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1507

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4

NATIONAL ARCHIVES MICROFILM PUBLICATIONS

Microfilm Publication M1507

CORRESPONDENCE AND RECORD CARDS OF THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION RELATING TO GENERAL, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND MILITARY CONDITIONS IN CUBA AND THE WEST INDIES

1918-1941

Roll 4

Cuba and the West Indies: Political Conditions
(MID 2657-Q-266 to 2657-Q-330)

The National Archives
National Archives and Records Administration
Washington: 1989

INTRODUCTION

The 10 rolls of this microfilm publication reproduce correspondence and record cards of the Military Intelligence Division (MID), that relate to conditions in Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic (also known as Santo Domingo), from 1918 to 1941. The documents reproduced are largely reports from the U.S. military attache assigned to Cuba and his assistants, although there is a significant number of records from the Department of State in Washington, the diplomatic staff of the American legation at Havana, and U.S. Marine Corps units stationed on the islands. The correspondence, from which the eight files reproduced on this microfilm publication were extracted, and the related records, are part of the Records of the War Department General and Special Staffs, Record Group (RG) 165.

Background

The Military Intelligence Division originated in 1885, when Adj. Gen. Richard C. Drum directed Maj. William J. Volkmar of the Military Reservation Division to organize a Division of Military Information. Drum's action was in response to an increasing need for the systematic collection and dissemination of information relating to foreign and U.S. military services. The Military Information Division, as it became known, functioned as an adjunct of the Military Reservation Division until 1889. By providing for "the pay of a clerk attendant on the collection and classification of military information from abroad," the congressional appropriation act of September 22, 1888 (25 Stat. 481), laid the necessary financial groundwork for the Adjutant General's confidential order of April 12, 1889, which established the Military Information Division as "a separate division under the personal supervision of the Adjutant General." The act also led to the detail of the first military attaches to

NATIONAL ARCHIVES MICROFILM PUBLICATIONS

U.S. diplomatic posts at London, Paris, Berlin, Vienna, and St. Petersburg in 1889.

An act of February 14, 1903 (32 Stat. 830), reorganized the War Department hierarchy by creating the War Department General Staff headed by the Chief of Staff. Six months later, Secretary of War Elihu Root's order of August 8 directed the transfer of the Military Information Division and its records to the Office of the Chief of Staff, effective August 15, 1903. Under the new organization what had been the Military Information Division became the Second Division (of three), of the General Staff. War Department General Order 128, dated August 12, 1908, provided for the reorganization of the General Staff into sections and thereunder into such committees as necessary for the transaction of business. As a result of this order the Second Division (military information) was merged with the Third Division (military planning and education) to form the Second Section. A reorganization of September 26, 1910, abolished the Second Section and transferred its responsibilities, including military information, to the new War College Division.

The entry of the United States into World War I on April 6, 1917, greatly increased the work of the War College Division. To deal with the growing intelligence workload, the Chief of Staff, in a memorandum dated April 28, 1917, directed the establishment of a separate military information section within the War College Division. A reorganization of the General Staff, under the authority of War Department General Order 14, dated February 9, 1918, abolished the War College Division, and all intelligence functions passed to the Military Intelligence Branch of the newly created Executive Division.

A second major reorganization of the War Department General Staff occurred under the authority of General Order 80, dated August 26, 1918, which established a separate Military Intelligence Division (MID), headed by an officer designated as director of military intelligence who would function as an assistant to the Chief of Staff. As a result of War Department General Order 41, dated August 16, 1921, the MID was given the additional designation of G-2 and was constituted as one of the five General Staff divisions, each under the immediate control of an assistant Chief

of Staff. This part of the organizational structure of the War Department remained largely unchanged through World War II.

The Military Intelligence Division, however, underwent a number of internal reorganizations during this quarter century. In early 1921 the MID's three principal functions, collecting and evaluating military information and disseminating military intelligence, were split between its Positive and Negative Branches. During the next 18 months the division abolished these two branches and divided the functions among three geographical sections: Latin American, European, and Far Eastern. This division of work among three entirely separate sections resulted in a wide divergence of method in handling information, and failed to produce well-thought-out studies on general questions affecting two or more of the geographical sections. Consequently, in October 1924 the head of MID placed the three geographical sections under his newly created Intelligence Branch, to a ensure better coordination of the collection and evaluation of military information and dissemination of military intelligence. The 1924 reorganization remained in place until 1942, although by 1939 the number of geographical sections had increased to seven.

The principal means employed by the MID to collect military information about foreign countries was to send military attaches and observers abroad for this purpose. As noted above, the U.S. Army sent its first five military attaches abroad in 1889. By 1922 the MID had 45 military attaches and assistants on duty in 30 countries. Though by 1938 their numbers had decreased to 32, they soon increased greatly with the advent of war in 1939. The United States first assigned military attaches to Cuba in 1902. A list of military attaches stationed in Havana from 1902 to 1941 follows these introductory remarks.

The main duties of a military attache were to observe and to report on the organization, training, equipment, doctrine, and operation of foreign military forces. In addition, the attache reported on political, economic, and social conditions in the country to which he was assigned, especially as they influenced military affairs. To carry out this work, the attache had the assistance of a small staff including one or more assistant

military attaches who prepared their own reports. The military attache and his assistants usually sent to the MID several copies of their more important reports which often included newspaper articles, magazines, maps, photographs, official government publications, and similiar enclosures. There, one copy was filed with the division's general correspondence in the manner described below, and another was placed in the so-called Regional File that the MID maintained for research and reference purposes. This file contains military, naval, political, economic, social, and psychological information on foreign countries. It is arranged by country or region and thereunder by a special subject classification scheme, first called Strategic Index (1918-22), and later, Index Guide (1922-44). The latter scheme subsumes all information under nine primary headings designated by four-digit numbers within the range of 1000 to 9960. Furnished with the current edition of the Strategic Index or Index Guide, the military attache from his post abroad indicated the proper file classification number in the block provided on the form on which he prepared his report. The Regional File served as the prime source of information from which the MID staff and its predecessors, compiled the Digests of Information concerning each country, prepared the Combat, Economic, and Political Estimates for the major nations of the world, and wrote special studies on military subjects.

Records Description

The Military Intelligence Division filed correspondence in accordance with the "record card system," utilized widely by the War Department in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. On each incoming and outgoing communication and enclosure, a record clerk placed in the upper-right corner of the first page a master number representing the main subject of the communication. When no subfile was involved, the clerk simply added a numerical suffix following a hyphen to the master number to indicate the next sequential transaction (e.g., 2067-54, 2067-55). To indicate a subfile, the records clerk entered an alphabetical or numerical suffix following the master number, and an additional number representing the transaction under the subfile.

At the subfile level the MID used letters to indicate particular countries or geographical areas. In a file numbered 2657-Q-266, for example, the letter Q represents Cuba and the West Indies. States. Most individual documents filed under these letter designations were numbered in chronological order by date received. Some, however, have a second subfile number denoting a more specific subject category, with sequential numbers following. For instance, many monthly reports on Cuban Army strength are filed under 2012-100 with individual reports numbered 1 to 96. Thus a typical file number containing all these elements would be 2012-100/55.

After the clerk had assigned a file designation to the communication, he summarized its contents on a record card and placed the same file designation on it. The record card was then filed numerically according to its assigned file designation. Subsequently, record cards were annotated to show the routing and ultimate designation or disposition of a communication. The clerk also prepared name, subject, and geographic index cards as finding aids to the communications. In addition, the MID kept chronological lists ("Dispatch Lists") of all communications received from an attache at a particular post.

This publication reproduces the following eight MID files relating to Cuba and the West Indies for the period 1918 to 1941:

MID 2657-Q---Political Conditions, Cuba and the West Indies
MID 2655-Q---Economic Conditions, Cuba and the West Indies
MID 2056-----General Conditions in Cuba
MID 2012-----Army, Cuba
MID 2079-----Aeronautics, Cuba
MID 2608-----General Conditions in Haiti and Santo Domingo
MID 2020-----Army, Haiti
MID 2353-----Army, Santo Domingo

The records filed under the two master numbers pertaining to political and economic conditions throughout the region, have been filmed immediately afer the record cards and are followed by files on one or two of the three Caribbean countries--Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic (in that order). Within each master number the documents have been filmed by file designation. The volume of records

filed under the two master numbers for general political conditions and economic conditions, and under the three files on Cuba, is substantial. There are cosiderably fewer records in the three files on Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

The gaps often found in the sequential numbers following master numbers have two principal explanations. First, during the late 1920s the War Department destroyed a large number of individual documents among the general correspondence of the MID as "useless papers." This action was authorized by an act of Congress, dated February 17, 1889 (25 Stat. 672). Second, on August 7, 1941, the MID abandoned its numeric file system and adopted the War Department decimal classification scheme. At that time the numeric file was closed and many documents were transferred to the new file. For most communications transferred, a clerk prepared a card and inserted it in the numeric series where the communication had originally been filed, citing the decimal designation under which the communication was then filed. These transferred documents are in the G-2 decimal file, which is part of Records of the Army Staff, RG 319.

Contents

Record Cards

The record cards for the eight master numbers of the MID correspondence relating to Cuba and the West Indies appear on roll 1 of this microfilm publication. The record cards are filmed in the same sequence as the eight master numbers. They provide a synopsis of each document (including those dated before mid-1941) that were transferred to the decimal file. The record cards also serve as a finding aid to the documents filmed in this publication.

Correspondence

Political Conditions, Cuba and the West Indies. (MID 2657-Q). Reports and other records in this master file include information on Cuban political parties, elections, political corruption, and political violence. There are a few similar reports on conditions in Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and Puerto Rico. In the early 1920s the

military attache reported extensively on the 1920 Cuban national elections (MID 2657-Q-1 to -90); graft and abuse of office President Zaya, 1920-24 (MID 2657-Q-249); the unsuccessful revolt by army veterans, 1923-24 (MID 2657-Q-143); and the 1924 election of President Machado (Mid 2657-Q-225/1 to -70). This master file also includes a large number of reports (MID 2657-Q-330/1 to -452) on anti-government violence in the 1930s, some of which deal with Col. Fulgencio Batista. Other reports discuss U.S. reactions to the 1920 Presidential election (MID 2657-Q-268), the activities in the United States of Cuban and other West Indian nationalist and revolutionary groups (MID 2657-Q-102, -350, -370), and German and Japanese espionage activities in Cuba (MID 2657-Q-395) and Haiti (MID 2657-Q-396), 1940-41.

Economic Conditions, Cuba and the West Indies. (MID 2655-Q). With the exception of the 1921 reports on the salt industry of Curacao (MID 2655-Q-14) and the economy of the Dominican Republic (MID 2655-Q-15), one each, and the report on the control of petroleum production in Puerto Rico in 1941 (MID 2655-Q-107), all of the records in this master file pertain to the Cuban economy. Many of the reports relate to the Cuban sugar industry (MID 2555-Q-1, -8, -11, -18 to -21, -33, -48, -51 to -60, -63, -65, -81); the cultivation of coffee (MID 2655-Q-50), rice (MID 2655-Q-16), and other foodstuffs (MID 2655-Q-18 to -21, -93); the production of henequen (MID 2655-Q-79); and Cuba's petroleum (MID 2655-Q-95) and mineral resources (MID 2655-Q-61, -100 to -103).

A number of reports deal with immigration laws and immigrant problems (MID-2655-Q-73, -76, -80, -85, -87, -94, -98, -99). Also included is a history of the operations of the Cuban National Lottery, 1921-23 (MID 2655-Q-32) and a copy of the military attache's "Estimate of the Economic Situation," May 1923, 150 pp. (MID 2655-Q-64). Many of the 1919-22 reports have file classification numbers of the Strategic Index imbedded in the text and most of the reports of the 1930s bear typed four-digit Guide Index numbers in the upper-right corner of the first page.

General Conditions in Cuba and the West Indies. (MID 2056). The records in this master file both complement (and in a few instances) duplicate the

documents in the files on political (MID 2657-Q) and economic (MID 2655-Q) conditions and relate almost exclusively to Cuba. Most of the 1918-19 reports, many of which were prepared by U.S. Marine Corps units on duty in the Camaguey and Oriente Provinces, deal with strikes and labor unrest in Cuba (MID 2056-65 to -184). Other reports for this period document the course of the "Spanish" influenza epidemic on the island (MID 2056-34, -46, -48, -53, -67, -78, -85, -122, -134, -165) and the October 1919 outbreak of smallpox in Havana (MID 2056-194).

Other records include an April 1920 office memorandum prepared by the military attache describing the members of his staff, his relations with the American Legation in Havana, and provides biographical sketches of prominent Cubans and others "who have proved themselves valuable and discreet" (MID 2056-196); a copy of the July 1923 "Estimate of the Economic-Military Situation" (MID 2056-219); and the 1925 MID digest of information on the Island of Pines (MID 2056-229). Between December 1938 and July 1941 the military attache prepared a series of 35 "Comments on Current Events," which contains information on German nationals in Cuba and the activities of Colonel (later President) Fulgencio Batista (MID 2056-250); and a series of reports on each of the principal cities of Cuba, which describes the city's power plants, water works, telephone and telegraph facilities, radio stations, gas and oil storage plants, ice plants, airfields, harbor facilities, police, military forces and installations, newspapers, magazines, prominent American citizens in residence, and its government (MID 2056-253). Scattered throughout this master file are copies of, or clippings from, the Havana Post, Havana Evening News, The Times of Cuba, Himley's Weekly Review of the Cuban Sugar Crop, and El Hombre Nuevo.

Army, Cuba. (MID 2012). Much of the documentation in this master file consists of monthly strength reports and station lists of the Cuban Army, 1918-41 (MID 2012-4, -6, -12, -21, -34, -39, -42, -49, -56, -64, -137, and especially -110); biographical sketches ("who's who") of prominent Cuban Army officers, 1931-40 (MID 2012-132 to -168); and periodic reports on the loyalty, discipline, and morale of the Cuban Army, 1931-40

MID 2012-133, -146). Included in the latter is substantial information on the September 1933 revolution and the activities of Colonel Fulgencio Batista, especially during 1933-34. Other records deal with the organization of the Cuban Army (MID 2012-18, -44, -73, -93, -101, -116, -119, -157), the pay and emoluments of its officers and enlisted men (MID 2012-124), its retirement and pension laws (MID 2012-110), and its annual budgets, 1932-41 (MID 2012-140, -165). This master file also contains information on the Cuban Rural Guard (MID 2012-98, -99) and the National Police Force (MID 2012-137).

Aeronautics, Cuba. (MID 2079). The records in this file cover military and commercial aviation. Included is a series of annual reports, 1924-39, on the organization, training, bases, appropriations, aircraft, and aeronautical equipment of the Cuban Air Service (MID 2079-15). Other reports on military aviation discuss "Good-will Flights" of the 1930s (MID 2079-43, -59), aircraft accidents (MID 2079-52), landing fields and possible landing fields (MID 2079-10, -44), flights of Cuban military aircraft over U.S. territory (MID 2079-56, -60), and cadet, flight, and combat training at Cuban aviation schools (MID 2079-36 to -40, -61, -62). Aspects of commercial aviation discussed include air traffic control and regulations (MID 2079-20), foreign interests involved in Cuban aviation (MID 2079-21), and commercial air routes (MID 2079-16). This master file includes many Department of State documents.

General Conditions in Haiti and Santo Domingo. (MID 2608). Most of the reports in this file are 1921 monthly summaries of intelligence compiled by U.S. Marine Corps units stationed in the two countries which describe the political, economical, and social conditions on Hispaniola. This file also includes a number of 1940 reports on harbor facilities, water supply, electrical power, and other municipal features of the principal cities and towns of Haiti and the Dominican Republic. These reports were received from the head of the U.S. Military Mission in Haiti and the U.S. naval attache stationed in the city of Santo Domingo.

Army, Haiti. (MID 2020). The three reports

comprising this master file deal with the establishment of a Dominican air and naval station at Calderas Bay (1939), leadership changes in the Garde de Haiti (1940), and the participation of the cadets of L'Ecole Militaire d'Haiti in the June 1941 maneuvers of the Garde de Haiti. The last two reports were prepared by the chief of the U.S. Military Mission in Haiti.

Army, Santo Domingo. (MID 2353). This small file consists of two items: a May 1918 report from the American Legation in Santo Domingo on the organization of the Guardio Nacional Dominicana and a 1925 memorandum from the Department of Commerce enclosing two Spanish newspaper clippings on the creation of a Dominican army.

Security Classification

Many of the documents filmed in this microfilm publication were classified as secret, confidential, or restricted at the time of their creation and had those classification markings stamped, typed, or written on them. With the exception of six documents (MID 2657-Q-361/18 to 2657-Q-361/24) relating to communications intelligence, the National Archives and the Department of the Army have reviewed and declassified all of the records filmed in this publication.

Related Records

In RG 165 are additional intelligence records relating to Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic. Information on all three countries can be found under other file designations of the MID correspondence, 1918-41. Because the records under other file designations either did not relate exclusively to Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic, or relate to less significant subjects, they are not reproduced here. Access to these records is by the name, subject, and geographic indexes to the MID correspondence and by the dispatch lists of incoming reports to the MID. The name index has been filmed as Name Index to Correspondence of the Military Intelligence Division of the War Department General Staff, 1917-1941, M1194; the geographic index as Geographic

Index to the Correspondence of the Military Intelligence Division, 1917-41, M1474 (roll 4 of which contains the principal entries for Cuba); and the dispatch lists as Registers of Communications Received from Military Attaches and Other Intelligence Officers ("Dispatch Lists"), 1889-1941, M1271 (roll 1 of which lists the reports from the military attache in Havana).

The segments on Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic in the Regional File of the MID contain copies of some of the documents reproduced in this microfilm publication, as well as many other documents submitted by the military attache at Havana and other sources.

Records relating to naval intelligence, including naval attache reports, and records of the Military Government of Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic) 1917-24, are in the Records of the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, RG 38. Information about Marine operations in Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic can be located among Records of the U.S. Marine Corps, RG 127.

