in Cuba. He had to move from his own place, because the government wanted his house for the russian embassy. They gave him an other house, but he had to leave his house. So this is not theoretical, this is real, that many people had to move, had to change. Nothing happened to me, but all the time it was, like

the spate of damocles, that anything could happen, especially as this is a big place. We where worried that at one moment we could have some trouble. This situation lasted until the seventies, not any longer.”

„The house had a good maintenance every two or three years, by painting and repairing but that stopped in 1950, when my father got seriously sick. So there were not many parties and the maintenance of the house stopped, for example the big door you see in the salon, that has been closed since that time. The situation of the house is more or less the same as it was at that time.”

„I am the youngest, we were three brothers and two sisters. I came long after them, my older brothers and sisters, they are two years from each other, I came eight years later.

I was my fathers favorite son, because I was the youngest, not because of any other reason. My elder brother and sister felt perhaps a little jealous, because of this preference of my father, and especially, because of the difference in age, they were very close together, I wasn't so and there habits and there interests, was very close among them, I was a little bit different, because I was eight years younger.”

„I don't remember much my elder brother, who studied abroad in the united states. I don't remember seeing him often in the house when he came from the states, he studied at the MIT in Boston. When he came back he started to work quiet soon and he got married, so I don't remember my oldest brother much living in the house. The same with my sister, she got married in 1946, when she left the house, I was thirteen years old. ”

HAVANNA



WE BECAME BUTTERFLIES



HAVANNA



WE BECAME BUTTERFLIES



HAVANNA

„First I slept in my fathers bedroom, I had a small bed just by his side. When my oldest brother left the house, because he got married, I moved in the room together with my other brother, who comes just before me.“

„When I got married I tried to do a small change, but it did not work out. I had my own dinning room upstairs and the traditional dinning room downstairs wasn't been used, I tried to make a music room there, but finally we didn't like it and didn't used it much, so we sold our old dinning room furnitures and brought our new furnitures in the dinning room and everything has stayed as it is, since then. Nothing has changed much, it was always like that.“

„The furniture of the salon I got when I got married, the lamps are specially made for my wedding. The piano in the salon, that is a pinolla, that is a piano, but it has also some paper rolls inside, electrical moved to produce music and I remember my brother singing to it. The music is made by the moving of the paper roll. This was very common in the old times, around the forties, that would be seventy years ago. They used to sing there.“

„The funny story is this, my two sisters studied piano and guitar and they never thought I would play the piano. They didn't do badly, but they didn't enjoy it, the didn't enjoy it much, they did it because my mother wanted them to play, but not because they like it and finally they gave it up, and never used the piano again and they never talked to me about having piano lessons, but when I was studying in the high school, there was a school maid, he was the son of very famous composer. He was a very good friend of mine, he did play the piano a little bit, he played by ear, he wasn't studying it properly, and I enjoyed his playing and I started to play also by ear and I had a good ear, but in this time I was studying on the high school and than I was entering university and went to the states and I had not much time to learn the piano properly. The funny thing is, my sisters was made to study it, and they didn't like it and I wasn't, and I liked it.“

„The upper room was the servants room, after the revolution, when my sister died, all our life was upstairs and we decided to convert the servant room, as we had no servants, in to the kitchen, and the small room in front of the kitchen was converted in to the dinning room. Only for some very special occasions we used the downstairs dinning room and the downstairs kitchen, so we are living upstairs most of the time and we are using the small kitchen in the old servants room.“

„There were three servants. One downstairs and one upstairs, those two lived in the house and there was cook, he wasn't living in the house, so there were three servants. They cleaned the floor and the furniture and the downstairs servant served lunch and dinner and cleaned downstairs, that was usually a male servant and the servant working in the upstairs room, was usually a woman, spanish, a spanish woman. I was very close to her, she prepared breakfast and she cleaned

the bedrooms and the bathroom. The cook used to buy many things, sometimes things were bought at special markets and sometimes things were brought to the house.“

„My mother just took care of the house, she didn't work. She ordered the servants, told them what to do, how to do it and helped my father also with the finances.“

„We haven't been in the Tropicana Cabaret for perhaps twenty years, for many reasons, first it is very expensive, second the show is not good, well, it is not good for me, it doesn't deserve the money you are going to spend and I don't have friends that can go with me, that would enjoy the show.“