Many records pertaining to U.S. relations with Caribbean nations are found in General Records of the Department of State, RG 59. Microfilm publications of related records include Records Relating to Political Relations Between the United States and Cuba, 1910-29, M509; Records Relating to Internal Affairs of Cuba, 1910-1929, M488; Records Relating to Political Relations Between the United States and Haiti, 1910-29, M611; Records Relating to Political Relations Between the United States and Haiti, 1930-39, M612; Records Relating to Internal Affairs of Haiti, 1910-29, M610; Records Relating to Internal Affairs of Haiti, 1930-39, M1246; Records Relating to Internal Affairs of the Dominican Republic, 1910-29, M626; Records Relating to Internal Affairs of the Dominican Republic, 1930-39, M1272; and Records Relating to Internal Affairs in the Dominican Republic, 1940-44, M1277.

The records reproduced in this publication were prepared for filming by Barry Zerby and Monroe Freeman. These introductory remarks were prepared by Barry Zerby.

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3	(MID 2657-Q-144 to 2657-Q-225)
4	(MID 2657-Q-266 to 2657-Q-330)
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APPENDIX

U.S. Military Attaches - Cuba

Lt. Matthew E. Hanna	Aug. 1902-June 1904
Maj. Henry Barber	Feb. 1909-July 1912
Lt. Col. Herbert J. Slocum	Oct. 1912-Dec. 1913
Maj. Edmund Wittenmeyer	Jan. 1914-Sept. 1917
Capt. Thomas F. Van Natta	Oct. 1917-Nov. 1918
Maj. Albert Gallatin	Nov. 1918-Apr. 1919
Col. Paul W. Beck	Apr. 1919-Apr. 1920
Lt. Col. James M. Hobson	June 1920-Apr. 1922
Maj. K. B. Lyman	Mar. 1922-Jan. 1923
Maj. William H. Shutan	Jan. 1923-May 1926
Capt. Henry C. Clark	June 1926-Jan. 1928
Maj. James C.R. Schuenck	Jan. 1928-Aug. 1929
Maj. Joseph J. O'Hare	Aug. 1929-Apr. 1933
Lt. Col. Thomas N. Gimperling	Apr. 1933-Apr. 1937
Maj. Edward W. Timberlake	Mar. 1937-Aug. 1938
Maj. Henry A. Barber	Aug. 1938-June 1941

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

WAR DEPT. GEN. STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV
3-1
1924
2657-Q-2
WAR DEPARTMENT
Lieut. Col. G.S. Norvell, (Assistant Chief
Chief, Latin-American Subsection

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

June 10, 1924

No. 2297

From: The Military Attaché, Havana.

To: The A. C. of S., G-2

Subject: Government Frauds and Irregularities (3190)

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. JUN 17 1924

M. I. I.A. K.B. 6/23

1. I am enclosing herewith article from EL PAIS, of June 6, 1924, entitled "Irregularities in the Department of Public Works," concerning the awarding of a bid for the repair of the road from Havana to Batabanó.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

6/23/24

Copy & encl retained in M.I.2 a.

a+b

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

3-1

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.

1924 2657-Q 3 Encls 3

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

June 20, 1924

M.I.R.

No. 2309

From: The Military Attaché, Havana

To: The A. G. of S., G-2

Subject: The Political Situation (3020)

M. I. 1A. 2K. 11.4/26

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. JUN 26 1924

1. I am enclosing herewith translation of article in EL HERALDO, of June 16, 1924, entitled "The Delights of Zayism," in which is stated that "The delights of the regime of Zayas are the outrages to the Republic and to the dignity of the citizens, the assaults on the Treasury and the affronts to liberty."

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

4/26

copy & encl. retained in M.I.R.a.

ARB

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

3-1 1 Enc 4
2657-Q-228

June 20, 1924

Maj. H. Col. G.A. Nugent, General Staff
Chief, Latin-American Section

No. 2310

From: The Military Attaché, Havana

To: The A. G. of S., G-2

Subject: Prominent politicians and Elections (3690)

MID 8/2 W.D. JUN 28 1924

1. Enclosed will be found translation of article appearing in DIARIO DE LA MARINA, of June 18, 1924, in its section entitled "Impressions," on the victory of Machado.

2. Attached is translation of editorial from EL HERALDO, of June 17, 1924, discussing prominent men ready to take part in the political campaign.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

Copy & encl. retained in M.I.D.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Encl 1
1-1
2657-Q-22

FROM "DIARIO DE LA MARINA" - Afternoon Edition - June 18, 1924.

Re: Victory of Machado in the midst of the Liberal Party.

Section entitled "IMPRESIONES"

The victory of General Machado in the midst of the Liberal Party seems to have been assured.

The fact of having cornered the Provincial Assembly of Oriente, of having obtained a majority in Camaguey and in Santa Clara, and of considering as sure his victory in Habana, are factors which place his nomination beyond all doubt.

Machado has come out victorious, but Mendieta has not been defeated. The defeat was, in that case, of his general staff.

The Liberal politicians, with the greatest ungratefulness and a censurable forgetfulness, hardly listened the voice of Mr. Ferrara calling them to the side of Mendieta, who awaited them with the panama hat of Jose Miguel, when they fled like souls in torment toward Machado.

The leaders of the Liberal Party consider that it will do for Jose Miguel to place his panama hat on the head of Mendieta; but that ~~my~~ it will not do for Ferrara to put his ideas and intentions under that hat; in which they are wrong, because Don Carlos (Mendieta) is not at all easily influenced.

Dr. Clemente Vazquez Bello, the young politician with the long side-whiskers and with still longer purposes, has played a very important role in the victory of Machado.

This Liberal leader has proven, in opposition to Ferrara, the bitter remark made by the conqueror of Pavia, that good luck is not in favor of the old.

Partial discords will now take place in the midst of that Party.

The failure to nominate Mendieta shall be the pretext used by some Liberals to sell themselves to Reelection with certain decorum.

However, we do not believe that they will be many. We can state right now that the leaders of the the Mendieta group will not do so. They will perhaps assume an indifferent and passive attitude. Ferrara will try to forget his boredom in the hotels of Europe. Barreras will take refuge in the Senate, and the well-known young man Miguel Mariano Gomez will devote himself to correct his political errors, because ~~he~~ he has the age, and can still go very far.

FSL.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

FROM "EL HERALDO" - June 17, 1924. EDITORIAL.

Re: Sanguily, Varona, Mendez Capote and others who have kept away from politics, are now ready to take an active part in the coming political campaign.

- -

Fearing that the present evils, which are already intolerable, may become more intense and grave, and from an acute state may pass to a chronic state, very valuable elements who have kept away from politics, now hasten to take a very active part in the coming electoral campaign.

Persons like Sanguily, Varona, Mendez Capote, Enrique Roig, Maza y Artola, Manuel Enrique Gomez and all others who with a heap of intellectual and moral baggage desire to join in the patriotic cruzade against the evil intents of reelection, will have to be welcomed with open arms.

At a conference held by the persons mentioned above, and at which Gustavo Gutierrez and Oscar Soto, prominent members of the Association of Veterans and Patriots, were present, it was said that the persons who kept away from politics will now join the campaign, constituting the peaceful and anti-revolutionary movement which strives to obtain by legal means the regeneration of public customs, in the same manner as Garcia Velez and his followers try to obtain the same end with fire and sword, and maintain, as Dr. Gutierrez says, their pledge of honor of "burning the dung-heap."

We applaud the idea of giving up the revolutionary action on the eve of a presidential election, to exercise the civic action and cooperate to the victory of a good cause; and when already on this ground, they must avoid committing the same errors made by the Velezites.

To enter into the field of battle offending at right and left, saying that the national institutions and the political organizations are rotten and incapable of redemption, would be equivalent to go to a sure failure, joining in a single group all those who think that they have been included in the offense, whether they be good or bad.

We must have an ideal of purity, of rectitude, of morality and of efficiency; but we must realize that we will have to get to it step by step, and that we will always have to encounter difficulties, and that the perfect will always be far off. In this valley of tears, advance is made surmounting obstacles, not creating them, because politics and elections are not angelic problems in which both the just and the sinner xxxx participate.

Nobody was more uncompromising with vice that Christ who drove the money-changers out of the temple; however, it was He who defended the sinful woman, inviting those who were without sin to throw the first stone. This parable should always be born in mind by the regenerators, whether peaceful or bellicose. We must not desire the death of the sinner, but his amendment; and as we all Cubans are, in a greater or lesser degree, by action or omission, responsible for the present situation, the cooperation must be sought of all those who show a favorable disposition to follow new channels, without taking into consideration the parties or the men incapable of reforming, reserving the implacable attack and the war without quarters for those who use corruption, peculation and graft, as their weapons.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

That is why we find very plausible and practical the suggestion made by Dr. Maza y Artola that all those who enlist under the gallant flag waved by the venerable and glorious hands of those who had kept out of politics, may vote for the Liberal candidate who will include in his platform clauses of rectification, for the suppression of the vices which now envile and degrade us.

Against those who desire the reform of public customs, the sinister threat of reelection rises, with its vast resources because it controls the Treasury and the public forces. If the opponents of reelection scatter away and fight among themselves, the defeat of those who are positively the most and the best is sure to come; while if they remain united against the common enemy, they can easily obtain victory and scatter in the conquered field the good seeds which will fructify for the benefit and honor of all.

FSL.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHÉ
HAVANA, CUBA.

1 Enc
2657-B-22 9

June 20, 1924

Maj. Col. G.S. Norvell, General Staff
Chief, Latin-American Subdivision

No. 2311

From: The Military Attaché, Havana

To: The A. G. of S., G-2

Subject: Organization of Political Force (3700)

M. I. I.A. K.B. 6/27

RECEIVED G/S W.D. JUN 28 1924

1. I am enclosing herewith translation of article appearing in EL HERALDO, of June 17, 1924, with reference to the organization of a great political force "of national concentration."

W. T. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

6/27/24.

Copy & encl. retained in M.I.2 a.

AMS

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

~~For Official Use Only.~~

4-1 2657-B-230
3850-b 4
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Attitude toward Pan-Americanism.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 2 1932

1. On April 14, 1932, Pan American Day was celebrated with fitting ceremonies.

2. Representatives of the Government and the Diplomatic Corps were present at the reception held at the Foreign Office in the the morning, and on this occasion Dr. Averhoff, the Acting Secretary of State, delivered an address in which, among other things, he stated that the Pan American ideal, or that of harmony among the American peoples, preceded their independence; that Pan-Americanism has attained the rule of justice and the abolition of might as opposed to right; and that the Pan American Conferences, through the ratification of treaties and conventions, have realized the ideal of liberty for great and small nations alike, regardless of race, language, or customs.

3. There were ceremonies in several of the public schools of the City and Province of Havana, which were attended by the under-Secretary of Public Instruction and other officials of his Department.

4. The main feature of the ceremony held in Public School No. 40, was the unveiling of an oil painting of George Washington, a gift of the John Quincy Adams Public School of Washington, D. C. In a speech after this presentation, Dr. Ramiero Guerra, General Superintendent of the Public Schools, referred to John Quincy Adams as one of the principal initiators of the Pan American ideal through his prompt recognition of the independence of the Latin-American Republics. Dr. Gabriel Garcia Galan, General Administrator of Public Schools, remarked on the glorious significance of the coincidence of Pan American Day with the date of the foundation of the Republic of Spain, the mother country of all the Latin-American republics.

O'Hare

J. J. O'Hare,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and Press.

From M. A., Havana No. 3756 Date: April 23, 1932.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

3-1924 2657-Q-230 Encl 1

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

June 27, 1924

No. 2315

From: The Military Attaché, Havana.

To: The A. C. of S., G-2.

Subject: Pan-Americanism (2930)

-J. J. B.

M.I.2a/A.E.B. 7/8

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. JUL 2- 1924

1. Enclosed is translation of article taken from EL MUNDO, of June 17, 1924, reporting an interview with Mr. Querido Moheno (Mexican), on the subject of "Pan-Americanism and the Power and Wealth of the United States."

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

7/3/24.
Copy + encl. retained in M.I.2a.
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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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2657-Q-230

FROM "EL HERALDO" - June 17, 1924. Interview with Mr. Querido Moheno.
Re: - Pan-Americanism - and the Power and Wealth of the U.S.

We have spoken about important matters with Mr. Querido Moheno, a very prominent person not only in Mexico --his country-- but in all Spanish speaking countries. Consequently, it is not our intention to make a discovery in this article. We will only try to reproduce the conversation we had with him.

REPORTER: We do not want you to speak about the affairs of Mexico, which we know here as well as in your country; nor of the authors you prefer to read, nor of your gratefulness to the Cubans, etc. Speak to us about Pan-Americanism, for example.

MOHENO: - Pan-Americanism, my dear Sir, is a vile farce. The Spanish-American union is a lamentable and ridiculous utopia, an artful trick resorted to by the governments to face the many difficulties encountered by virtue of their constant divorce from the governed. The union of the Spanish-American countries is something unrealizable, because it is not supported by any sound ideal, as intended by some, but is characterized by the red-tape realized in its name. The day when the governments may feel that they lack the support of the United States, then, and only then, will they carry out a real Pan-American work. The lack of union between the governing classes and the governed, is the knife which cuts the throat of the ideal part of the phrase, which up to now has been meaningless and ridiculous. Naturally, the Saxon Capitol takes care of maintaining this separation, fatal between the governments and the governed.

--In this case --the Reporter argued-- Latin-America is condemned to a mediocre and anaemic destiny.

--Absolutely. The destiny of these countries is so compromised and in danger as the life of an ant under the feet of a herd of buffalos in flight. The economical power, or rather, the feeding power, of that gigantic country, makes it the absolute master of these lands of faint energy. You will remember that Napoleon I. used to say that there was a Marshall's baton in the bag of each soldier. Well, with each pound of pork packed in Chicago, goes a cord to tie the hands of our countries.

REPORTER: You mean to say that the future of America is kneeling down before the kitchen of Chicago?

MOHENO: Nothing more faithful nor more exact. The United States is the strongest country in the world; and if we resorted to imagery, I would say that Canopus, that star recently discovered, and to which the virtue of being the center of the Universe is attributed, is the United States, and the Latin-American countries are but a light dust floating in the air. Only a great upheaval which would destroy the United States, could destroy the unavoidable danger of our destiny. That country is from fifteen to twenty times stronger than any of the so-called powers of the world. I dare say that the United States is stronger than all the countries of the world put together.

Japanese fetichism has existed in my country for ~~xx~~ a long time past, and I understand that it has also existed in Central America and in other countries. I do not share that fetichism. In case of a war between the United States and Japan, I would strongly be in favor of the victory of the United States, because otherwise we would get out of a tutorship to fall into another ten times more hateful. Japan is noted for its secular barbarousness and for its unprecedented savagery..... The sympathy for Japan of which you speak to me is absurd and dangerous. The first thing the United States would do is to take Mexico and land

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

half a million men.....

REPORTER: But Mexico is a brave and heroic country

MORENO: I know it too well. But modern wars, however are won not by bravery but with money; better still, they are with food. The kitchen is what mobilizes the armies. Why is it that the Allies won the European war? Because they had the kitchen of the United States at their disposal. Germany had to give up by hunger. It was not the brilliancy of the armies which overthrew the Kaiser, but the prosaic sausage of Chicago. You can be sure that the Japanese would lose the war, and it would be the best thing for these weak countries. If the Municipality of New Orleans alone would declare war against Cuba, Cuba would be defeated. That Municipality can raise the sum of forty million dollars for that war in the short period of two hours. Can you tell me who could lend that sum to Cuba in case of war? The same happens with Japan. As practically all the countries of the world are in debt to the United States, and in spite of that said country is and will be the most powerful in money and in food..... I you must remember that I hate the United States. And it must be remembered that I am the author of "Cosas del Tio Sam", the most cruel book that has been written against the country of Wilson. But we must realize the facts that surround us, and not trust in the beautiful castles in the air built by our tropical imagination.

REPORTER: Discarding the hope of Japan, do you not believe in the revival of the Great American-European Latin Union...?

MORENO: I do not. France Italy and Spain are subordinated to the American kitchen, just as our Republics are. As I have said only a great cataclysm can make the saxon power disappear.....

FSL.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

CUBA - 2900(c)

Mexicans

EL HERALDO - May 15, 1925.

Text of a speech read yesterday at the Hall of Sessions of the University, by Mr. Jose Vasconcelos, a former Mexican official now in Habana. He had bitter phrases for the tyrant of Venezuela, and recommended the withdrawal of the Cuban diplomatic representation in Venezuela. Referring to the Bill presented in the Cuban House of Representatives for this purpose, he said: "If that Bill is approved, it may even change in the future the era of International Law which now reigns in America...." In another passage he said: "It has been a common error in America to look toward Cuba as a beautiful and lovely country, but practically lost for the transcendental purposes of the Race. There is an Amendment which curtails your sovereignty, an Amendment which has been used as a weapon of defamation against yourselves; an Amendment which must be condemned by all of us who are sworn enemies of Imperialism; an Amendment which weighs over the men of the country, and which burns as a red hot iron. Nobody will dare justify it but they are ready to condemn, and few, very few have closely followed the manner in which you have prepared your defense; very few notice that in other countries of Latin-America, without amendments to their Constitution, the Imperialism rules, and sovereignty is a thing which the politician exploits and pledges whenever it becomes necessary to obtain the support of the Yankee Government against rivals at home who are perhaps better representatives of Justice..... The Cuban civism has triumphed to such an extent, that the day is announced in which the Amendment will have to disappear by itself, by its repeal or through disuse, because the Cuban people is proving to the world that they do not need any tutors. And from that, to the demonstration that they will not tolerate any tutorship, there is but a heroic step, perhaps short, surely fatal. You were born to independent life with a yoke, of which you are getting rid little by little. On the other hand, other countries of America were born without shackles, and they have been creating to themselves obligations, and have been losing, one day territories, another day rights, some times by treaties, and others without treaties..... ....."

LA NOCHE - May 15, 1925.

EDITORIAL very favorably commenting upon Mr. Vasconcelos' speech, and stating: "His beautiful words, his elevated opinions deserve a very warm applause, because they embody the confirmation of our faith and our enthusiasm, faith and enthusiasm which are indispensable for the obtention of our historical aims and our common destiny, as an integral part of the New Continent, of the young and vigorous America which is showing to the world the ample and luminous channels of civilization and progress."

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 report.

3850-b

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign relationships - Attitude toward Pan Americanism.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. FEB 14 1927

1. Cuba, like all the Latin-American countries, is working for a union of the American republics, but, because of her exceptional relationship, politically and commercially, with the United States, is anxious that the United States should be a party to such a union in a practical and workable way. Cuba would never consent to excluding the United States in the manner advocated by the Central and South American Republics, or to a union solely of Latin-America.

2. As we know, three circumstances have led to the union of the American Republics: the geography of belonging to the same continent; the history of descending from the old nations of Christian civilization of Europe, of which the American Republics were the colonies; the universal system adopted of democratic-republican government.

3. From the earliest days of independence the Spanish-American Republics nourished the idea of union as a means of defense against aggression. The liberator Bolivar first recommended this union and as early as 1826 a congress was assembled in Panama with the object of promoting such a union; another assembled at Lima in 1848 and again in 1865. However, the Cubans, like the other Latin Republics, long considered the Mexican War with the United States as the strongest evidence of the need of a union limited to the Latin American Republics, fearing the power and dominion of the United States, but have since become largely reconciled as to the good intentions of the United States toward the Latin republics through the efforts of the United States in formulating a Pan American Union, begun in 1889. The concensus of Cuban opinion, I think, was well expressed at the Pan American conference at Santiago, Chile, in 1923 to the effect that Pan Americanism as a movement for union and a product of the brotherhood of the republics of both Americas may constitute a powerful factor for peace and harmony in the continent and of great importance from the economic-social point of view; that the progress of European civilization has demonstrated how great has been its interruption because of the periodical and destructive wars; and that all political orientation directed to prevent discord among the republics of America has, by this aspect alone, a great economic transcendency and great practical importance. Cuban statesmen, however, frequently direct attention to the difference of the political and commercial policies of the United States and the Latin American Republics, and argue that the economic union of both continents seems most difficult of realization, but that it must be harmonized, if at all, within the greater Pan American Union. It is asserted frequently that the suspicions of these Latin people who, because of fear of the great material superiority of the United States, look for guarantees for the economic interests and for the sovereignty of the Latin American Republics, are doubtless reasonable suspicions and are worthy of consideration in each step of advancement of Pan Americanism.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2894 Date: Feb. 8, 1927.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

4. In Cuba, as in the other Latin countries, the North American capitalists have been denounced as the great danger that hovers over the weak republics. That fear has a reality to the Cubans when they observe the billion and three-quarters of American money invested here and the rapidly increasing ownership and control of the sugar mills, plantations and public utilities, as well as the expanding banking and financing control coming under alien organizations. This is the reason for their recent renewed activities to facilitate their economic readjustment in order to compete with foreign capital and to offset the balance of foreign trade against them. They fully realize that internal economic relations may prove the greatest source of dangerous difficulties for weaker countries. However, Cuba is a strong advocate of Pan Americanism, fully believing that the great economic and political potentiality of the United States will prove a benefit rather than a danger to Cuban national growth. The Cubans fully appreciate that Cuba's political and commercial relationship to the United States can never be materially changed and that within that relationship lies her greatest security from many of the dangers that beset the other Latin American Republics. They are very anxious, however, to have the benefits of this relationship without any suggestion of impairment to Cuban national sovereignty and political independence such as imposed by the Platt Amendment.

Henry C Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2894 Date: Feb. 8, 1927.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 report.

COSTA RICA (Political)

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. SEP 20 1927

Subject: Editorial in "Diario de Costa Rica" on Sixth Pan American Conference.

The following is a translation of an editorial which appeared in the "Diario de Costa Rica" of San Jose, Costa Rica, under date of September 6, 1927:

"AT THE NEXT PAN AMERICAN CONFERENCE AT HAVANA MEXICO AND COLOMBIA WILL PROPOSE THE CREATION OF THE LEAGUE OF AMERICAN NATIONS.

The latest information on the subject makes us believe that these conferences will be important for the new world. The neutralization of Central America, its sovereiguty guaranteed by the League of American nations will be proposed.

The latest international happenings of the new world has focused the greatest interest upon the Sixth Pan American Conference which will meet in the city of Havana in the month of January of next year, that is, within four months - a conference in which our country will be represented by the Minister of Foreign Relations, Mr. Ricardo Castro Beeche and the Costa Rican Minister in Washington, Mr. Rafael Oreamuno.

As is known, it is very probable that the inaugural conference will be attended by the President of the United States, Mr. Calvin Coolidge, and it is certain that the great American republic will be represented by the Secretary of State, Mr. Kellog. To these details should be added that Mexico, which did not attend the fifth conference, held in Santiago, and to which Licenciado Alvarado Quiros was our representative, has now stated to the Government of Cuba that it will attend at Havana, which indicates that all the countries of America will be present in these conferences. We should also state that President Machado has invited President Calles of Mexico to attend the conferences, but that on account of the Mexican election campaign it is probable that Calles will not be able to attend.

Some information which we can give and which has been officially confirmed, is that the delegations of Mexico and Colombia will jointly present a project tending to create in the western hemisphere an "American League of Nations" to guarantee through international conventions the independence of American nations and to annul certain suspicions which have lately arisen. They further will bring up the laudable plan of smoothing out misunderstandings between the people and races of this continent and for once settle the boundary problems which exist in America.

This project has points of great importance; it may be said that they constitute the climax of American international questions and we can casually pick from among them the following as subject to think and mediate about.

(1) The imposition of constitutional restrictions in each country upon foreigners with regard to the right to acquire lands.

(2) Neutralization of various territories of the republics of Central America, the sovereignty of them being guaranteed by the League of American Nations.

From: M/A Costa Rica Report No. 143 Sept. 9, 1927.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

(5) Annulment of the right of intervention. The delegates of Santo Domingo to the last Congress of Jursit held in Rio de Janeiro presented this project. The discussion of this extreme in the Rio Congress indicates that the discussions in Havana on this topic will be of great transcendence and spirited.

(4) Repudiation of armed intervention and the employment of force in the collection of claims.

(5) Formation of an American Tribunal of Arbitration which will have the same charter as the Pan American Union, but with effective application. One of the commissions of the faculty will have Bogota as its permanent seat. A commission of investigation in which all the foreign relations committees of American Congresses will take a part will also be created.

(6) All foreigners will consider themselves under the principles of "Jussoli", accepting the laws and political and other stipulations as well as the risks which they may expect of the countries in which they reside. This project has encountered decided and frank hearing on the part of the Republic of Argentine.

(7) Declaration that capitals have no nationality. This petition is part of the Drago doctrine and was brought up by Dr. Yrigoyen in Rio and will also be backed by the republic of Argentine.

(8) The right to diplomatic claims only to exist when the denial of justice or negligence or the impossibility of complete safeguard to foreigners, as determined by the Tribunal, is proven.

(9) No government to be recognized which came into being through illegal means. This point has the backing of the United States and President Coolidge has stated that his country is very much interested that in the strip of the American continent north of the Panama Canal there be neither political disturbances nor revolutions, nor governments coming into being fraudulently.

(10) Absolute definition of the Monroe doctrine in all its reaches.

The consideration of the problem announced in the foregoing points is so serious that it may already be announced that the Sixth Pan American Conference will be the most important of those which till this moment have been held."""

The editor of the "Diario de Costa Rica", in which this editorial was published is known to be a close friend of the Mexican Minister to Costa Rica. For the past year his paper has been following an anti-American, pro-Mexican policy, and it is therefore reasonable to conclude that this editorial was inspired by Mexico.

Source: As stated & personal observation.

A. W. Bloor,
Military Attache.

1 encl.

From: M/A Costa Rica Report No. 143 Sept. 9, 1927.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

37 Kane 5
1924
2657-Q-23,

June 27, 1924

No. 2319

From: The Military Attaché, Havana.

To: The A. C. of S., G-2.

Subject: General Crowder's Trip to the U. S. (3840)

J. J. B.

M.I. I.A. K.B. 7/5

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. JUL 2 - 1924

1. There is enclosed herewith translation of article found in HERALDO DE CUBA, of June 24, 1924, commenting on General Crowder's contemplated trip to Washington.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

7/7/24.
copy # 2 & encl. sent to W. P. D. for info. & early return.
AKB

7/16/24 Returned from W P D & retained in M.I. 9a
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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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2657-Q-232

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

June 27, 1924

No. 2320

From: The Military Attaché, Havana.

To: The A. C. of S., G-2.

Subject: Government Frauds and Irregularities. (3190)

J. J. B.

J. K. B. 7/5

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. JUL 2- 1924

1. Attached is translation of article appearing in EL HERALDO, of June 23, 1924, entitled, "The President Infringes the Law of the Budget."

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

7/5/24

Copy & encl. retained in M.I.2a.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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2657-R-233

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

June 27, 1924

No. 2322

From: The Military Attaché, Havana.

To: The A. C. of S., G-2.

Subject: Liberal Party of Havana. (3790)

M. I. Enc. No. 7/5

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. JUL 2- 1924

1. I am enclosing herewith translation of article found in EL MUNDO, of June 25, 1924, with reference to the Organization of the Provincial Assembly of the Liberal Party of Habana.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

#5 copy & encl. retained in M. I. 7a.

RHB

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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MIL. INTEL. DIV.
2657-Q-234

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

June 30, 1924

No. 2323

From: The Military Attaché, Havana.

To: The A. C. of S., G-2.

Subject: Reelection (3610)

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. JUL 2- 1924

1. I am enclosing translation of article appearing in EL HERALDO, of June 27, 1924, in which it is said that "General Menocal has condensed his future policy in the following phrase: 'Anything but reelection.'"

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

7/9/24.

Copy & encl. retained in M.I.2a.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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MIL. INTEL. DIV.
WAR DEPARTMENT

2657-Q235

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

August 5, 1924

No. 2358

M.I. I.A. K.B. 8/14

From: The Military Attaché, Havana.

To: The A. C. of S., G-2.

Subject: Government Frauds and Irregularities. (3190)

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. AUG 12 1924

1. I am enclosing herewith translation of editorial appearing in HERALDO DE CUBA, of August 2, 1924, entitled, "The Lottery in the Court."

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

8/14/24.
Copy retained with encl. in M.I.D.

ahs

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHÉ
HAVANA, CUBA.

August 12, 1924

No. 2370

From: The Military Attaché, Havana.

To: The A. G. of S., G-2. M.I. I.A. M.I.D. 9/30

Subject: Government Frauds and Irregularities (3190)

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. AUG 19 1924

1. Enclosed will be found list of items set aside for the "Botelleros" and charged to the law for dredging the ports of Cuba. (Appropriations)

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

9/20/24

Copy & encl. retained in M.I.D.

and

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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MIL. INTEL. DIV.

2657-Q-237

CUBA

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

August 15, 1924

No. 2375

From: The Military Attaché, Havana.

To: The A. G. of S., G-2.

Subject: Manifesto issued by the Good Government Association (3790)

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. AUG 20 1924

1. I am inclosing translation of manifesto issued by the Good Government Association, appearing in EL HERALDO, of August 9.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

8/22/24. Copy + encl. retained in M.I.2a (filed temporarily under 3790)
ADB

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
1924 2657-Q-237
SEP 13
WAR DEPARTMENT

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

4-1

September 5, 1924

No. 2393

To: The A. C. of S., G-2

Subject: Spanish Societies' Banquet to President Zayas (3890)

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE SEP 11 1924

1. The Spanish Regional Societies of Cuba on August 30 gave a banquet to President Zayas. This banquet was to have taken place before, but was postponed on account of the death of the President's brother. The banquet was given the President by the Spanish Societies as a testimonial of their appreciation of his public utterances with regard to the blowing up of the "Maine," or, as a prominent local paper expressed it, "This homage was a vivid expression of the affection felt by the Spaniards of Cuba toward the Cuban who destroyed forever the legend of the Maine." President Zayas in his speech referred to declarations made by him in 1911 to the effect that the destruction of the "Maine" was purely an accident. The Spanish Minister to Cuba in his speech said the banquet was given in honor of President Zayas "as a token of the appreciation all Spaniards felt toward his response to requests of the Spanish Colony, to which requests he never refused the cooperation of his talent and his eloquence for the protection of the laboring classes, for his noble cooperation which added to the brilliancy of the festival held two years ago in honor of King Alfonso XIII, and above all things for his noble declarations when he stated in an explicit and official manner in his capacity as President of the Republic the absolute freedom from guilt of Spain and the Spaniards in the blowing up of the "Maine."

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

9/13/24 Copy retained in Pol. files 711.12-a under 3850- Spain.

ARB

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

MILITARY INTEL. DIV.
2657-G-240
WAR DEPARTMENT

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

September 11, 1924.

No. 2405

To: The A. C. of S., G-2.

RECEIVED G-2 W.D. SEP 20 1924

Subject: Inadequacy of certain Cuban Laws (3390)

1. In numerous discussion with Mr. Alexander W. Kent, an American attorney of Havana, regarding the inadequacy of proper and workable commercial and other laws in Cuba, he impressed me with the thorough knowledge he possesses on that subject. Recently I asked him to give me the benefit of his experience in the form of a memorandum and in compliance with my request he submitted the attached document which should prove of interest to your office and of great value at some future time in the event of an American intervention. Mr. Kent has resided in Cuba since 1899 and is one of the only two American attorneys admitted to the practice of law before the Cuban courts. (The other one is Mr. Lucius Q.C. Lamar).

2. Before forwarding this document to your office, I submitted it to General Crowder, the Ambassador, for his perusal and comment. General Crowder, after reading this document, said that he had no adverse criticism to make upon it, that it is an interesting paper showing accurately the true legal difficulties now existing in Cuba.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

9/23/24.
2 copies retained in M.I.2a (4000 and M.P.T.Law).

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

TELEF. A-6072

ALEXANDER W. KENT
ABOGADO
ATTORNEY AT LAW
HORTER BUILDING
OBISPO 7

CABLE ADDRESS "WILKENT"
MIL. INTEL. DIV.

4-1
1924 2651-R-240

HABANA September 8th,1924.

Major William H. Shutan,
Military Attaché,
U. S. Embassy, Havana.

Dear Sir:

Cuba today has very few laws which may be considered as at all modern, or adequate to present day needs. Her Civil Code, Code of Commerce, codes of procedure, both civil and criminal,- all are more or less archaic. The laws convering relations of husband and wife, master and servant, guardian and ward, bankruptcy, principal and agent, insurance, actions of injunction, replevin, mandamus, and a hundred others, should be brought up to date; Cuba should have some sort of equity jurisdiction; human life and personal reputation must be given a value; and in short all of her codes should be replaced with laws which are adapted to the times.

There are, however, some needs which are greater than others;- some measures which might be taken to remedy certain defects which are crippling business more and more every day. A country, or a nation, only prospers as its credit increases; and its credit may only increase as money is afforded proper protection; and it is the absence of this sufficient protection which has injured and continues to prejudice the credit of our merchants and planters both at home and abroad.

1. Negotiable Instruments Law. To my mind, a good law on negotiable instruments would be of more value in building up credit in Cuba, and for Cuba in foreign countries, than any other one measure. Under a rigid interpretation of the present Code of Commerce, a very large majority of the drafts, bills of exchange, bills of lading, and promissory notes, issued in foreign countries, the United States, Great Britain and others, lack some of the details required to give them full value and efficacy in Cuba. The customer's draft is unknown here,- the expression of the consideration is different from that required by the Code of Commerce,- the endorsement varies in its form; the acceptance as used by us in some instances is dissimilar; additional instructions on the face of the draft are interpreted by the Cuban courts as altering its character as a bill of exchange,- etc. etc. The protest in Cuba is extremely technical, and any variation from the provisions of the Code,- which, in themselves, are rather confusing, - destroys the value of the draft, at least as an instrument on which an attachment may be had for the purpose of quick collection. The absence of such a law cost the banks many millions of dollars at the time of the crash, and assisted and continues to

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

assist many an unscrupulous debtor to evade payment of his just debts. The present law does not offer sufficient guarantees so that the merchant may freely sell his wares on the thirty, sixty and ninety day terms formerly current in the Island; and this has led to considerable limitation of business operations.

2. Chattel Mortgages. I do not know what percentage of the wealth of the Republic is represented by personal property; certainly a very important proportion. This personal property, in other countries, has a value as a basis for credit; it does not remain inert. The farmer may borrow money on his cattle, his agricultural implements and machinery; the merchant may borrow on his stock; and with the money thus obtained increase his producing capacity. In Cuba he may only borrow on his personal property by giving up the possession of same to his creditor, through pledge or pignoration; and this is impracticable. The banker cannot lend him on such security, because, if it is obliged to become the pledgee, it knows that the borrow has lost the use of the personalty, and cannot employ it to develop his business; and the bank is not a pawnshop whose object is to acquire the property used as security. A chattel mortgage law would be of great value in developing business.

3. Crop Liens. These are closely related to the chattel mortgage. We have in Cuba but one form of crop lien,- that of the colono cane contract; but have no form of encumbering other crops. The small farmer is practically never out of debt to the sugar mill; yet he is powerless to plant other crops because he has no means of financing them. Cuba imports practically all of its foodstuffs; potatoes, tomatoes, milk, flour, all of the necessities of life, and largely because the farmer is the slave of the sugar planter. If a crop lien law could be provided, it would change the situation of the farmer very materially; there is abundant money for this purpose, but there must be protection for the money before it will come out.

4. Mechanics' Lien. Neither the building contractor nor the material man is afforded protection under the law. The few articles of the Civil Code, Nos. 1588 to 1600, are pitifully insufficient. Apparently they provide the contractor with a lien against the building, but in point of fact they do not furnish him with the method of securing same; and the owner who owes the contractor $50,000 for labor performed and materials furnished, if he be dishonest, may evade payment by the mere expedient of executing a mortgage on the property for its full value. This mortgage, recorded in the property registry, takes precedence over the claims of the contractor, who cannot record his rights except as the result of an action against the owner. The material man who sells to the contractor, has no claim against the owner, or the building, except for such an amount as the owner may not have paid the contractor; in other words, the owner is not liable for materials furnished unless he personally contracted for them. The law should provide a form of registration of the lien of builders, mechanics and material men.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

5. The power of attorney. Probably no other one item has given more trouble to the foreign merchant doing business in Cuba than the technicalities of the power of attorney. The sentence or decision of the Supreme Court of Cuba of Jan. 11, 1902, practically established the form of power of attorney required by foreign corpomtions doing business or entering in litigation in Cuba; but this decision is basically absurd, inasmuch as under the laws of many of our states, and of some foreign countries, it is impossible to comply with its requirements. The "Know all men by these presents" form of power of attorney used in the north is worthless here; and it is not an exaggeration to state that not twenty five per cent of the attorneys practicing law in Cuba are competent to prepare a proper form of power of attorney for the average American corporation. I am referring, not only to the power of attorney to be used in court, but that which the representative of a foreign Company must have with him at all times in the operation of his business. In preparing a suit on behalf of a foreign corporation or partnership, the attorney's principal preoccupation is the power of attorney granted him; and the first attack of the attorney for the defense is against the power of attorney. More good claims,- claims fundamentally sound,- have been lost due to technical defects in the power of attorney,- defects which in many cases cannot be remedied without changing the laws of the domicile of the suing corporation, than on the merits of the case.