„In the old times Tropicana cost for a night, a normal night, 25 dollars, for a couple, I used to go with Jossie. 25 dollars that would cover the cost of a good spanish liqueur, a brandy, perhaps whisky, perhaps a couple of sandwiches and that would cost 25 dollars, with a very good show, well the show, was a little spectacular. They used to bring a lot of foreign artist, good artists like Edith Piaf, or Frank Sinatra or Nat King Cole, or Jay Chevalier, very well known people. It was cheap, you know why, because of the gambling rooms, we did not pay for the expenses, we just payed a little for our drinks and food, the main cost was payed by the gambling rooms. When the revolution took over the gambling was stopped. So the nightclub doesn't have much money now to pay for the artists, so what they have now are cuban artists, which are normally not very good and so mostly the make a spectacle, you know some black girls with a nice ass, not very properly dressed, but they try to make it impressive.“

„In the old times you had a more or less good show,

good figures, good costumes, not in our days, but still until now, it is very spectacular, but now it cost you to enter in the Tropicana about 80 dollars, per person, so if you have not a good show, it cost you a lot of money, you have not many friends you can go with, so we are not interested.“

„The revolution had a big impact. I graduated shortly before the revolution took over, I graduated in 1957 and the revolution took over in 1960. The political situation was quiet bad at that moment, the Barista Regime was in bad shape, there was a lot of killing in the streets, many people knew that the situation was not going to last, but they didn't know what is going to happen.“

„I was working in an american and german yeast factory in the south of Havana. I was doing quiet well there, it was a small factory, when the revolution took over in 1960, 61 the nationalist all industries and enterprises, and my factory was nationalist too. So, they left me out. They said they had two technicians in the factory. The other one was in favor of the revolution, and I was neutral, so they decided to keep the other one and I lost my job.“
My brothers had have some good jobs, I would say high level jobs, but it happened to them, what happened to me, because of the situation, they lost there jobs.“

„Each of my brothers had four, five or six children. What could you do with four of five children. There was no choice for them, as to leave, so, all left, and I stayed, as I had no children and I had just graduated.“

„The revolution was not what the people thought it would be, as a matter of fact for middle and high class people, they lost there jobs, they lost a lot of there properties, and the life was very different, it changed to bad, not to good. For poor people, I don't know if many of them have got what they expected, but I know, they was not satisfied.“

„The economy was very bad until 1970, when the russian began to help us with many products, the situation stabilized, so I stayed waiting for a change ; - that never came“

„During the first year of the revolution the political situation was not only difficult, there was a lot of problems, we call it extremism, not only with the people there was not in favor with the revolution, also among the sympathizers. There was ultra extremists. For example, if a member of the party had family abroad he could not accept a gift from his family if they where abroad, it was not considered right to have relation by telephone or by letter with them, it was not considered right, even so some people in high post, did have relations with family abroad, but many of them was criticized, because they was having some relations with there families.“

„One example, a school maid of my wife, they studied in the same catholic school and she became a communist and she was known to be very extreme, a extremist and once this girl, the friend of my wife, received

WE BECAME BUTTERFLIES

ved some gifts from her family from Florida and she made a fire in her neighborhood, she started the fire and throw all her gifts she received from her family in the fire to tell the people, that she was really a communist and she did not accept gifts from her family."

"This we knew, it happened, that was not a rumor, we knew about this. This was for ten, twelve years, after ten, twelve years, because, perhaps the economy was not in a very good shape or perhaps they changed there mind, they decided to accept visits from abroad and those who came where families of the people here, former Cubans, and when they came, of course they where in better economy situation, they brought a lot of gifts.

In this case, when they wanted the people from the states to come to visit there families to bring gifts and bring money, all this people where very appreciated, they where, how do you say, they where given the opportunity, they where very welcome, so it was a very big change, but in a very short time, all of a sudden, all those people were, how do you call it, who was not in good grace with this country, all of a sudden they were very welcome and many people where quiet surprised."

"You know there is a word, for those who did not sympathize with the government, they where called worms. When they wanted to criticizes all those, they said, we don't want worms in Cuba any longer.

So when all these people from the states starting to come, and then, people began to ask what happened to the worms, we said, they turned in to butterflies."

"My mother stayed in Havanna until 1970, but because all of here children and grandchildren and grand grand children where in the states, she decided to leave too."

"My sister just died, ten days ago and I have now only one brother left. He is still living in Florida, who is now 88, he used to work in the sugar business. My oldest brother died about ten years ago.

My sister was ok, almost six month ago, she had, not a stroke, how do you call it, when you loose your mind, ischemia, she had ischemia, about six month ago and then she lost most of her mind. My brother kept in contact with me and was telling me, how she felt, that she was asking about her father, about my self, and things like that, but she lost her mind, almost six month ago."

"We have had close contacts, by letters, by telephone and friends that travels and I am in close contact until now, we had very good relations, but they have many children, they have many problems and they have not been able, or interested visiting Havanna, they wanted me to come to the states, too."

"I tried to visit my mother. I told you she left in 1970, she was quiet old in the eighties, she died ninety years old, I tried to visit here in the eighties and eighty five, she finally died in 1988, but they didn't allow me, because the Cuban government didn't allow me to go to visit her, because they concluded, because I was a

sugar technician, I knew trade secrets or commercial secrets, and they didn't allow me to travel, that's what they told me."

"That wasn't true at all, because I am not a commercial man, I am a technician, a technologist and I didn't know anything about economy or trade. I tried twice, I asked permission twice, my mother at that time was, very old, nearly ninety years. She had an operation of cancer, she was almost blind and ninety years old, she had also bone problems, she was in a wheelchair, so she couldn't come and I tried to visit her, they didn't allow me to go."

"It could be done now, not before, it could be done now, but I am living alone with my wife, the house



is very big, it has lot of problems, the water pump, the electricity, so and so on, you have to take care of it almost every day. I can not leave my wife alone. It would be impossible. Would you leave a place like this alone?"

"I never thought about leaving the country, as I told you, I was alone with my wife, we expected some change, we did not have children and some other personal reasons, we never got involved in this problems people trying to fled away."

"During the seventies, the economical situation was bad, the political situation was bad, many people trying to leave ad any risk, I would say. But that did not go for us, we really did not have that idea. This is also happening with people who are considered to be absolute sympathizers with the government. Sometimes you wondered, this man who his a sympathizer, is a member of the party, this and that, where is he? Oh, he left! That has happened very, very often."

"First the very rich, than the middle class, than the

low class and now the poor left. For many young people, there future is, how to get away.

All of my friends, I would not say most of them, all of my friends left."

"It is not easy to explain, how the change in belief happened, for example, another story very similar, is about the trade of currencies, the currency trade. Up to the eighties it was unlawful to have dollars, if you had dollars and the government could prove it, people got in jail, because they was having dollars, or they were trading dollars and they got in jail.

As a matter of fact, there was a store, one of the first dollar store, the store that handled dollars was in 42nd and 5av, and at this place there was a very big sign writing: NO CUBANS ALLOWED."

"My wife was a friend of some foreigners because we belonged to a british club, a british golf club, we knew some foreigners and we were friends of them and they invited my wife to come with them to there shops and they told my wife, don't speak spanish, because you may get in trouble, because she looks american, she could go with them, but Cubans were not allowed, there was a big sign: NO CUBANS ALLOWED. This was up to the nineties, eighty something, nineties. Then because again of the economy or a change in mind, they decided Cubans were entitled to have dollars, this was a total change, and all of a sudden, Cubans were dealing with dollars, a lot of stores were opening, were you could buy things in dollars and in the same time people were in jail, because they had dealed with dollars, unlawful with the previous law. All of a sudden, to have dollars was very good to have."

"That was said by a man that was suppose to have not an big culture, but the fraise is interesting, he said, the problem with communism is, they don't know how to replace the owner."

"There are many ways in which people are forced to do something and sometimes it does not look it is by force. This is a story about forty, fifty years ago, this happened at the very beginning. For example, when you went to one of these, what we call neighborhood meetings and you said that something was wrong or you didn't agree what was being done, or things like that, they didn't punish you, no they didn't punish you for saying things were not going well, but then, how you say, not secretly, but lirtle by little you were having difficulties."

"For example at the beginning you wanted to repair your house, or you need a new tank, or you need a new pump, at the very beginning, it is not like that now, but in the beginning if you wanted to buy a new pump, you want some cement, you want some briggs, to do some work in your house you had to depend in the CDR to get them, the license. Then, if you got the license, you were entitled to buy it, but you first have to get the license.

If you were not in the favor of the system, they didn't tell you, you could not get the license, they said the license were not available, or you need a water pump,

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HAVANNA

yes, but there are no pumps here now, but you know, that some neighbor, who was a sympathizer did get the pump, but you couldn't. So, people began to understand that, if you started to show, that you didn't agree with many things then you were having troubles, and you were having many troubles, perhaps not very clearly, but people understood, if they show that they are not a sympathizer, they got in troubles.

That is one way of saying the Cubans are passive, we have to be passive. They realize the things are not working right, they are, not discontent, but they are not optimistic anyway, they are not optimistic."

"The situation now is changing. About all the problems we have to maintain the house, to get things, to solve things, many problems, because, they didn't allow you to do private work, now they have changed it, since a couple of years they let people maintain the house, they let some plumbers and electricians work by their own and this is one of the things what have been changing since a couple of years, but only since a couple of years. I tell you, improving is very slowly, but yes, since a couple of years they are allowing people to work in their own jobs."

"Since my retiring, just to help my pension, which is very low, is about twenty dollars a month, I teach english and that is one way I help my wife. Since one year, maybe two years, no one year, no more then that, they decided the university had to be in a higher level and now they are trying to force the students to have a good knowledge, but they don't have the base and now the students having troubles, because before 99,9%, you want believe that, 99,9% past the examen and now, all of a sudden, only 50% pass the examen, because they don't have the proper base.