6. Banking Law. Cuba should have a law which will protect the credit institution, and which will also protect the depositor and the public against fraud on the part of the institution.

7. Notarial Law. One of the great obstacles to activity in exchange of property, and merchandise, is the cost incidental on the transfer. Every operation of importance is made by notarial instrument; the law provides that the notarial instrument must be prepared in long hand,- on the theory that typewriting ink does not leave its imprint as long as pen ink; the result being that a document which could be prepared at a cost of a few dollars and in a couple of hours, consumes three days time, and cost the parties anywhere from twenty five dollars up to several thousand. People ordinarily do not understand that the notary's fee is in reality a tax, and a most unreasonable tax on business. A piece of property is sold for $5,000. Notice for a moment the tax: first the certificate of the Registrar of Property as to the title,- which costs according to the value of the property,- say $5.00; next, the notary's fee. This is fixed by schedule agreed to by the notaries, but not by law; and, in practice, has been doubled if not tripled in the last six years. Personally I paid $45 for a $5,000 deed only a few days ago. Next, the transfer tax,- one percent of the value of the real property,- $50.00. Then the Registration in the Property Registry,- a fee fixed by law, but which as a matter of practice is very greatly abused; it might be $7.50 or run up to $25.00. But the Notary's bill alone constitutes an additional tax paid by the purchaser, and which increases the price of the property, or which reduces the price in reality paid to the vendor. I think that the whole institution of the Notary Public as established in Cuba should be abolished, and

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

substituted by that in use in the U.S.

8. Torrens System of Registration. The real property law of Cuba is not bad,- it is among the best of the cuban laws; but the property registry system is expensive, tedious, antiquated, and also dangerous. The Registrar is endowed with attributes which allow him to dictate terms to persons recording their titles. There again the old system of handwriting as against typewritten instruments operates against movement in property, and safety to title. It would not be difficult to adapt the Torrens system to Cuba, and its adoption would be most advantageous.

9. Corporation law. The Code of Commerce of Spain, now in force in Cuba, was promulgated at a time when there were probably not half a dozen stock companies in Spain. Its provisions do not apply to modern business. The stock company, as a result of these few paragraphs in the Code, have come to be regarded as instruments of fraud; when a Cuban organizes a stock company, it is understood that his object is to be able to evade payment of his debts.

10. Admiralty Law. The few provisions in the Code of Commerce regarding almiralty law do not afford anything like proper safeguards either to the shipowner, or to the shipper; they are practically a statement of the law as it stood one hundred years ago,- but they do not meet modern conditions.

11. Usury laws. Usury laws will not be as necessary if the chattel mortgage, and the crop lien existed. Today money in the interior commands a very high rate of interest; twenty four per cent is not at all unusual; and three, four and five percent per month are common in the various loan establishments in the city of Havana.

12. Perjury. Perjury was defined and penalized in one of the Military Orders of the First Intervention; but it is generally understood as possible only under Order 400,- the order referring to the Mercantile Registry. The Supreme Court has stated on more than one occasion that the verbal statements of witnesses are to be given but very little weight; and the courts in general assume that no witness will tell the truth when it would be more to his advantage to perjure himself.

13. Congressional Immunity. This has done as much to demoralize the community as the lack of all other laws. It should be abolished.

14. Freedom of the press. This is understood as license of the press,- not as freedom. The proper laws fixing the limits of free speech,- defining libel and slander, and affording an effective legal remedy,- other than the duel,- would assist in creating a feeling of stability in the body politic. Most newspapers in Havana have their duelling editor, who is kept fairly busy with challenges received from persons who have been either blackmailed or libelled.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

The foregoing paragraphs, fourteen in number, refer to laws most of which could be promulgated without seriously interfering with the general organization of the codes; with the possible exception of numbers 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10. The most necessary of these laws are numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 12 and 13, and I believe that it would not take a great deal of time to prepare suitable laws covering these points.

Yours very truly,

A. W. Kents

AWK/B

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
OCT 29
WAR DEPARTMENT

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

October 24, 1924

No. 2449

To: The A. C. of S., G-2.

Subject: Government Frauds. (3190)

RECEIVED G-2 W.D. OCT 29 1924

1. Enclosed is translation of article appearing in HERALDO DE CUBA, of October 21, entitled "The Real 'Storm' on the Malecon," commenting on the payment of more than $2,000,000 from the Treasury for the expropriation of lands in prolonging the Ocean Drive.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

11/5/24. Copy & encl retained in M.I.R.a.

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DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

WAR DEPARTMENT

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO Pub. Div. (11-11-24)

November 11, 1924.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G-2.

Subject: Treaty Series Pamphlets.

1. One copy each of the following pamphlets, forwarded to the War Department from the Department of State, is inclosed:

X Treaty Series No. 700 - Agreement Effected by Exchange of Notes between the United States and the Dominican Republic

Treaty Series No. 701 - Convention between the United States and Great Britain.

Robert C. Davis
Major General,
The Adjutant General.
By [illegible].

2 Incls.

X Encl retained in WA 1-2/a files

SWC 17 Nov 24

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NOV 12 PM
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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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3-1 Cuba Ene
2657-Q-243

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

November 11, 1924.

No. 2477

To: The A. G. of S., G-2.

Subject: Cuba's President-Elect Pledges Law Enforcement. (3700)

M.I. NOV 15 1924

1. I am enclosing herewith a statement issued by General Gerardo Machado, President-elect of Cuba, as published in the HAVANA POST of November 10.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

11/17/24. copy retained in M.I.D. [3610]

ANB

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

3-1

From: THE HAVANA POST - November 10, 1924.

2657-E-243

GENERAL MACHADO PLEDGES LAW ENFORCEMENT.

In the following statement, just issued, General Gerardo Machado, President-elect, sets forth his aims:

"To the Cuban People:

"The electoral boards, after counting the votes, have officially announced what was already known, on account of the numbers received, that in the elections just celebrated the political party which nominated me as its Presidential candidate won in an unquestionable manner.

"The high honor just conferred on me, and the great satisfaction I experience, do not keep me from realizing the great duties and important obligations the distinction conferred on me carries. That is why I first address myself to the Cuban people, who, in the civic struggle just terminated, have shown the splendid value of the electoral code in force and have amply proved their capacity and good judgment, and it therefore should not be surprising to anybody that, in expressing my profound gratitude, I should solemnly declare that I never will forget to render devoted and sincere homage to the written law.

"The same fundamental principles of the Liberal party, to which I belong, and my administrative program, already made known to the voters, will be faithfully and truthfully carried out in my four years of administration, which will be inspired by these principles.

"I desire also that my compatriots know now, when they are enthusiastically celebrating the return to power of the political party of the majority, that my greatest aspiration and sincerest wish as a public official is to dedicate myself entirely to the welfare of our Republic and to give the country a liberal and democratic government, just and correct, and to be a zealous guardian of the Constitution and of the law, and modest, and free from vanities that are not in keeping with the youthfulness of our nation, the first duty of which is to recover the lost Cuban virtues, which we have the duty to hand on to our children. Let us hope that they, their thoughts elevated to God, with full justification will be able to sculpture in the coat-of-arms of our country, as our only motto, these simple words: 'Simplicity and Greatness.'

GERARDO MACHADO.

"Havana, November of 1924."

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

SECRET

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

4-1 WKS m/a

November 11, 1924.

No. 2476

To: The A. C. of S., G-2.

2657-G-244

Subject: Probable Appointments to Cabinet of President-Elect. (3100)34 1

MDR 8/2 WS NOV 15 1924

M.I. 10 A.G.O. 7/15

CLASSIFIED CANCELLED
By authority letter of Dec. 19, 1963, from AGO to A. Division
By
Date 6-13-69

1. In connection with articles appearing in the local press reporting the probable selection of certain Cubans for the President-elect's new cabinet, I have to advise you that during a conference between the Ambassador and General Machado yesterday, at which I was present and served as interpreter, General Machado stated that he will make no public announcement of his selections for a new cabinet until next March and that up to the present time the only selection he has made definitely is that of Dr. Jesus María Barraqué, whom he will appoint as Secretary of Justice, and that he was considering the retention of the present Secretary of State, Dr. Carlos Manuel Céspedes, in that office, or his appointment as Ambassador to the United States in lieu of the present incumbent, Senator Cosme de la Torriente, provided that our Government will offer no objections to Dr. Céspedes' appointment to the latter office.

W. R. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

11/15/24 Copy retained in M.I.2a (3110)

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DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

WAR DEPARTMENT
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, G-2
WASHINGTON

As to last Paragraph, last sentence, I showed them 710 - Lay off -

J.H.R.

Col. Reeves' note

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2

(Military Intelligence Division)
General Staff

3/22/25

FROM: THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER, G-2.

TO: (1) (2)
THE A. C. OF S., G-2.
Chief, MI-2a.
Chief, MI-2b.
Chief, MI-2c.
Chief, MI-3.
Chief, MI-4.
Chief, MI-5.
Chief, MI-6.
Chief, MI-7.
Chief, MI-8.
Chief, MI-9.
Finance Officer, G-2.
Chief Clerk, G-2.

Executive Officer, G-1.
Executive Officer, G-3.
Executive Officer, G-4.
Executive Officer, WPD,
Secretary, General Staff,
Adjutant General's Office.

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FOR:

Necessary Action
Investigation and report
Preparation of reply
Personal conference
Correction
Previous Correspondence
Note and return
Information and guidance
Recommendation or remark
Noted
File

MI-1-2-a

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

MIL. INTEL. DIV.
1925

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE.
HAVANA, CUBA.

~~SECRET~~

March 17, 1925.

No. 2573

To: The A. C. of S., G-2.

Subject: Appointments to the Cabinet by the President-elect. (3100)

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
By authority letter of Dec 18, 1953, from TAGO to Archivist
By _____
Date _____

RECEIVED G-2 MAR 23 1925

1. During a conversation yesterday with General Machado, President-elect of Cuba, he informed me most confidentially that if Dr. Cosme de la Torriente, Cuban Ambassador to the United States, did not voluntarily resign from his position in Washington before he, General Machado, is inaugurated, he will recall Dr. de la Torriente immediately thereafter, and that he is now endeavoring to persuade Señor Claudio Mendoza, the head of the well known family of that name in Havana, to accept the Cuban Ambassadorship to Washington.

2. General Machado further informed me that his offer of the secretaryship of the Treasury to Dr. Hernandez Cartaya has been accepted by the latter. It will be recalled that Dr. Cartaya succeeded Colonel Manuel Despaigne as Secretary of the Treasury in President Zayas' cabinet and later resigned that office because he declined to be a party to the illegal extraction of funds from the Treasury by presidential decrees.

3. General Machado also informed me that he has definitely determined to appoint Dr. Carlos Miguel de Cespedes to the secretaryship of Public Works and that he will retain Dr. Carlos Manuel de Cespedes, the present Secretary of State, in the cabinet, presumably in the same office he now has, and that Dr. Viriato Gutiérrez will be appointed Secretary of the Presidency.

4. In a previous communication I advised your office of General Machado's selection of Dr. Jesus Barraqué to the secretaryship of Justice.

5. While General Machado did not mention Dr. Rafael Iturralde, the present Secretary of the Interior, it is my impression that he will be transferred to the Department of Instruction in the Machado cabinet.

6. The selection of heads of the departments of Interior, War, and Agriculture is to be determined upon by General Machado in the near future. The most likely candidate for the Interior is the present Governor of Camaguey, Dr. Zayas Bazán. Dr. Carlos Machado, a relative of the President-elect, is being considered for the secretaryship of War and Navy, but there is a slight chance that General Armando Montes, the present incumbent, may be retained in that office.

3/23 Copy retained in M.I.D.

ars

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

7. General Montes is the only cabinet officer of the present administration who has never been mentioned in connection with any of the many grafting schemes in which all the other cabinet officers and other officials of the Cuban Government have been involved. General Montes is a modest man of fine character. If he is not retained in the cabinet, he will have only a very small income in addition to his pay as a retired brigadier-general of the Cuban army and for that reason he is desirous of continuing in office and has frankly asked me to use my influence with the President-elect to retain him in the cabinet. My personal relations with General Machado are sufficiently intimate to warrant my interceding for General Montes without committing an indiscretion and it is my purpose to do so at the proper time.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2
JJF 925
2657-Q-244
ARMY

G-2/2657-Q-244

March 24, 1925.

Subject: Choice of Cabinet by President-Elect of Cuba.

To: The Military Attache, Havana, Cuba.

1. Reference Par. 7 of your letter of March 17, 1925 (#2573) on subject, it is desired that you carefully refrain from the exercise of any personal influence in the matter mentioned.

2. It is very undesirable from the standpoint of public policy that you should permit friendship or any form of influence to involve the office of the Military Attache in questions bearing on the appointment or replacement of public officials of Cuba.

For the A. C. of S., G-2.

N. E. MARGETTS,
Lieut.-Colonel, General Staff,
Chief, M. I. 5.

vm

MAILED
MAR 26 1925
M. I. D.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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1925 7657-g-244 4 APR 15 51

WAR DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT Appointments of Officials for the Machado Administration (3100)

To: The A. C. of S., G-2.

From The Military Attaché, Havana, Cuba.

No. 2590 Date April 7, 1925. 19

Replying to No. Date 19

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. APR 14 1925

1. Referring to my letter of March 30, addressed to Colonel Margetts, in which I stated that Dr. Rafael Martinez Ortíz, who will accompany General Machado's party to the United States, was slated for appointment as Cuban Ambassador to the United States, I wish to advise your office that General Machado has definitely decided to appoint Dr. Martinez Ortíz as Cuban Minister to France, and that Dr. Rafael Sanchez Aballi, father-in-law of one of General Machado's daughters, who will also accompany General Machado's party to the United States, will be appointed Ambassador to the United States.

2. During a recent conversation with General Machado, he stated to me that while he has not yet determined whom to appoint Secretary of War and Navy in his new cabinet, he indicated that he would depart from the long established precedent of appointing army officers for that office and that he will probably select a civilian as Secretary of War and Navy in his new cabinet.

3. There is enclosed herewith a clipping from THE HAVANA POST of today, which is a translation from EL MUNDO of yesterday, favorably commenting upon the members of the new cabinet thus far selected.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

Binding Margin

4/16/25 Copy & encl. retained in Mil Atta.

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GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ARMY WAR COLLEGE
MIL. INTELLIGENCE

NOV 25 1924

3 / 1924 2657-2345

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

November 21, 1924.

No. 2492

To: The A. C. of S., G-2.

Subject: "Ambassador Crowder is Packing up his Trunks to Leave at any moment for the United States." (3840)

1. Enclosed will be found translation of article in HERALDO DE CUBA, of November 19, under the above subject, in which it is stated that the Ambassador's health "is slowly failing . . . for which reason, among other causes, he is thinking of retiring."

2. Last week General Crowder, the Ambassador, did apply to the State Department for a short leave of absence in order to recuperate in the United States from his recent illness, but in view of a favorable change in the weather here, General Crowder has withdrawn his application for leave.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

11/26/24. Copy & encl. retained in M.I.D.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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3-1 2657-9-246

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

November 28, 1924.

No. 2501

To: The A. C. of S., G-2.

Subject: Zayas' Honor. (3110).

M.I.2 & A.C.S. 12/3

RECEIVED G/? W.D. DEC 2 1924

1. Enclosed is translation of article appearing in LA TARDE, of November 21, 1924, entitled "Zayas' Honor," in which is given the articles of the pact signed by Dr. Zayas when he was a candidate for the presidency.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

12/3/24. Copy & encl. retained in M.I.2 a files.

ARS

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

3 M.I.

3-1

2657-G-747

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

341

December 30, 1924.

No. 2524

To: The A. C. of S., G-2.

Subject: Legislating by Decrees. (3110)

M.I.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. JAN 8 1925

1. I am enclosing herewith translation of article from HERALDO DE CUBA, of December 24, criticizing President Zayas for taking upon himself "powers that he lacks," launching "whatever Decrees he judges fit, with the complete confidence that he will not be called to account for those responsibilities, clear and precisely defined, which he incurs in invading the proper sphere of action of the Legislative Powers."

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

11/3/25 Copy + encl. retained in M.I.2 a.

ars

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

3-1 [illegible] MILITARY INTEL. DIV.

2657-G-248

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

December 30, 1924. 34 X

No. 2525

To: The A. G. of S., G-2. M.I. I.A. M.I.B. 1/13

Subject: Corruption of the Judiciary. (3390)

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. JAN 8 1925

1. I am enclosing herewith translation of article appearing in LA NOCHE, of December 26, entitled "Waves of Immorality," attacking corruption in the judiciary.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

1/13/25. Copy & encl. retained in M.I.D.

ars

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

1/19 1925

From: CHIEF, M.I. 2a

To:

~~Major Burleigh~~
Capt. Bogart

~~Miss Bielaski~~
Miss Cartwright
Mrs. Lochte
Mr. McComas
Miss Scrutchfield

For:

Preparation of reply
Recommendation
Necessary action
Note and return
Information and use
Circulation
Correction and return
File

REMARKS: If you will return this to me after you have read it I'll see that all copies receive a Record Section number. Col. Stone would probably be interested in this, too. Is any further outside distribution desirable — see under slips?

Signature (initials)
AHB

Note: This is now 10 days old — rather late to reach us, particularly as it hasn't yet reached the Record Section. AHB

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

WAR DEPARTMENT
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, G-2
WASHINGTON

Decep. G.B.