When I teach english and we talk about temperature, you know when somebody is sick, we talk about the standard celsius degrees, and in united states and in england they use the fahrenheit scale, so I ask my students about the different scales. Do you know the difference, no I don't have the slightest idea they say. By chance, at what temperature water boils, oh teacher I am sorry I am not very good a physics.

I think the government let the level on the university go down, but now they want to change it, that is right, but the students don't have the base because of that."

"A couple of years ago, and old lady, a neighbor of us, gave me a bottle of wine and she told me how she made it. It was good, it was a little bit sweet, but I am a chemist first, but second I was working in a yeast factory for several years I knew something about this problem of fermentation and keeping things clean, and so on. She gave me the receipt, she died about three years ago. I make the same wine with her receipt, perhaps less sweet and people enjoy that. It is not a great business, but I am doing okay. It is rice and sugar, it is not properly wine, wine should be made from grapes, it is not a refined wine, it is a normal wine, in Cuba, we don't have grapes, but it is good."

"You can make wine from fruits, like pine apple, very good wine, or papaya, that will give you a very good wine, but it is very easy that the wine becomes rotten. When you use fruits, you can get a good wine or a

bad wine, with rice and sugar you always get the same, that is why I use rice and sugar, it is always the same, it is quiet acceptable. I would say it is not great wine, but it is not bad. Wine is not a big business, it is very small, for neighbors, for friends, I don't go out selling wine. Just friends come, they know that the wine is acceptable, and when there is cold weather they come here, so I don't go out selling wine. Making wine is not difficult, making a good wine is another thing."

"We have a election every once and then, but nobody wants to be elected, because you have a lot of troubles and you can not solve the troubles and you get problems with the people because, they tell you, there is this problem, there is this difficulty, they all count on you, what they call the delegate. The delegate has no



power, many people don't understand that and they think the delegate is not good enough, but he can not do anything."

"Well, the problem is this, how is the election, or how are the candidates elected. Well, you come to a neighborhood assembly and you propose, you say, I want to propose somebody as a candidate.

Tell us what you think about him, you have to tell he is in good political standing, he has to be in complete agreement with the government, he has to go to volunteer work every week, and so on, and so on.

He has to be a complete sympathizer. So, yes we have election, but we have to choose between two or three absolute sympathizers."

"I started to work in the industrial planning ministry but very soon I transferred to the sugar research institute. I was considered a highly qualified technician, because of my knowledge, but they never allowed me to be in a high position, because of my thinking, my political liking.

They called me, when ever they had a technical prob-

lem, but they never gave me an importance post. For many, many years, most of my advices was, don't do this, don't get involved in doing that, or do this. My advices of doing things where not properly studied. Most of the time, I was trying to warn them, not to do something, to not get in troubles. This has been my technical life until I retired, about ten years ago."

"In the past, sugar was financial in a good shape, the best jobs belonged to the sugar, but not after the revolution, after the revolution, there was a lot of work in the sugar business, but a very low pay, so working in the sugar industry, after the revolution took it over, was bad. You had to work in factories away from cities, very often in worse conditions as they had before. For example before, they had good houses for the importance working people, and for the other they had some smaller places, they only used during the production season, three, four month. When the season was over, the people who owned good places stayed there, but they, who was in a smaller boarding house, stopped living there and some of them had another job."

"They got in the sugar business because they payed very well, after the revolution all this changed. The big places were divided, where perhaps before was ten people living, the place was divided for thirty, forty, fifty people. The food was not good, You had to work at night, you had to work Saturdays, Sundays. The crop was used to last three, four month, last now five, six month, and among other things, the pay was low, and so the people got out of the sugar business."