I think this report will interest the Chief of Staff and the Deputy C/S.

Noted

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

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January 7, 1925.

No. 2534

To: The A. C. of S., G-2.

Subject: Brief Review of the Zayas Administration, Current Events and Future Situation.

(3020)

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1. I doubt if among republics of the world a parallel can be found to compare with the corruptness and misgovernment of the Zayas administration now in power in Cuba. During the first year of his administration President Zayas, due to the American diplomatic pressure brought to bear upon him, together with his desire to consummate the $50,000,000. loan from American bankers, for which the approval of the United States Government was necessary, he held in check his avaricious plans until the loan was actually secured. From that time on President Zayas, personally, and practically all the officials of his administration in the executive, judicial and legislative branches initiated and have since continued to practice in a most open and shameless manner every form of graft and misgovernment that it is possible to conceive in open defiance of the United States Government and the great majority of Cubans.

2. The terms of the $50,000,000. loan have been disregarded and violated in that certain amounts of that loan set aside for specific purposes were not used according to the spirit of the terms. The terms of the loan required that most of the $50,000,000. loan was to be spent to liquidate the floating debts of the Republic previously contracted for public works, such as repairs of roads and bridges and the purchase of supplies for the government departments and the payment of salaries and wages due officials and employees of the government several months in arrears. Many of the claims against the government were of fake or, to say the least, of doubtful origin. This class of claims received preference in the liquidation, the amounts collected being divided between the "contractors" and officials of the administration. A general protest arose against these frauds and ill-feeling against the administration became intensified because ~~when~~ the fraudulent creditors were accorded preferential treatment and the loan and the current revenues were not sufficient to pay the current obligations of the government and payment to public employees continued to be delayed. Neither were there funds available to pay the coupons on the public debt, on which two coupons were due, nor to reimburse the United States Post Office Department the value of postal money-orders drawn on the United States in Cuba - this in spite of the fact that in addition to the $50,000,000. loan $81,000,000. in revenues were collected in Cuba during that fiscal year, 1921-1922.

3. The reason that the above mentioned obligations were not paid is due to the fact that in paying them the various officials of the Zayas administration found it difficult to secure discounts or graft from the liqui-

This report noted by the chief of staff.

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dation of the more legitimate claims, so they paid only what was to their own personal advantage and everything that could be made the object of exploitation was exploited in the first year of the Zayas Government. In the Department of Public Works most of the appropriations of the budget were calmly extracted by the high officials of the departments and put into their own pockets. Items for street cleaning, repair of highways and bridges were withdrawn from the treasury immediately the sums were appropriated but the streets were neither swept nor the highways and bridges repaired. The Department of the Interior exploited gambling, prostitution, contracts for supplies to the penitentiary and jails and the municipal budgets, briefly in the following manner:

4. Every place where gambling was carried on had to pay a certain amount; the sum produced in Havana under this item alone is estimated in excess of $2,000. per day. No gambling house that paid its quota was ever molested by the police. The same methods applied to houses of prostitution.

5. In the penitentiary and jails the supplies, such as food and everything used there, are furnished by contract and the right to conduct a store in the interior of the jails for use of the prisoners was leased to the same contractor who was charged a large sum for the privilege awarded him by "public bids." The food supplied was of the worst quality and the prices of articles sold in the prison store were double the regular prices.

6. According to the law the Department of the Interior is charged with the inspection and approval or disapproval of the projected budgets of all municipalities. The city council which did not pay a certain percentage to the officials of the Department of the Interior failed to get its budget approved. Most of the municipal budgets in their turn were fraudulent and the revenues were not used for the purpose indicated.

7. All this, as I said above, was done openly and shamelessly and there arose against it a strong protest, particularly on the part of the Economic Corporations, which presented a written protest to President Zayas and asked him to institute measures for reforms and rectification. This protest, together with the diplomatic pressure of General Crowder, acting in the capacity of personal representative of the President of the United States, brought about the dismissal of a number of the original cabinet officials, who were substituted by men of fine character and reputation. These officers were in the government for one year and all the graft and mismanagement related above ceased to a great degree; the public credit was restored and the country was becoming normal again when President Zayas, after securing the $50,000,000. loan, dismissed the honest members of his cabinet and reverted to his policy of shameless graft and corruption. Indignant public opinion to show its disapproval of President Zayas' action in dismissing the honest men of his cabinet organized a huge demonstration and banquet in honor of the retiring secretaries. This banquet was attended by practically every man of high standing and distinction in Havana and from the provinces, among them being representatives of all the financial institutions, planters, business men, industrial men, professors and a large number of high ranking officers of the War of Independence.

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8. After the resignation of Dr. Hernandez Cartaya, President Zayas placed the Department of the Treasury in the hands of a nephew, Dr. Portela, upon whom he could rely to carry out without question his assault upon the treasury. Then, free from hindrances, they accomplished sinister changes in the lottery, the purchase of the Santa Clara Convent, the law for the consolidation of the railways, and the amnesty act.

9. The law prohibited the sale of a whole lottery ticket of 100 fractions at more than $21.00. Tickets were sold, however, at between $25.00 and $30.00. These tickets were sold by the government to the collectors or, rather, the persons appointed as agents for the sale of the tickets at $20.00 less 5% discount and under the law the collector or agent could not sell them for more than $20.00 and it was illegal for the peddler to sell them at more than $21.00. The difference between the $21.00 and the $25.00 to $30.00 went into the pockets of those favored by the President with colecturías or agencies. This difference amounted to between $5,000,000. and $8,000,000. per annum, which was illegally collected from purchasers of lottery tickets in excess of the legal price. The President also used the lottery to bribe senators and congressmen, the press, the judicial power, and even several high ranking army officers are now possessors of colecturías. Since tickets could not be sold for more than $21.00, this gave rise to an occasional accusation against some peddler who was hauled before a court of justice, in spite of the fact that the real violators of the law were the influential politicians and friends of the President who were favored with colecturías. From time to time sporadic campaigns were initiated by the public to discourage the purchase of tickets except at the legal price of 21 cents per fraction and as these campaigns injured and reduced the sale of lottery tickets, the law was amended and now permits the sale of tickets to the public at any price.

10. The Santa Clara Convent was acquired by private persons from the Catholic Church at $600,000. and was offered for resale to private persons at less than $1,000,000. The Cuban Government paid $2,200,000. for it. It is obvious that this property was not bought because of any definite necessity for it but because the transaction involved a margin of profit of more than $1,500,000. which was divided between President Zayas and members of both houses of the Congress.

11. The law for the consolidation of railways grants special privileges and tends to a consolidation of all the railway companies into a trust diametrically opposed to the spirit, policies and laws existing in the United States. This law was passed not because it was in any way favorable to Cuba, but because its passage was bought with money from the President and both houses of the Congress by several individuals who would profit by it to the prejudice of practically every industry in Cuba except the railways.

12. When the secretaries of the so-called "cabinet of honesty" came into office, a series of law-suits were instituted against individuals who were attempting to defraud the government through fake claims and padded vouchers and indictments were secured against a number of influential politicians, a son and other relatives of President Zayas. This, among

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others, is the real reason behind the passage of the last amnesty law which was originally intended to whitewash the President's relatives and political friends who had profited by frauds against the government. During the long process of this projected law through the Congress, and being sure of its final passage, many officials, anticipating its passage, took advantage of that fact and schemed and accomplished many frauds against the government, secure in the knowledge that the amnesty law in the end would clear them of criminal responsibility. In this law are included a great number of crimes of a common nature which brought large sums of money to members of both houses of the Congress in payment of their votes for the law from relatives and friends of prisoners and prisoners themselves who would benefit by having the particular crime for which they were serving sentence included in the law. During the process of this law through the houses of Congress public opinion became excited and practically all civic organizations and such of the publications as were not subsidized by the President organized to oppose the passage of this act and strongly condemned all the excesses committed by the Executive and Congress. The demonstration and the banquet given the "cabinet of honesty" was a part of this campaign, but no attention was paid to these demonstrations and protests by the Executive or the members of Congress. The attitude of these officials finally brought about the organization of the Association of Veterans and Patriots, who submitted to the Executive and the Congress a program of national rectification, including the repeal of the lottery law, the prevention of the consummation of the purchase of the Santa Clara Convent, and the law for the consolidation of the railways, the cessation of the exploitation of gambling, the reform of the courts of justice, the depuration of venal employees and officials, efficiency in the expenditure of government funds, reduction of unnecessary taxes, restriction of parliamentary immunity, and other reforms of pressing need to the country. Against this movement which found enthusiastic support among all classes not engaged in politics, all the political elements of the various parties in office united and formed a strong defense to resist and counteract all attempts on the part of the Cuban public to secure reforms and rectification. For eight months the country was subjected to the agitation created by the Veterans and Patriots Association, which organization, in face of the disdain of the President for the demands for reform and the repeal of the laws against which the country had protested, decided to launch a revolution as a means to end that state by at least provoking American intervention, even if the revolution against Zayas and his administration failed. All business throughout that period suffered great paralyzation and the country in the throes of suffering clamored through the representatives of the Economic Corporations, the Veterans and Patriots Association and other civic organizations for a revolution based on the theory that a constructive revolution would be preferable to the prolongation of the state of moral revolution and degeneration then existing. The Veterans and Patriots movement failed principally because of disagreements between its chiefs which were brought about by bribes and other rewards extended to them by the Executive or his agents. The final collapse of the Veterans and Patriots movement caused great grief to the vast majority of honest and patriotic Cubans who considered it the only practical means of ridding their country of the corrupt practices of Zayas and his followers who, after the collapse of that movement, became more strongly entrenched and better able to continue their assault upon the public treasury.

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13. After sounding out public opinion during the very early stages of the pre-election campaign, President Zayas awoke to the fact that if he persisted in his candidacy for reelection a revolution would be the inevitable result and he therefore secretly in his own mind determined that he would not stand for reelection, but allowed the announcement of his candidacy to stand in order to retain control of the electoral machinery and at the proper time withdrew his candidacy in favor of General Gerardo Machado in exchange for guarantees of immunity from prosecution and confiscation of his immense ill-gotten fortune after the expiration of his term. This version of his secret plan and agreement with Machado is contrary to popular belief, but I can guarantee it to be correct. The popular belief is that Zayas did all he could to be reelected up to the last moment when he was defeated by General Menocal for the Conservative nomination by a majority of five votes. As a matter of fact, Zayas could have insured his nomination by the Conservative Party by supplying the funds necessary to purchase the few votes that gave Menocal the majority.

14. The elections over and the country being once more restored to normal conditions, Zayas planned to continue his assault on the public treasury on a bigger scale than at any previous time during his administration. Among these plans is one of conspiracy between Zayas and a number of promoters to gain possession for themselves of the Caujeri estate in the province of Oriente, which contains an area of 15,000 caballerías of land (500,000 acres). This estate has been occupied from time immemorial by the descendants of the original Indian races of Cuba.

15. The sum of $2,255,000. has recently been paid out of the treasury for lands along the shore line of the Vedado, Havana, by a plan concerted by Zayas and his friends. That plan consisted in the institution of a judicial claim against the State before a court presided over by a judge who was in on the deal and who immediately decided in favor of the fake claimants. The judicial proceedings in this case were shrouded in deep secrecy and were not known to the public until the decision in favor of the claimants was announced. The fiscal who represented the State in this case did not appeal from the decision of the court which allowed the claim and at the expiration of the short period allowed for the filing of an appeal, the secretary of the treasury on the strength of a presidential decree paid this amount in full. These lands were offered to the State by the same fake claimants at less than $1,000,000. to Captain Demetrio Castillo Pokorny during his incumbency as Secretary of Public Works in the "cabinet of honesty," and was by him rejected. Several citizens of Cuba have instituted proceedings in the Supreme Court of Cuba with a view to restoring the amount involved to the public treasury and the prosecution for fraud of all persons who benefited by this grafting scheme. While these proceedings have been accepted by the Supreme Court, there is, in my opinion, very little or no chance of any part of this money being restored to the treasury or any of those involved punished. At the time of the consummation of this deal the National Association of Economic Corporations addressed a protest to the Secretary of the Treasury against the payment. This protest contained a number of questions requesting information regarding the status and contemplated purchase of these lands. To this protest and the questions asked by

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the Economic Corporations, the Secretary of the Treasury failed to make a reply or even acknowledge its receipt. The request of a committee appointed by the Economic Corporations for an audience with the Secretary of the Treasury regarding this subject was also denied them.

16. On December 2, 1924, the Official Gazette published a law granting an appropriation of $2,700,000. for the dredging of the port of Cardenas and the construction of wharves there. This law creates special privileges with retroactive effects and is formulated in such a way that only one company that had previous knowledge of this project could compete for the contract by public bids. As soon as the contract was awarded the promoters received from the public treasury the sum of $700,000. as an advance payment as provided for in the law. This same law provides that the contractors shall furnish a bond of $1,000,000. This they did, but it does not mean anything since the company which furnished the bond is financially able to pay only $25,000. Copy of a full report submitted by the Ambassador to the American State Department regarding this item is hereto attached.

17. A number of the public parks in the Vedado, Havana, are at present in danger of being sold to the government in the same manner as the lands along the Vedado shore line. There is a similar plan with respect to the valuable Havana slaughter house land, which is unquestionably the property of the city of Havana and was so determined and declared by the courts during previous litigation in which President Zayas was attorney for the claimants while he was a senator.

18. The latest land grabbing plan is to give all the land of the military post at Camp Columbia, valued at not less than $8,000,000., plus the improvements, to a real-estate company organized for that purpose in exchange for a comparatively worthless strip of land in Cojimar across the bay. The company developing this scheme offers to build for the army at Cojimar a complete military post in exchange for Camp Columbia.

19. The most important deal of all now being planned is the construction of the Central Highway. A bill now before Congress provides for appropriations for road construction at the rate of $60,000. per kilometer, which is some $45,000. per kilometer in excess of what it should cost if built honestly. It is proposed in this bill to make an initial bond issue of $40,000,000. for the purpose of initiating this project. In the end the total amount involved would be over $350,000,000. to complete the entire project.

20. A project of law authorizing an appropriation of $10,000,000. for the reorganization of the Banco Nacional is now before Congress. In addition to other absurdities contained in this law it requires that the bank when reorganized shall be governed by officials appointed by the President for life. This naturally conveys the idea that the sponsors of this law have no idea of accomplishing anything other than their personal gain at the expense of the Cuban treasury and the project is being met with great hostility from every source except those personally interested in it. One thing is certain and that is that if this project is consummated and the bank is thus reorganized, it will not inspire confidence and no one will deposit their

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money therein. It is obvious that no bank can live without credit or deposits. The present government bank liquidating boards which assumed control of the banks affected by the crisis of 1921 are charged with all sorts of corruption and graft. The Temporary Commission of Bank Liquidation which is the supreme organization entrusted with the liquidation of these banks is constantly under public fire for mismanagement and graft. This commission which began to function in 1921 has accomplished very little towards liquidating the banks which suspended payment during the crisis. This commission is composed of three persons and presided over by the Secretary of Justice, although the law requires that the Secretary of the Treasury be the presiding officer.

21. Most of the city councils are composed of doubtful characters whose only aim is to graft as much as they can. In practically none of the towns are the municipal services attended to. Many of them, including Havana, lack water to a dangerous degree. The streets are in a horrible condition and entirely neglected and many of the Ayuntamientos are in debt. The city of Havana owes over $2,000,000. for street lighting alone.

22. The honest tax-payer who attempts to pay his taxes in accordance with the laws is not permitted to do so. If this seems like an irrational statement it is nevertheless true. The tax-payer who attempts to keep correct records of his income is visited by an inspector from the Ayuntamiento who invariably proposes to the tax-payer that he declare a smaller revenue and that they split the difference between them. If the tax-payer does not consent, the inspector causes him no end of trouble and expense with criminal charges based on technicalities of the various tax laws which contain many ambiguities. The tax-payer is absolutely helpless in this matter and rather than suffer all the trouble that inspectors can make for him he falls into their schemes and resorts to bribery. It is obvious that if honest tax-payers are obliged to resort to such methods, less scrupulous ones go much farther. This applies to the customs service as well as to other revenue collecting agencies of the government.

23. It is practically impossible to secure protection from the courts against abuses and excesses of all kinds committed by public officials of Cuba since most of the judicial authorities themselves participate in many of the fraudulent grafting schemes. Aside from the general corruption by bribery, there is a glaring lack of interest on the part of the fiscals to pursue criminals of all classes, and accused persons who are not financially able to purchase their acquittal are as a rule awarded sentences entirely inadequate and inconsistent with the crimes involved and the existing laws are utterly disregarded by the judges and fiscals. This disregard of the laws of the country extends to the Supreme Court itself. By a recent decision of this court it established the precedent which denies the criminal courts of Cuba the authority to try public officials under any charges whatsoever unless their guilt has been previously established by an "administrative trial" based on charges preferred by the chief of the department to which the accused pertains. The difficulty placed in the way of commercial firms in suits or other legal proceedings in the Cuban courts has been the subject of many protests on the part of the united Chambers of Commerce and the National Association of Economic Corporations, but instead of securing

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relief from these conditions, precedents established by the Supreme Court render commercial litigation more difficult than ever. This situation, together with antiquated codes of law, such as the Penal Code and institutions unfit for this epoch, such as jails, bankruptcy procedure, etc., and abuse of amnesties and pardons, has defeated the purpose of the courts as a guarantee of life and property in Cuba. The number of crimes against persons have doubled every five years; the number of crimes against life for the past year was about 820 and the proportion of suicides was about eight times that of the United States; crimes against property have doubled in number every ten years.

24. The proportion of adult illiterates, according to the best authorities in Cuba has increased by 20% between 1906 and 1924. In proportion to what is spent in states of the United States of a population equal to that of Cuba, the Cuban Government appropriates only one-third for public instruction and from the amounts appropriated must be deducted between 25% and 50% which goes into the pockets of dishonest officials. As for the teaching profession, appointments are made through favoritism and not for ability and it is not possible that school teachers should be an exception to the spirit of the times and conscientiously fulfill their duties.

25. Up to the present time President Zayas has signed some 75 decrees, without sanction of the Congress, authorizing appropriations from the treasury amounting to more than $7,000,000., contrary to the provisions of the Cuban constitution and in spite of the fact that a Cuban law prescribes penal liabilities which may be imposed upon the President for such usurpation of authority. In most instances money appropriated by the President by decree was in connection with grafting schemes. It is to be noted that in both houses of Congress no party lines exist on questions of extractions from the treasury for corrupt purposes and there is, therefore, no hope that a change for the better will occur during the present administration.

26. While Cuba is over-ridden with labor unions led by professional foreign agitators of anarchistic tendencies, the Cuban laborers are not a well organized unit. They are a heterogeneous conglomeration without definite plan or purpose or discipline. The Cuban laborer is a man of docile nature, easily led by kindness and a spirit of equity and justice. He is to a certain extent imbued with the spirit which now agitates these classes throughout the world. One of the principal factors that encourages them to disturbing actions is the example of corruption displayed to them by the present governing classes and so long as this state continues it will remain a serious obstacle to the solution of labor problems in Cuba. The recent general strike in the sugar mills is not a new occurence. For over twenty years they have been occurring periodically. In practically all their strikes Cuban labor organizations have demonstrated their inability to dominate and direct for any considerable length of time a strike of serious proportions in an effective manner.

27. This exposition contains nothing more than the facts of greatest notoriety. If I were to take up the smaller grafting schemes I would overburden G-2 files to the limit, although they give evidence of the grievous

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and sad state which the Cuban nation has reached. The payrolls of all departments of the Cuban Government are full of names, both real and fictitious, who perform no service whatsoever to the government and whose pay is collected by officials of the various departments. Business life in Cuba is constantly interrupted and injured by the lack of lawful guarantees and of confidence and the country as a whole has even ceased to expect legal or social punishment for delinquents. Murderers and the most prominent defrauders of the State enjoy immunity without interference and some of both classes continue to hold high official positions. In the judgment of many Cubans of high standing Cuba has reached such a state that she will not be able to extricate herself from her present difficulties by the efforts of her own honest and patriotic citizens and that this can be accomplished only by interference on the part of the United States. The anxiety and despair of these helpless elements, noting the indecision of the American Government in its present relation to Cuba, continue to increase. This policy of indecision has encouraged Zayas and his followers to boast that they can count on the support of the American Government against all interference and encourages them to further corruption and inefficiency. Cuba having lost in public life respect for the law, morality, religion, public opinion and for the United States, the situation is a very sad one and the respectable elements of Cuba are daily losing even the small hope left to them of the arrival of the day when the United States shall decide to fulfill the duties assumed by our government toward Cuba in the Platt Amendment.

28. Many Cubans of social and financial prominence are very pessimistic of Cuba's future government under President-elect Machado and they predict that the Congress under his administration will be more corrupt than the one now in power. General Machado's antecedents in public office lead them to believe that he lacks the honesty of purpose and energy necessary to eliminate corruption from, and to purify, the Cuban Government. Personally, I do not share this view. Regardless of General Machado's past record, I am firmly of the belief that he will do everything within his power to purify and redeem the Cuban Government. During a recent conference held between General Machado and General Crowder, the Ambassador, at which I was present, General Machado frankly requested the Ambassador's aid and cooperation in preventing the passage of a number of obnoxious bills then before the Cuban Congress, such as the Central Highway and the Cárdenas Dredging bills and gave notice that if these bills are passed during the present administration he will repudiate them when he assumes control of the government. General Machado has been very successful in legitimate business during the last few years and has accumulated a comfortable personal fortune and his declared ambition, as expressed to the Ambassador and to me in very confidential conversations at various times prior and subsequent to his election, is to give Cuba the most efficient government she ever had and to leave the presidency a poorer man than when he comes to it.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

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COPY

Habana, December 8, 1924.

No. 948

4-1 26 57-9 345

The Honorable
The Secretary of State
Washington.

Sir:

In my despatch No. 940 of December 4, 1924, I invited attention to the action of the President of Cuba in ordering the payment of the award of the courts in the matter of expropriation of lands for the extension of the Malecon and called attention to the press comment alleging this scheme as carrying a large amount of graft. In that despatch, I referred to the fact that this transaction had received more hostile criticism than any other of like character, unless it be the Cardenas Dredging Bill which recently became a law, and upon which I would report at an early date. I am now submitting that report.

Since November 18 the press of Habana has given great prominence to what may be properly described as a "fake" bill passed by the Cuban Congress and appropriating nearly three million dollars for public improvements; fake in the sense that according to press allegations the original bill, which appears to have been duly enacted into law and which carried an appropriation of seventy thousand dollars for the construction of a road from Bahia Honda to Consolacion del Norte, province of Pinar del Rio, was expanded at a simulated session of the House to include several other appropriations, the largest single item being two million seven hundred thousand dollars for dredging the harbor and constructing piers in the port of Cardenas. It is further alleged that in this expanded form the bill was duly certified to the Senate on June 10 where it slept until the opening of the present session of the Cuban Congress in November of this year; that, thereafter, it was passed by the Senate and duly certified to the President; that great secrecy attended the enactment of this law in both Houses and that the character of the legislation and the facts relating thereto did not become known to the public until the date first above stated, November 18 last.

As this startling accusation was made in sensational opposition papers, I did not give it credit until I was informed by the General Manager of the Cuba Cane Corporation on Friday, November 28, that his investigation showed that the facts were substantially as stated in the public press. He added that his counsel advised him that the effect of the bill was to create a monopoly of loading and unloading cargoes in the harbor of Cardenas and to confiscate the terminal facilities and warehouses in that harbor belonging to the Cuba Cane Corporation; also that the ten day period within which the President must act upon the bill would expire on Sunday, November 30.

I replied that I needed no further instructions from my Government in re confiscation of vested rights of American interests in Cuba, and that if he could make out such a case, I would immediately present it to President Zayas. The next morning, Saturday, November 29, at about ten o'clock, the above-mentioned representative submitted to me the memorandum and the translation of the law hereto attached, marked "A" and "B", respectively. A half hour later, Mr. Newcomb, representing the Munson Steamship Line, with whom I had previously conferred, presented to me a brief letter to the effect that the bill prohibited all loading and unloading in the harbor of Cardenas, except at the pier of the concessionaire company; that the area surrounding that pier to be dredged, as provided in the law, would accommodate only four ships at one time; and that this limited area was notoriously inadequate as indicated by the fact that not infrequently this company alone had that many ships in the harbor at one time, loading and unloading by the process of lightering.

As the time in which to act was exceedingly limited, I immediately made an appointment with the President and was before him at 12 M., Saturday, November 29. I presented the case orally and left with him, at his request, the originals of the protests of the Cuba Cane Corporation and the Munson Steamship Line which he said he wished to study and would later give me a reply in writing. I am still awaiting that reply.

In respect to the newspaper charges that the original bill was expanded by a simulated quorum, the President said they had not escaped his attention; that the bill came to him certified by both Houses of Congress in due form and to him spoke the official truth; and that he had let it be known to parties protesting against the bill that if the Speaker of the House should ask that the bill be returned, he would con-

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sider such a request an order and would comply therewith. He invited my attention to the fact that the newspaper charge was against the coordinate branch of the Government and that he could not be a party thereto; and that because of this fact and for the further reason that a request might come at any time for the return of the bill, he had refrained from acting thereon. He added that the constitutional ten-day period in which the President must act had expired the previous day and, at the time of our conference, the bill was already a law.

In respect of the contention of the Cuba Cane Sugar Corporation and the Munson Steamship Line that the bill was confiscatory of their vested rights, the President said he would give the matter attention, but that as no law in Cuba could, under the Constitution, have a retroactive effect, he felt that this contention could not be sustained. It was with respect to this feature that he promised me a reply in writing.

SALIENT FEATURES OF THE BILL

(1) The bill authorizes a total credit of $2,700,000.00, of which $700,000.00 is to be delivered as an advance to the contractor upon signing the contract, which the President is authorized to execute immediately upon the promulgation of the law. The remaining two million is to be paid to the contractor in equal installments over a period of three years. The contractor is required to give bond for one million dollars to guarantee compliance with the contract and proper application of funds advanced to him.

(2) The concessionaire company, to be composed of a majority of Cubans, must be organized and legally recorded before the bill becomes a law.

(3) Although the act provides for the dredging of the entire Buba Canal, the shallows of "El Salto" and the entire interior roadstead of the bay from its present depth of 9 to 15 feet to a depth of 22 feet, bids for the contract, with general and detailed plans and specifications, must be submitted within five days from the date of promulgation of the law.

(4) The construction authorized includes:

A. The building of a pier, for account of the concessionaire company, for receiving ferry boats, should traffic require, with railway lines to the shore connecting with such warehouses as may be built.

B. The building of a custom-house, for account of the concessionaire company, at a cost of $1000,000 adjoining the pier on land ceded by the concessionaire.

C. The concessionaire company is given the right to use the pier, as absolute owner, for fifty years when it shall become the property of the Government. During the life of the concession the pier will be known as the official pier and the warehouses annexed thereto as bonded warehouses.

(5) The concessionaire company is given the right to expropriate such lands as it may need for piers, wharves, warehouses and railways, all the works to be considered as of public utility.

(6) The Government may cancel the concession and contract at any time, but in so doing it must pay the concessionaire $1,000,000 as liquidated damages; and in addition thereto the value of the piers, wharves, warehouses and railways.

(7) The President is required to dictate, within three days from the enactment of the law, the regulations necessary for its fulfillment.

On December 4, 1924, there was published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE a resolution of the Secretary of Public Works, of same date, announcing that bids for the dredging of the port of Cardenas would be closed at noon December 6; and that all bids must be accompanied by general and partial drawings, with a detailed description of the work, in accordance with said law.

The foregoing features of the act, cumulatively, show that the whole purpose of the law is to create a monopoly in favor of the concessionaire company. This is indicated by the obvious fact that the concessionaire company was already organized and recorded before the law was enacted; and that all others were prevented from submitting bids by the requirement that all bids be presented within five days from the date the law takes effect, which necessarily precluded the taking of soundings and the compilation of data indispensable as a basis for such bids.

The law also raises the question of whether it is not confiscatory to existing property rights of the American companies owning and operating warehouses and wharves at the port under concessions from the Cuban Government. Article VII designates the pier to be built as the official pier and the warehouses as bonded warehouses, and adds:

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

"Consequently every steam, sailing or other vessel that shall enter the bay of Cardenas to load or unload, for or from abroad, any kind of merchandise, fruit, or cargo whatsoever, shall be obliged to effect these operations over the pier in reference, there being excepted from the fulfillment of this obligation the sub-ports of San Mateo and Siguiapa now existing in the port of Cardenas."

The American companies contend that under this provision of the law, vessels of every character entering the port must use the official pier and pay the tariff to be put into effect as soon as the work is completed and approved, which tariff may be changed at the will of the concessionaire. As stated above, the American companies consider such provision confiscatory of their vested rights, but President Zayas stated that he did not think that contention could be sustained and would later give me his views in writing as to that feature of the act.

According to the latest press reports, a concerted effort is being made by persons of prominence to have the law repealed. A petition has been submitted to the President of the Senate by some 60 prominent residents and firms of Cardenas, headed by Dr. de la Rosa, Vice-President elect, (who resides in that city) requesting the repeal of the law. The reasons stated in this petition are substantially the same as those contained in the protest of the Cuba Cane Sugar Corporation and the Munson Steamship Line, adding that in the port of Cardenas there are many sugar and general merchandise warehouses which have wharves, lighters, tugs, etc., which represent an investment of several million dollars, which wharves, warehouses, etc., once the monopoly is granted to the concessionaire company, would be valueless.

It must be observed, however, that even if the effort to have Congress repeal the law is successful, it will not abrogate the property right now vested in the concessionaire company under the terms of article XI of the law and article 32 of the Constitution to one million dollars as liquidated damages in the event the concession should be cancelled by the state.

As soon as the reply of President Zayas is received concerning the alleged confiscation of property rights of American companies its contents will be transmitted to the Department together with such other facts as may develop.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Crowder.

Enclosures:
Memorandum by Cuba Cane Sugar Corporation
Translation Cardenas Dredging Act
Press comment

HCC EJS

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

COPY

STATE DEPT OF STATE
MICROFILM

No. 948

Habana, December 8, 1924.

2637-G-349
MAIL DEPARTMENT

The Honorable
The Secretary of State
Washington.

Sir:

In my despatch No. 940 of December 4, 1924, I invited attention to the action of the President of Cuba in ordering the payment of the award of the courts in the matter of expropriation of lands for the extension of the Malecon and called attention to the press comment alleging this scheme as carrying a large amount of graft. In that despatch, I referred to the fact that this transaction had received more hostile criticism than any other of like character, unless it be the Cardenas Dredging Bill which recently became a law, and upon which I would report at an early date. I am now submitting that report.

Since November 18 the press of Habana has given great prominence to what may be properly described as a "fake" bill passed by the Cuban Congress and appropriating nearly three million dollars for public improvements; fake in the sense that according to press allegations the original bill, which appears to have been duly enacted into law and which carried an appropriation of seventy thousand dollars for the construction of a road from Bahia Honda to Consolacion del Norte, province of Pinar del Rio, was expanded at a simulated session of the House to include several other appropriations, the largest single item being two million seven hundred thousand dollars for dredging the harbor and constructing piers in the port of Cardenas. It is further alleged that in this expanded form the bill was duly certified to the Senate on June 10 where it slept until the opening of the present session of the Cuban Congress in November of this year; that, thereafter, it was passed by the Senate and duly certified to the President; that great secrecy attended the enactment of this law in both Houses and that the character of the legislation and the facts relating thereto did not become known to the public until the date first above stated, November 18 last.

As this startling accusation was made in sensational opposition papers, I did not give it credit until I was informed by the General Manager of the Cuba Cane Corporation on Friday, November 28, that his investigation showed that the facts were substantially as stated in the public press. He added that his counsel advised him that the effect of the bill was to create a monopoly of loading and unloading cargoes in the harbor of Cardenas and to confiscate the terminal facilities and warehouses in that harbor belonging to the Cuba Cane Corporation; also that the ten day period within which the President must act upon the bill would expire on Sunday, November 30.

I replied that I needed no further instructions from my Government in re confiscation of vested rights of American interests in Cuba, and that if he could make out such a case, I would immediately present it to President Zayas. The next morning, Saturday, November 29, at about ten o'clock, the above-mentioned representative submitted to me the memorandum and the translation of the law hereto attached, marked "A" and "B", respectively. A half hour later, Mr. Newcomb, representing the Munson Steamship Line, with whom I had previously conferred, presented to me a brief letter to the effect that the bill prohibited all loading and unloading in the harbor of Cardenas, except at the pier of the concessionaire company; that the area surrounding that pier to be dredged, as provided in the law, would accommodate only four ships at one time; and that this limited area was notoriously inadequate as indicated by the fact that not infrequently this company alone had that many ships in the habbor at one time, loading and unloading by the process of lightering.

As the time in which to act was exceedingly limited, I immediately made an appointment with the President and was before him at 12 M., Saturday, November 29. I presented the case orally and left with him, at his request, the originals of the protests of the Cuba Cane Corporation and the Munson Steamship Line which he said he wished to study and would later give me a reply in writing. I am still awaiting that reply.

In respect to the newspaper charges that the original bill was expanded by a simulated quorum, the President said they had not escaped his attention; that the bill came to him certified by both Houses of Congress in due form and to him spoke the official truth; and that he had let it be known to parties protesting against the bill that if the Speaker of the House should ask that the bill be returned, he would con-

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

sider such a request an order and would comply therewith. He invited my attention to the fact that the newspaper charge was against the coordinate branch of the Government and that he could not be a party thereto; and that because of this fact and for the further reason that a request might come at any time for the return of the bill, he had refrained from acting thereon. He added that the constitutional ten-day period in which the President must act had expired the previous day and, at the time of our conference, the bill was already a law.

In respect of the contention of the Cuba Cane Sugar Corporation and the Munson Steamship Line that the bill was confiscatory of their vested rights, the President said he would give the matter attention, but that as no law in Cuba could, under the Constitution, have a retroactive effect, he felt that this contention could not be sustained. It was with respect to this feature that he promised me a reply in writing.

SALIENT FEATURES OF THE BILL

(1) The bill authorizes a total credit of $2,700,000.00, of which $700,000.00 is to be delivered as an advance to the contractor upon signing the contract, which the President is authorized to execute immediately upon the promulgation of the law. The remaining two million is to be paid to the contractor in equal installments over a period of three years. The contractor is required to give bond for one million dollars to guarantee compliance with the contract and proper application of funds advanced to him.

(2) The concessionaire company, to be composed of a majority of Cubans, must be organized and legally recorded before the bill becomes a law.

(3) Although the act provides for the dredging of the entire Buba Canal, the shallows of "El Salto" and the entire interior roadstead of the bay from its present depth of 9 to 15 feet to a depth of 22 feet, bids for the contract, with general and detailed plans and specifications, must be submitted within five days from the date of promulgation of the law.

(4) The construction authorized includes:

A. The building of a pier, for account of the concessionaire company, for receiving ferry boats, should traffic require, with railway lines to the shore connecting with such warehouses as may be built.

B. The building of a custom-house, for account of the concessionaire company, at a cost of $1000,000 adjoining the pier on land ceded by the concessionaire.

C. The concessionaire company is given the right to use the pier, as absolute owner, for fifty years when it shall become the property of the Government. During the life of the concession the pier will be known as the official pier and the warehouses annexed thereto as bonded warehouses.

(5) The concessionaire company is given the right to expropriate such lands as it may need for piers, wharves, warehouses and railways, all the works to be considered as of public utility.

(6) The Government may cancel the concession and contract at any time, but in so doing it must pay the concessionaire $1,000,000 as liquidated damages; and in addition thereto the value of the piers, wharves, warehouses and railways.

(7) The President is required to dictate, within three days from the enactment of the law, the regulations necessary for its fulfillment.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

"Consequently every steam, sailing or other vessel that shall enter the bay of Cardenas to load or unload, for or from abroad, any kind of merchandise, fruit, or cargo whatsoever, shall be obliged to effect these operations over the pier in reference, there being excepted from the fulfillment of this obligation the sub-ports of San Mateo and Siguapa now existing in the port of Cardenas."