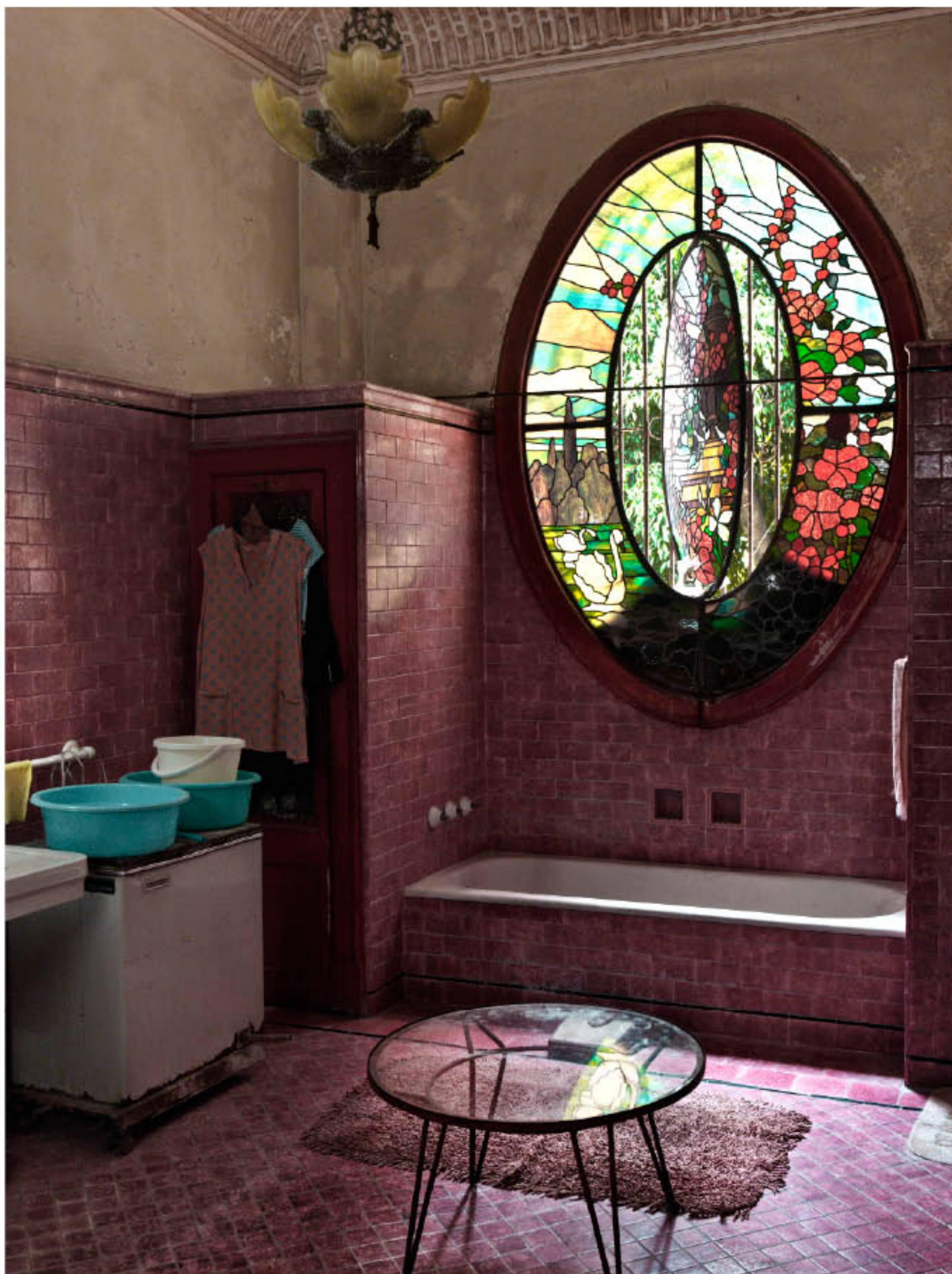
"Before the revolution, when the production after the crop stopped, they had a two weeks, to dismantle the factory and before the crop started again they had one month to repair and install all the equipment. The people were working 45 days in the factory until the production stopped, 15 days to dismantle and 30 days to reinstall it and repair, in our days they work all the year around."

"Sugar has being going down, until now. They let the sugar industry going down, because they considered the price of the sugar was very low, and you know you require oil to transport the cane from the field to the factory. You don't require oil in the factory, but you require oil for the transportation, and the oil increased its price, the sugar price was low and they considered, that sugar was not a good business and they let it go down. From 163 factories that we had, when I was young, now there are only left less then 50, so it is less then one third. Just in today's paper it says, that they trying to do produce more sugar, growing more cane and they trying to rebuild the industry, but you can destroy very easily, but to rebuild is not so easy at all."

"In Tchechoslowaky there is a famous sentence, they say, communism is the most certain way to come to capitalism, but the most stupid one too."

"The reasons for the changes are not clear, especially since Raul came in to power, you still can get problems, but generally things are a bit easier."

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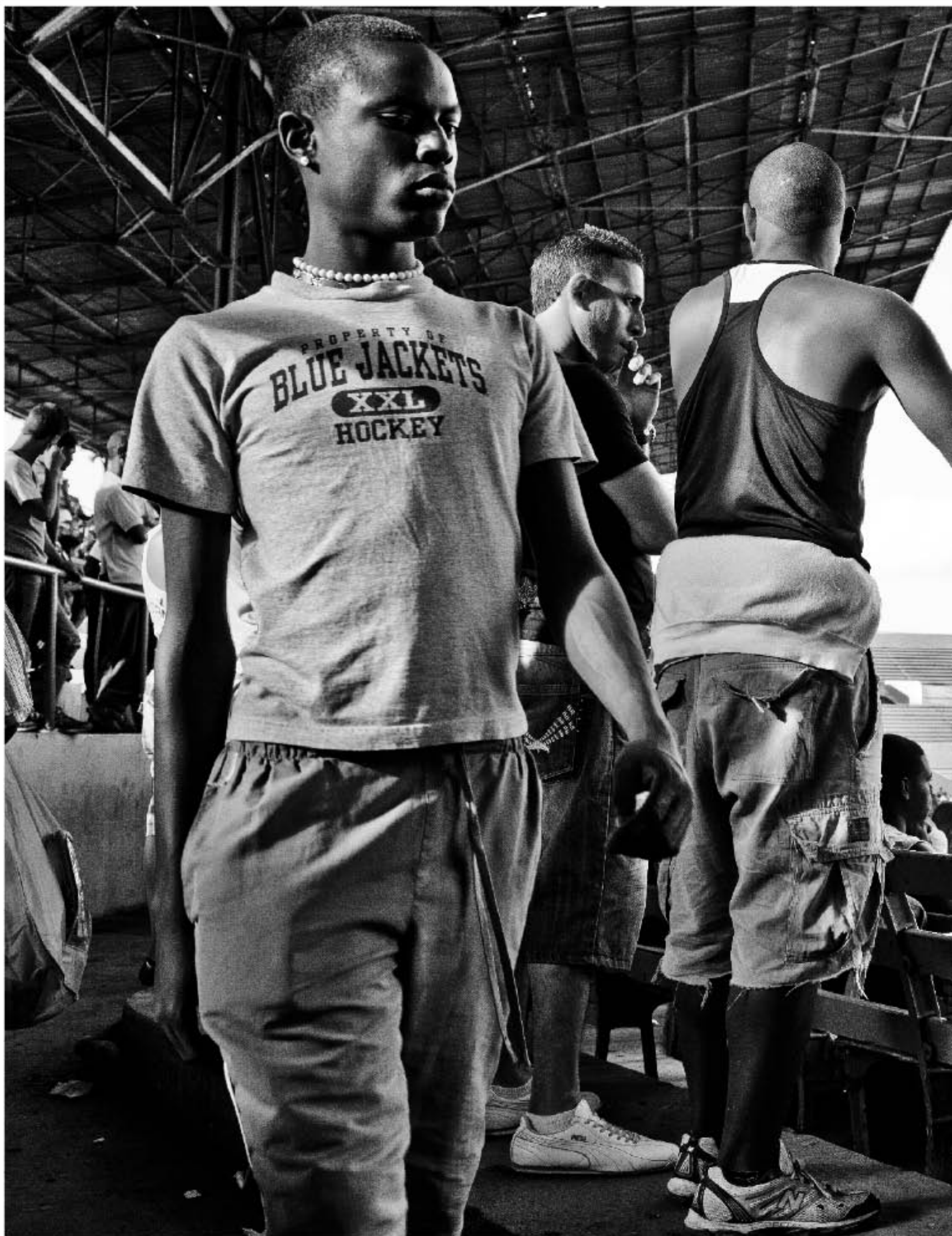
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„I believe that there is no country in the world including any and all the countries under colonial domination, where economic colonization, humiliation and exploitation were worse than in Cuba, in part owing to my country's policies during the Batista regime. I approved the proclamation which Fidel Castro made in the Sierra Maestra, when he justifiably called for justice and especially yearned to rid Cuba of corruption. I will even go further: to some extent it is as though Batista was the incarnation of a number of sins on the part of the United States. Now we shall have to pay for those sins. In the matter of the Batista regime, I am in agreement with the first Cuban revolutionaries. That is perfectly clear. ” U.S. President John F. Kennedy, October 24, 1963



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HAVANNA

„You know, my comrad, I don't enjoy being a Minister, I would rather play chess like you, or make a revolution in Venezuela“

Che Guevara

„In 1962 I started working in the ministry of industry that was run by Che, I met him there.

While I was waiting someone give me something to do, I studied chess. I was not exactly a master, but I was a good player.

Because I had so much time, nothing to do and my work was not interesting at all, I talked about that even with Che, because once he said to me, they have told me, you are good chess player, but you are not a very good worker, why is that? I said to Che, my job is not interesting but chess is. I was a friend of him, because, we used to play chess, very, very often.“

„So, I began using my time to organize some chess tournaments. Perhaps I am good organizer, and we had, good equipment and we got some help from the government too.