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According to the latest press reports, a concerted effort is being made by persons of prominence to have the law repealed. A petition has been submitted to the President of the Senate by some 60 prominent residents and firms of Cardenas, headed by Dr. de la Rosa, Vice-President elect, (who resides in that city) requesting the repeal of the law. The reasons stated in this petition are substantially the same as those contained in the protest of the Cuba Cane Sugar Corporation and the Munson Steamship Line, adding that in the port of Cardenas there are many sugar and general merchandise warehouses which have wharves, lighters, tugs, etc., which represent an investment of several million dollars, which wharves, warehouses, etc., once the monopoly is granted to the concessionaire company, would be valueless.

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I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Crowder.

Enclosures:
Memorandum by Cuba Cane Sugar Corporation
Translation Cardenas Dredging Act
Press comment

HCC EJS

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

43-1

2637-G-75-0

311 A

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE.
HAVANA, CUBA.

February 3, 1925.

No. 2547

To: The A. G. of S., G-2.

Subject: President-elect Promises Cuban People an Honest Government. (3110)

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. FEB 10 1925

1. Enclosed will be found clippings from recent issues of THE HAVANA POST under the following subjects:

"Machado Gives Pledge of Fair Rule for Cuba."
"Machado Will Be Good and Competent President."
"Will Give Country Good Administration."

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

2/10/25 Copy & encl retained in M.I.D.
AMB

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

3-1

G2 2657-G-2350

AMERICAN EMBASSY

OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE.
HAVANA, CUBA.

February 26, 1925.

No. 2556

To: The A. C. of S., G-2

Subject: President-elect Machado.

3/nr
(3110)

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. MAR 6 1925

1. Enclosed is clipping from a recent issue of THE HAVANA POST giving translations from local Spanish papers on the following subjects:

① LA DISCUSION - "The Flight of the Future President."
② EL MUNDO - - - "General Machado's Statements."
③ EL HERALDO - - "Machado's Declarations."

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

3/12/25

Copy + encl. retained in M.I.2 as (3110)

AFS

① Opposing proposed trip to U. S.

②+③ Refer to public utterances of Machado with reference to certain activities + plans of outgoing administration. Support his views.

AFS

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

THE HAVANA POST

ZULUETA 28—A DAILY NEWSPA PER ENTERED AS SECOND CLAS S MATTI AT THE HAVANA POS TOFFICE—ZULUETA 25

Cuba s First and Greatest American Newspaper; Established Before the Republic. Read by Mo Persons in Cuba Than All Other English-Language Publications Combined.

Vol. XXVI; No. 141 (Full Associated Press) Havana, Cuba, Thursday Mo ng, May 21, 1925 (The Universal Service) Price, 5 Cents a Copy.

NEW GOVERNMENT IN OFFICE

GREAT OVATION GIVEN MACHADO ADMINISTRATION AS NEW HEADS OF STATE ASSUME THEIR PORTFOLIOS

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

CUBAN NEWS IN BRIEF REVIEW

Zayas Pardons Three Murderers Before Retiring from Office.

President Zayas yesterday, shortly before leaving office, signed decree paodrning Enrique Prendes, Pedro Matamoros and Evelino Gonzalez, all murderers.

SANCTION SALARY INCREASE

President Zayas yesterday sanctioned the bill recently passed by congress, by which each Representative is given a section chief with a salary of $400 and two stenographers with a salary of $100 a month. By virtue of this law the expenditures of the House are increaser by a sum of $645,150 a year.

CLAIMS MCSWINNY IS INSANE

Daniel McSwinney, 27 year old stengorapher who fatally shot and stabbed Henry Morris, local manager of Swift & Co., some weeks ago, is under observance now by physicians, following an insanity plea, filed in favor of him by his counsel, Dr. Aristides Perez Andreu.

THOUSANDS FLOCK TO HAVANA

Over 30,000 persons have arrived from the interior, according to officials of the United Railways of Havana, to attend the inaugural festivities of the ne wadministration. Special measures are being taken to fit an extra number of special trains to facilitate the return of the excursionists to the hinterland.

TO PUBLISH OWN PAPER

The Railroad Brotherhood of Cuba has acquired a printing plant in Camaguey city and will start printing a newspaper in June which will be called "Heraldo Ferroviario."

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Inauguration of New President Yesterday Cause for Monster Demonstration by Thousands Who Surround Palace Hours Before Ceremony.

LIBERAL PARTY PREDOMINATES NEW CABINET, NUMBERING SEVEN; POPULARS HAVE THREE

Zayas Statue Unveiled Before Another Great Throng in the Afternoon; Celebration to Continue in City for Several Days to Come.

Cuba's fith President, and the second to be of Liberal affiliation, was inducted into office yesterday. General Gerardo Machado y Morales took the oath of office 15 minutes before noon at the Presidential Palace.

His inauguration was the signal for a great outburst of popular acclaim from thousands who had surrounded the Palace hours before the President made his appearance on the north balcony.

Immediately following administration of the oath, formalities naming the new Cabinet were dispensed with. Seven of the 10 members of this body under the administration now in office are Liberals. The Popular party obtained three members.

Welcomed To Palace.

The general arrived at the executive mansion in a carriage, accmopanied by Secretary of State Carlos Manuel de Cespedes and an adjutant of President Zayas and escorted by two cavalry squadrons and many Liberal mayors, who followed on horseback. As the carriage drew up to the main entrance of the executive mansion, on Refugio street, a battalion of infantry posted in front of the Palace presented arms.

President Zayas, accompanied by his official family, cordially welcomed General Machado at the foot of the main staircase and accompanied him to the main reception hall, where the new Cabinet Secretaries, the diplomatic corps, the foreign missions, and other high officials were present.

President Zayas, addressing General Machado, said: "In the moment that I now cease as President of the Republic, allow me to felicitate you on your election and to present my sincerest hopes and wishes for youd personal welfare and for full success in your difficult mission."

Machado Responds.

General Machado responded as follows:

"I profoundly appreciate your felicitations and wishes that I be successful in my difficult mission as President of the Republic. I will make every effort to rule the destinies of our people in agreement with our constitution and the laws of the republic, and I desire your personal good fortune, which you deserve after the noble work you have accomplished as chief executive."

Chief Supreme Court Justice Juan Manuel Gutierrez Quiros then invited General Machado to take the oath of office.

General Machado solemnly swore as follows:

"I swear to solemnly fulfill the duties of my post as President and see that the constitution and laws are obeyed."

Dr. Gutierrez then answered: "If you so doeth, may God reward you and otherwise hold you responsible. The President of the Republic has taken the oath in agreement with Article 66 of our Constitution."

General Machado then said: "By virtue of the oath I have just taken, I take possession of the post of president of the republic, for which I have been sworn."

President Machado signed the oath of office with a gold pen which was encircled with diamonds — presented by the Circulo Liberal.

Thenew President then signed a decree appointing Carlos Manuel de Cespedes as Secretary of State. He immediately signed other decrees that completed the memberships which form his official family.

Salutes Greet Executive.

President Machado and ex-President Zayos then stepped out onto the balcony facing Refugio street. As they did so, a military band struck up the national anthem and the Presidential salute was fired by a battery of light artillery placed in front of the Palace on Palmas avenue. The salute was fired by the Morro batteries also, and the Cuban naval units Hatuey, Yara, Cuba, 20th de Octubre, and the Mexican ensign ship Anhuac.

School children sang a patriotic song composed especially in honor of General Machado, while airplanes circled the Palace and adjacent streets and dropped parachutes with flags, patriotic emblems, and flowers. The crowds congregated before the Palace cheered President Machado.

Ex-President and Mrs. Zayas then were accompanied to the entrance of the executive mansion by President Machado, Sra. Elvira Machado de Machado, and the new and old Cabinet Secretaries. Secretary of State Carlos Manuel de Cespedes accompanied the ex-President, who was escorted by two cavalry squadrons to the Maria farm, at Wajay. As ex-President Zayas was observed by the crowds, he was cheered, nobody showing signs of animosity toward him, such as his political adversaries said would take place.

The diplomatic corps and the corps and the foreign diplomatic missions left the Palace shortly after ex-President Zayas did.

General Machado then received the members of Congress, the judiciary, and other high officials and persons invited to the inauguration.

Immediately afterward, at about 1:30 p. m., when Secretary of State Cespedes returned, the first Cabinet council was held. General Machado greeted his collaborators in a brief address expressing the hope that they would aid him in his task of giving the nation a good administraton. Vice-President de la Rosa attended.

De La Rosa sworn In.

Vice-President-Elect Carlos de la Rosa was sworn in at 10 a. m. at the Senate building. As he entered the hall of sessions, which was elabrately decorated with flowers and plants and crowded by hifh offials and foreign diplomats, the national anthem was played.

Speeker Clemente Vazquez Bello stated that Vice-President Carrillo

(Continued from Page One)

was unable to attend because of his ill health.

De La Rosa then was sworn. Taking the Speaker's chair, he declared that he was the seventh vice President Cuba has had, and he expressed the hope that the Senate would be a powerful factor in the future work the Machado administration.

Secretaries Take Posts.

Dr. Enrique Hernandez Cartayo, Seretary of the Treasury, was the first to take possession of his post. Dr. Carlos Portela, the rtiring Secretary, wished him success in his work. A similar act took place at the Department of Agriculture, Commerce, and Labor when General Pedro Betancourt turned over that department to Andres Pereira.

The last Secretary to take possion of his post was Secretary Iturralde of the Department of War and Marine. General Montes and the oficers present wished him a successful administration.

ZAYAS STATUE IS UNVEILED.

The statue of ex-President Zayas, erected at the park that bears his name, in front of the executive mansion, was unveilen soon after 3 p. m. by Presiden tMachado.

General Carlos Gonzalez Clavell made a brief address extolling the merits of Dr. Zayas, the valuable work he had accomplished in favor of Cuba and which prompted him to form the committee which had cahsed erection of the statue by phblic shbcription in honor of Zayas.

Thousands of persons witnessed the unveiling and flocked before the statue to have a look at it. The effigy of ex-President Zayas is of bronze, with the right hand elevated as if gesturing in making an address.

Four policemen at the foot of the statue had been posted there to guard against any attempt to wreck the statue, though the opinion was that the university students will not carry out their threat to destroy it.

BIOGRAPY OF MACHADO

From prisoner of war at the age of three, because his father was a leader in a rebellion against the tyranny of Spain, to the presidency of his people at 51, is the record of General Gerardo Machado y Morales, who yesterday was inaugurated as fifth president of the Republic of Cuba. Incidentally he is the first Mason to be elected to that position.

The culminating event in the intervening half-century was his victory November 1, when he led the Liberal party to success against the Conservative party headed by General Mario Garcia Menocal.

6/2/33 Post cut out + placed in Digest file

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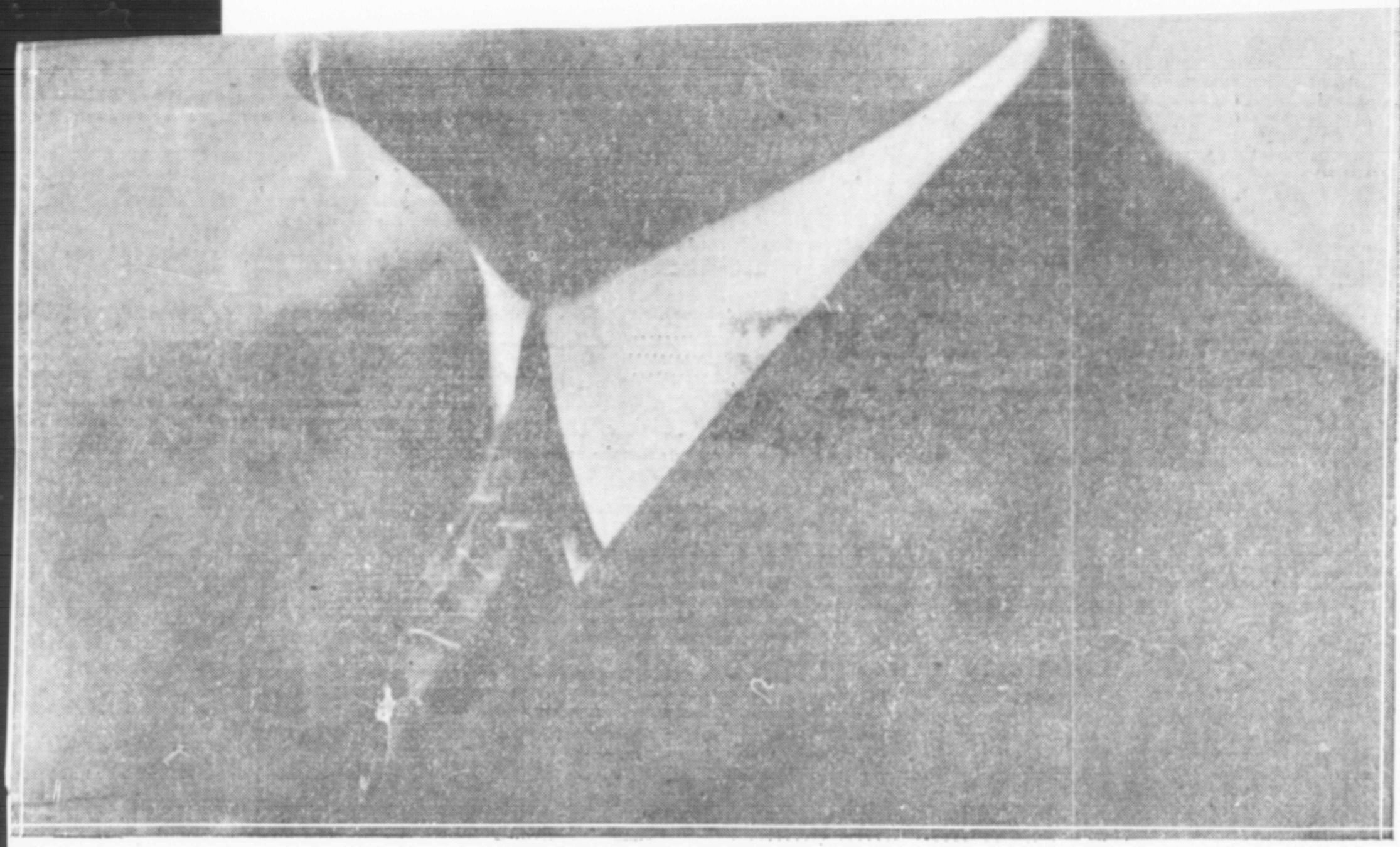
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89



PRESIDENT GERARDO MACHADO

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89



PRESIDENT GERARDO MACHADO

IN RESTRICTED ZONE OF CITY
CAUSES LOSS OF OVER $50,000

REPORTED OUT
OF RIFFIAN WAR

SEEKS WAY TO
HALT FAILURE

Protests of Small

NEW BOMB DET
AT BABY FAIR

Brooklyn Woman Anxious

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

1 Enc

3-1

2657-G-250

3

SUBJECT Inauguration of New Executive. (3110)

From The Military Attaché, Havana, Cuba.

No. 2608 Date May 21, 1925, 19

Replying to No. Date MAY 27 1925, 19

1. I am enclosing herewith pages one and two of THE HAVANA POST of this date containing an accurate description of the presidential inaugural ceremonies held in Havana yesterday; a good biography of the new President, General Gerardo Machado, and a list of the members of the new cabinet.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

Binding Margin

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

1925 2617-9-27 MAY

SUBJECT Present Executive and Outstanding Personalities. (3110)

From The Military Attaché, Havana, Cuba.

No. 2609 Date May 22, 1925. 19

Replying to No. Date 19

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. MAY 27 1925

1. I am forwarding herewith a historical and biographical issue of LA LUCHA, of May 20, 1925, containing material of value for your "Who's Who" on Cuba.

2. Special attention is invited to the article beginning on page 16 and continued on page 20, which is the program or platform presented by General Machado to the Cuban electors during the last presidential electoral campaign.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

Binding Margin

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

1 Enc
WAR DEPARTMENT
MILITARY INTEL. DIV.
JUL 57
4-1 1925 2635-G-230
5

SUBJECT Biographical data on members of the Cabinet and other high-ranking officials of the new administration. (3110)

From The Military Attaché, Havana, Cuba.

No. 2635 *Date* June 25, 1925, *19*

Replying to No. *Date* JUL 1- 1925, *19*

1. I am attaching hereto biographical material relating to Cabinet members and other high ranking officials of the new administration as submitted by the Secretary of the Presidency.

2. It is recognized that this data is very meager and incomplete, but it is the best that I have been able to obtain up to the present time. Additional information will be sent as it is received from time to time. Such data is not officially compiled and the sources available to this office will not assume responsibility for the information supplied.

Henry C. Clark
HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, J. A. G. D.,
Asst. Military Attaché.

Binding Margin

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
JUL 8 1925
WAR DEPARTMENT

7 Cuba
4-1 1925 2657-J-730
6
31

1

SUBJECT Attitude of the press toward Cabinet members. (3110)

From The Military Attaché, Havana, Cuba.

No. 2638 Date June 29, 1925. , 19

Replying to No. Date JUL 8 1925 , 19

1. Attached hereto are translations of articles which appeared in HERALDO DE CUBA during the months of December, 1924, and January, 1925, eulogizing the following members of the Machado Cabinet:

VIRIATO GUTIERREZ - Secretary of the Presidency.
CARLOS MIGUEL DE CESPEDES - Secretary of Public Works.
ROGERIO ZAYAS BAZAN - Secretary of the Interior.
RAFAEL ITURRALDE - Secretary of War and Navy.
CARLOS MANUEL DE CESPEDES - Secretary of State.
ENRIQUE HERNANDEZ CARTAYA - Secretary of the Treasury.
JESUS MARIA RAURAQUE - Secretary of Justice.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, J. A. G. D.,
Asst.Military Attaché.

Binding Margin

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Cuc 1 F 51
4-1 1925 2657-8-6 230 00

WAR DEPARTMENT

From: HERALDO DE CUBA - December 29, 1924.

Re: Eulogy of Dr. VIRIATO GUTIERREZ, Secretary of the Presidency in the Cabinet of General Machado.

- -

VIRIATO GUTIERREZ.

In this long parenthesis of wait until the advent of the new Administration, exasperated interests are being moved. Everybody is an aspirant. Secret voracities are moving in the shadow. And --it is necessary to confess it-- very few of those who are fluttering vehemently have neither a right nor even a pretext on which to support their aspirations.