Che got interested in playing them. He asked me, if he could change dates, if he could not play at one day, if he could change, and I said of course. So he got involved in our tournaments and we became friends then, playing chess. He enjoyed very much playing quick chess.“

„He knew that I was not in favor of the revolution, but he didn't care. We made a lot of jokes, but almost only about chess, we did not get involved in political discussions. He was a very sincere man, he spoke very frankly, he said what he believed.“

„He was a national player, he hasn't had much time to study the game, but he enjoyed the game, and we spend the nights, sometimes six, seven hours, playing chess. We had a wonderful time.“

„I remember, we went to some places outside the ministry, for example in the Yara theater, where we having my chess tournament and of course the bodyguard were worried, because there were many people and to keep security was not easy and Che became angry, because they wanted him not to expose to much, and he was angry and said, they don't have to care. I was friends with some of them, and of course they were very worried about his security and he didn't like that.“

„Well, during the famous october crisis, you know this was the most dangerous crisis of human history, you know, the missile crisis, 1962.

It was a difficult situation between the russian and the cuban, because the russian government decided, to remove the missiles in accordance with the treaty with the united states and Fidel did not agree with that, he said the missiles were owned be the russian army, he did not or he could not do anything about that, but he didn't agree, with the russians making an agreement with the americans in which they have to remove the weapons and the russian tried to easy the situation and they send to Cuba, we call it the eternal internal number two Anastas Mikoyan, he was the number two man in Russia since Stalin times, but he never tried to be number one, he always remained a little behind. The russian send Mikoyan to Cuba, to speak to Fidel and Fidel did not want to receive him, so what they did and this is something what very few people know.“

„During this time I received an instruction from Che to organize a match, between the players of the industry ministry and the russian embassy. I use to be the chess organizer, so I organized the match and we were around 15 players going to the russian embassy and Che was suppose to be one of the team, but as we got there, somebody told me, Alonso you have to put somebody in the place of Che, because he is busy. I didn't ask questions and we had someone playing for Che. It was this, this was the way how they was trying to get in contact with Mikoyan at the embassy.“

„This we learned later, Che did not play because he was having a conference with Mikoyan. The excuse used to meet Mikoyan was not a politician one, was that, they was going to have a chess match in the russian embassy.

When we were playing chess, Che and Mikoyan were discussing the missile crisis.“

„But then Che left, for his political affairs in 1964, in 1966. Che's problem was a different type, he was more interested in foreign policy, not in internal policy, so his departure and his problems really did not influence much the policy of the government.“

„For us, it is very, very, very uncertain. As I told you, the things look like they are improving, very slowly. In this systems you are never sure when they say they start doing it, but all of a sudden they change there mind and this has happened many times, so we are never sure of anything.“

„In other countries you try to get some wealth, so you can depend on this wealth when you have no job or when you retire. In Cuba you can not do that. Even when some people get some wealth, they are never sure, if they can keep it.“

„Some years ago, people was given the permit to work on there own, perhaps owning a restaurant, you could only work with your family, you were not entitled to hire people, but even so, the government decided you could not hold the place any longer. You invested in buying fumiture, or a oven and things like that, and after two, three years, the government decided you could not run that any longer.

So what is the use of trying to get better, if you are not sure of that, what you have, so the people decided, not trying to get better, they decided to get away.“

„When you have no job and even so, we are a little bit better of now, we don't know for how long.

I am old, I am 78, my wife is three years less, we don't have much future, we don't have the slightest idea what we are going to do, or what is going to happen.

A friend of me, a priest, once he asked a young man, why is he going away, he answered, because there is no future in Cuba.

This is the word, to tell you, there is no security, that you are not sure that you can keep what you have, and things like that. My friend, the priest said, I think he is wrong. *Yes! Cuba does have a future, what Cuba doesn't have, is a present!*

Conversations with Jose Miguel Alonso, 78, in his house in Havana, where he was born in 1933 and is living in all his live, together with his wife Jossie, 75, he married in 1958.

Havanna, January 2012

WE BECAME BUTTERFLIES















HAVANNA



WE BECAME BUTTERFLIES



EDITION

Ernesto ,Che' Guevara - Jose Miguel Alonso

*Sicilian Defence, Havana
1962*

1.	e2 - e4	c7 - c5
2.	Nb1 - c3	d7 - d6
3.	g2 - g3	Ng8 - f6
4.	Ld1 - g2	Nb8 - d7
5.	Ng1 - e2	e7 - e5
6.	0 - 0	Ld8 - e7
7.	d2 - d3	0 - 0
8.	f2 - f4	a7 - a6
9.	f4 x e5	d6 x e5
10.	b2 - b3	Nd7 - b6
11.	Lc1 - e3	Lc8 - e6
12.	Qd1 - d2	Nf6 - g4
13.	a2 - a4	Ng4 - f6
14.	Nc3 - a2	Qd8 - e7
15.	c2 - c4	Ra8 - d8
16.	Na2 - c3	Rd8 - d8
17.	Nc3 - d5	Le6 x d5
18.	e4 x d5	Nb6 - c8
19.	Ne2 - c3	Ne8 - d6
20.	Nc3 - e4	Nf6 - d6
21.	d3 x e4	a6 - a5
22.	Qd2 - f2	f7 - f5
23.	Qf2 - e2	Le7 - d8
24.	e4 x f5	Rd7 - f7
25.	g3 - g4	b7 - b6
26.	Rf1 - f2	b7 - h6
27.	Lg2 - e4	Ld8 - f6
28.	Ra1 - f1	Qc7 - e7
29.	Rf2 - f3	Lf6 - g5
30.	Qc2 - d3	Lf6 - g5
31.	h2 - h3	Kg8 - h8
32.	Le3 x g5	Qf6 x g5
33.	Qd3 - e3	Qg5 - f6
34.	Kg1 - g2	Rf8 - e8
35.	Kg2 - g3	Kh8 - f8
36.	h3 - h4	Kg8 - f8
37.	Kg3 - h3	Re8 - d8
38.	Rf1 - g1	Qf6 - e7
39.	g4 - g5	h6 - g5
40.	Rg1 x g1	Qf6 - e7
41.	Le4 - e2	Ke8 - e8
42.	Rg5 - g6	Rd8 - h8
43.	Qe3 - g5	Rf7 - f6
44.	Rg6 x g7	Nd6 - f7
45.	Qg4 - g5	Kd7 - d6
46.	Rg7 - g6	Kd6 - c7
47.	Rg6 x f6	Qe7 x f6
48.	Rf3 - g3	Bh8 - h7
49.	h4 - h5	Nf7 - h8
50.	Qg4 - g5	Qf6 - f7
51.	Kh3 - h4	Kc7 - b7
52.	f5 - f6	Rh7 x h5
53.	Qg5 x h5	Qf7 x f6
54.	Qh5 - g5	Qf6 - f2
55.	Qg5 - g7	Nh8 - f7
56.	Qg7 - g4	Qf2 - f6
57.	Kh4 - h3	Qf6 - f1
58.	Kh3 - h2	<i>Resigns</i>

CASA ALONSO



Dinning room I 02-01



Dinning room II 02-02



Salon I 02-03



Salon II 02-04



Dayleny I 02-5



Entrance hall 02-06



Corridor 02-07



Kitchen I 02-08



Kitchen II 02-09



Kitchen III 02-10



Bath I 02-11



Bath II 02-12



Dayleny II 02-13



Dayleny III 02-14



Sleeping room I 02-15



Sleeping room II 02-16



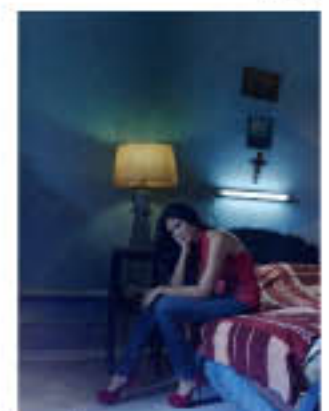
Diana 02-17



Jossie 02-18



Dayleny IV 02-19



Yarisleiry 02-20



Kitchen IV 02-21



Louis 02-22



Library I 02-23



Library II 02-24



Sadey 02-25

EDITION



the pedestrian

02-26



che

02-27



playground

02-28



two woman

02-29



the collector

02-30



the messenger

02-31



milk

02-33



night

02-33



the bolt

02-34



red jacket

02-35



father

02-36



malecon

02-37



the semstress

02-38



shop window

02-39



waitress

02-40



corner

02-41



sportscar

02-42



plastic bag

02-43



pharmacy

02-44



weights

02-45



coupe

02-46



terrasse

02-47



cabus

02-48



drive

02-49

HAVANNA



the driver

02-50



taxi

02-51



girl

02-52



baby

02-53



stadium

02-54



haircut

02-55



bus

02-56



market

02-57



cafeteria

02-58



cap

02-59



laundry

02-60



car window

02-61



crowed

02-62



shopping

02-63



kid

02-64



worker

02-65



hair due

02-66



shop

02-67



mother

02-68



apples

02-69



the girl

02-70



couple

02-71



tree

02-72



motor bike

02-73

HAVANNA

JOERG REICHARDT
-
JOSE MIGUEL ALONSO

with

*Dayleny Larduet Alonso, Jossie and Jose Miguel Alonso,
Diana Avril Herrera, Yarisleisy Bauta Curbeco, Nathalie Bravo,
Sadey Matamoros Ricon, Louis Miguel Velazquez*

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