After the first of November there have sprung in the political field innumerable addicts of General Machado. Those who were hostile to his candidature yesterday and maintained their rancour in the days that followed the elections, in the promiscuity of petty assemblies declare that they are his comrades, his collaborators, and the men who will carry out from Power, the plans of regeneration of the President elect.

A new candidate bursts out every day, like a sky-rocket of a festival. The Departments of the State, the high offices of the Administration, and even the inferior posts, are announced attached to a name which is indefectibly of a politician - that General Machado cannot do without him. General Machado, however, and this is very fortunate, smiles at so many appointments; and marks his own line of conduct.

Very few of the men who are moving in the political field have already secured their nomination to a position of confidence in the forthcoming Administration. And among these, there emerges, with a vigorous outline, and adorned by his prestige, the personality of Dr. Viriato Gutierrez, a lawyer, financier, politician, member of the House of Representatives, and above all that, an honest man, and one of our most solid statisticians.

Viriato Gutierrez is among us the typical specimen of the illustrious citizen who does honor to his country and who contributes to its aggrandizement, and not in an indirect or reflex manner, as a consequence of impure activities and for purposes of a purely personal gain, but by the constant practice of functions nobly exercised, and by the well directed propaganda of moral principles, which are the most active agents of human progress.

We frequently see among us cases of pure men who compromise with the reality of things in order to consolidate their positions, spreading the false theory that once they are exalted to a prominent position, they can realize a fruitful and honest action for the interests of the commonwealth. And such a theory is false, because whoever reaches a public office injuring his principles, afterwards lacks the moral authority to maintain them.

Viriato Gutierrez reached the House of Representatives through pure methods. He was, truly, a product of the sympathy of the people. And in the House, he always took the side of honorable causes, and energetically opposed to all immoral initiatives. He always followed a straight line of conduct, without deforciant violations or tortuosities. He maintained his ideas with solid firmness, and never supported his convictions in cries improper of a parliament.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Dr. Viriato Gutierrez has not acted in politics for his own personal gain, but has gone through it maintaining his name free from all blemishes and shining with prestige.

When the transfer of Powers is effected and General Machado organizes his new Cabinet, Dr. Viriato Gutierrez will be appointed Secretary of the Presidency. This great success does not only mean a guarantee of scrupulous selection on the part of General Machado, but also a just encouragement to honest procedures, and a reward to political consistency and the patriotic actions of a legislator who does honor to the House of Representatives, and of an exemplary citizen who does honor to the society in which he lives.

Viriato Gutierrez is a man of talents, has moral and material solvency, and has patriotic antecedents. He is not going to the Secretary of the Presidency to acquire fame or prestige, but to do honor to the office. And that designation made by General Machado is the best proof that the President-elect brings a certain program of rectification in everything and in every place of the Public Administration, which program can only be carried out by the appointment of men capable of inspiring confidence and faith in public opinion.

Viriato Gutierrez is not praised in this article. We merely comply with our duty, announcing to the country that he will be exalted to that office, from which he will serve the interests of the commonwealth with the same degree of disinterestedness and the same competence with which he honestly served them before in the House of Representatives.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Enc 2
4-1 1925 7657-8750
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FROM "HERALDO DE CUBA - December 30, 1924.

Re: - Eulogy of Dr. Carlos Miguel de Cespedes, Secretary of Public Works in the Cabinet of General Machado.

- -

CARLOS MIGUEL DE CESPEDES.

Up to now, the positionsin the Cabinet in Cuba, with very few exceptions, of course, have been distributed among persons full of ambition to advance in the political career, or in compensation for the lack of a certificate of election to Congress.

It is a very rare thing among us--and that deprives it of force at the beginning of useful reforms and in the advantageous application for the public interests--to fill a position in the Cabinet with a brilliant figure in the social and business world, with "an already made man" who may really be disposed to the sacrifice of accepting for a time the vexatious beaurocratic duties.

Whenever the longed-for "Cabinet of Prominent Men" have been endeavored here, the obstacle was always encountered that the persons sought refused to lend their cooperation to the Republic; and, on the other hand, the climbing dwarfs multiplied their efforts to obtain the appointments. The result of this is a very sad decrease in the moral level of the President's Cabinet.

These antecedents explain why public opinion at the same time that it receives with enthusiasm and applauds the perspective of the appointment of Dr. Carlos Miguel de Cespedes to the office of Secretary of Public Works, expresses certain surprise and astonishment. Is it possible for a Cuban of that prominence and that position, who has nothing to look for in the social sphere, to devote himself to the service of his country at the head of an administrative department which demands such an absorbing devotion? Such is the utilitarian opinion, very proper of the ferocious egotism of our surroundings.

Carlos Miguel de Cespedes does not belong to that class of calculating minds, cold, retired and comfortable, who dodge work, perils and responsibilities. In the political struggle, where there sounded for the Liberals the hour of the noble bursts of impassionment and of the energetic and brave attitudes, we saw him during the heroic and unfortunate month of February indifferently abandon his life of a great lord in the Capital of the Republic, take to the field among the first, and fight until his body was abandoned in the fields of Santa Clara thinking that he was dead..... When he boldly makes up his mind for a thing, as he did on former occasions for the Hero of Arroyo Blanco and during the last electoral campaign for the candidature of General Gerardo Machado, he puts in his efforts all his might, his will, and the energies and activities of his character, without coldness, which does not fit in his vehement temperament, nor reserves, which are incompatible with his open and loyal heart.

This is only a brief outline of the illustrious compatriot whom the President-elect has had the tact and luck of designating to direct one of the most important branches of the Administration

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Public Works, in Cuba, where everything is half done, or to be done, and with successives patches in that Department of the Government, ought to be the kind of the features of a CONSTRUCTIVE GOVERNEMENT.

What does that word "constructive" mean here where fourteen years have been required--somewhat less than was required to build the Escorial--to build the Institute of Habana? Only the quick eagle eye, his extraordinary powers of organization, the indefatigable labriousness of Dr. Cespedes could destroy that heap of routine, morosity, fruitless red-tape and rooted irregularities sheltered in the old building of the Maestranza!!

A Secretary of the Cabinet capable of conceiving the works of public utilitydemanded by our precarious and stagnant system of roads, bridges and aqueducts, the insufficiency of so many ports which require a change which will place them at the height of the requirements of the ever-growing maritime traffic, in the same manner as the principal cities of the Republic demand an extension in proportion to their progress, and also capable of planning them with sagacity and tact, and of carrying them out with the exactness and prudence of a tamer or subduer of success, will be had in Carlos Miguel de Cespedes, since the twentieth of May by the first Cabinet of President Machado.

"Heraldo de Cuba" salutes him with special personal devotion, and paying due homage to his history and his merits in the Liberal Party, his clear talents and his skill to win the good-will of the persons with whom he is acquainted, his gentility of a perfect gentleman, his successful financial spirit and promoter of enterprises which extend their benefits to the great public.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Cuba 3 1925
1925 7657-8-6 350 ∞
WAR DEPARTMENT

From: "HERALDO DE CUBA" - January 1, 1925.

Re: Eulogy of Colonel ROGERIO ZAYAS BAZAN, Secretary of the Interior in the Cabinet of General Machado.

- -

COLONEL ROGERIO ZAYAS BAZAN

In the group of prominent figures of the Liberal Party, chosen with special tact and success, after a careful consideration of their qualities and their virtues, by the President-elect of the Republic, General Gerardo Machado, to fill important offices in his Administration, which will be a model of administrations, there appears the Provincial Governor of Camaguey, a Liberal without blemish, an impecable citizen, an upright and energetic man who does not have the conception of cowardly hesitation or of an incomplete action.

Colonel Rogerio Zayas Bazan, since the wars of Independence in which he had the rank indicated, doing honor to it, up to the present time when he is occupying, by the will of the people of Camaguey, the office of Governor of that Province, through all the vicissitudes of the Liberal Party, at all times, he has proved the integrity of his character, undaunted honesty, and his love for the national institutions and the political group to which he belonged since its organization, defending it with tenacity and energy, with youthful enthusiasm and with an inflexible firmness.

In February of 1917, when the people of Cuba, in view of the abuses committed by the red-bearded Tyrant, in view of the injustices committed at "Guadalupe" and "Pedro Barba," manly and bravely stood up and unanimously took to the fields of redemption, Colonel Rogerio Zayas Bazan who had already retired from the National Army to the staff of which he belonged, followed the current of righteousness and justice, went to the woods, took up the gun and fought against the Tyranny while the Tyranny could be combated. When this became, by the virtue and grace of the famous note of the not less famous Mr. González, a crime against the country, the present Provincial Governor of Camaguey gave up his attitude and fled to the United States. There he suffered during several months all the hardships and humiliations of exile. He worked as a common laborer. In an American ship-yard he worked for his sustenance as a humble worker. But his character remained irrevocable, and moreover, after the hard trial to which he was subject, it can be said that, strengthened in the forge of work, it was tempered anew.

Having been elected to the office of Governor in 1922, he has known how to maintain a proper position indicated by the political complacency and honesty in principles. He is the Governor that has had to surmount more obstacles, and he is cited as the prototype of governors. Following a straight and honest line of conduct, he has had no conflicts of importance with the Central Power or with the local mayors. The former and the latter are his greatest panegyrists.

During the last strike which threatened to frustrate our crop, and which took place principally in Camaguey, in the same manner as during the repeated railroad conflicts, Zayas Bazan has known how to be energetic without the use of violence, and complacent without yielding, and giving advice and counsel at times and imposing himself afterwards, he came out successful from the hard trials to which he was submitted.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

As they are still recent, we do not wish to bring to recollection the lamentable events which took place in the Capital of the Province of Camaguey when the tragic caravan of Mancoal passed through that city. We merely desire to point out the situation, recommending the solution to that dreadful conflict which arose in times of political excitement and of unchained impassionments.

Besides, as a complementary and final detail, we point out the fact that being a well-to-do man, Zayas Bazan distributes the pay which he receives as Governor, and distributes it every month among different families in need.

For all the above, "Heraldo de Cuba" believes that the selection of Colonel Zayas Bazan for Secretary of the Interior in a constructive and depurating administration, constitutes a great success of the Liberal President-elect.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Enc 4

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From: "HERALDO DE CUBA" - January 2, 1925.

Re: Eulogy of Doctor RAFAEL ITURRALDE, Secretary of War and Navy in the Cabinet of President Machado.

- -

RAFAEL ITURRALDE.

Among the persons who are prominent figures in the political life of the nation, whom the President-elect of the Republic, General Gerardo Machado has indicated to fill positions of confidence in his work of administrative regeneration, there are some, like Dr. Viriato Gutierrez and Dr. Carlos Miguel de Cespedes, for example, who constitute, by reason of their present actions in public life, their honesty and their economic and moral solvency, a solid promise of capacity and firmness, of probity and energy. There are others, however, who, by having occupied similar positions in other administrations, constitute, more than a promise, a reality. Dr. Iturralde belongs to this group; he is at present discharging the duties of Secretary of the Interior, and in the Government of General Machado he will fill the office of Secretary of Public Instruction and Fine Arts.

Dr. Iturralde is not an improvised politician; he is not a figure moulded by circumstances in a weak and capricious manner. His profile as a statesman, his well-marked outlines as a politician and administrator, as director of multitudes and as a ruler, have been due to a slow process, day after day, after hard and patient work in different branches of national activities.

Some years ago, probably in the first year of our life as a free and sovereign nation, Dr. Iturralde was initiated in the administrative service as a public school-teacher. In this humble and important job, guiding infantile minds, moulding characters, inculcating the love for the country and the first principles of knowledge upon the minds of the children who filled the school rooms of Matanzas, the present Secretary of the Interior commenced to rise as the man of firm and decided will whom we know and admire today. Dr. Iturralde was a school teacher for some time. Then he became an Inspector of Schools, and was afterwards promoted to the office of Superintendent of Schools. All that in the Province of Matanzas, his beloved region, his native province.

Later on, in the course of time, when his constant work was a real proof of laboriousness and tenacity, of competence and firmness of principles, his friends and admirers launched his candidature for representative, to fill a seat in the House, for the Province of Matanzas. Iturralde was then elected member of the House of Representatives. And in that legislative body, as previously in the school room and later in the office Inspector of Schools, and afterwards at the head of the Department of the Interior, he was able to demonstrate his excelling qualities as a man fit to indicate to the multitudes which should be the path to follow, and which the forms of conduct which should guide all their acts.

In the House of Representatives he rendered so many and so valuable services to the Province of Matanzas, he defended with so much love and disinterestedness the affairs which benefited that region, that at the following elections he was elected Provincial Governor by a great majority. In this office, which in our administrative machinery, scrupulously exact and complicated, acts as a link between the Central Power and the local Executives and Assemblies, he continued in an untiring manner his work of regional improvement. At the same time he maintained a tie of cordiality with the Secretary of the Interior and with the Mayors. He watched for the good ~~of~~ march of the Ayuntamientos of Matanzas. He constructed roads; planned parks, and encouraged education. In short, he was a governor who discharged his duties with zeal, of plausible initiatives, and of incorruptible and direct principles.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Lastly, and already at the head of the Department of the Interior, Dr. Rafael Iturralde has finished moulding his profile as an equanimous and energetic man. During the repeated strikes, the same as during the attempted and grotesque uprising initiated by the so-called Veterans and Patriots, his skill and his presence of mind have been the decisive factors of success for the Government. But among all his glories, there is one which we Liberals admire and appreciate for what it means to us: it is his impartial and firm action, without cowardly hesitations, in the electoral problem which appeared full of perils and threats from the members of the Conservative Party, and which the Secretary of the Interior was able to handle with great ability.

Upon his transfer, therefore, to the Department of Public Instruction and Fine Arts, Dr. Iturralde returns, so to speak, to the field of his initiation and to which he devoted his first enthusiasms: to the educational field in which he has won special merits.

NOTE: This eulogy was published during the month of January, when Dr. Iturralde was indicated to fill the office of Secretary of Public Instruction; but General Machado finally decided to give him the Portfolio of the War and Navy.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Cuba
4-1 1925 #611-f.730
WAR DEPARTMENT

From: "HERALDO DE CUBA" - January 4, 1925.

Re: Eulogy of Dr. CARLOS MANUEL DE CESPEDES, Secretary of State in the Cabinet of President Machado.

- -

The same as Dr. Iturralde, Dr. Carlos Manuel de Cespedes will be ratified in his office as Secretary of State of the Republic. And in truth, this decision of General Machado shows his extraordinary political perspicacity and his great gift of tact.

At the head of the Department of State, Dr. Carlos Manuel de Cespedes has been what could be condensed in this phrase: a great statesman. Never before has been produced such an intense re-affirmation of our international personality as at present, and it can well be said that his wise tact, his infinite discretion, his obstinate attention to all diplomatic affairs raised the credit of our country abroad, which, due to our internal crises, our financial and social difficulties, and, more than all that, to the insidious and malevolent campaign of certain mercenary newspapers, had been creating an atmosphere of hostility to Cuba in the sister republics, showing her as a Yankee factory, without any initiative or personality as a free and sovereign country.

Dr. Cespedes really brought back the Foreign Office of Cuba to channels of morality, of order, of coherence, of patriotic utility. Here in Cuba the foreign service became an easy means of getting rid of the useless. Consuls were appointed and transferred without any purpose and without any tact. And a disheartening lack of discipline reigned in Cuban diplomacy.

Cespedes regulated the service, caused the personnel to be depurated, and more competent, and fundamentally emphasized a policy of approach, of understanding, of order, for the benefit of Cuba, and this has yielded its fruits in a short period of time. Before he became Secretary of State in the Cabinet of Dr. Zayas, Dr. Carlos Manuel de Cespedes acted as Minister. And in Washington he solved many of our problems, always keeping within the bounds of a noble gallantry, without the least detriment to the Cuban flag.

Cespedes possesses in great proportions the qualities which the old Bismarck demanded of the diplomats, and which consists in knowing how to keep silent and to act when the action and the silence respond to a work of national affirmation.

General Machado has acted properly in retaining Dr. Carlos Manuel de Cespedes at the head of the Cuban Department of State, because, in this way, he not only complements the body of his effective collaborators, but reveals the intention of not making a political Cabinet for exclusively protectionist and rewarding purposes, but, on the contrary, of making it in a degree and form which will respond to the necessities of the moment.

Energetic, well inspired, upright patriot, competent, capable, with experience in the problems of diplomacy, enjoying just prestiges in the United States, intangible for his moral greatness and the austerity of his principles, Dr. Cespedes will continue in the Department of State, the generous work which he has accomplished up to this date in the service of our national institutions and for the benefit of the Cuban nation.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

The internal problems of a country, no matter how grave and complicated they may be, are always susceptible of being solved with disinterestedness and patriotic sacrifice. But the complex problems of an exterior nature always constitute disturbing threats to the sovereignty, since not even the very patriotic disinterestedness or the sacrifice of the citizen of a nation, can solve, at times, the crises of diplomacy. This is the reason why it is of vital importance to maintain at the head of a Department which regulates and guides our exterior life, a man who, like Dr. Cespedes, is not only a patriot and a pure man, but a statesman and a man who can give orientations.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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FROM "HERALDO DE CUBA" - January 6, 1925.

Re: - Eulogy of Dr. ENRIQUE HERNANDEZ CARTAYA, Secretary of the Treasury in the Cabinet of President Machado.

- -

ENRIQUE HERNANDEZ CARTAYA.

The refusal or the voluntary resignation of Mr. Claudio Gonzalez de Mendoza to accept the appointment of Secretary of the Treasury, causes General Machado to fill this important position in his first Cabinet with another man of equal prestiges, of immaculate public history, of formidable and specialized competence for all the high economic duties.

In reality, Dr. Cartaya does not need to be extolled or praised. His credit has been amply founded, not on the platforms of an aspirant, but on real work. In our surroundings, of relative hazy values, he has been authentically a public man; a man of representation, morally, economically and intellectually.

A jurist of exceptional merits, his reputation as such classifies him among the half-dozen lawyers whose professional credit go beyond our geographical limits, and reach foreign boundaries. In the Cuban bar he has been, and continues to be, an exceptional figure.

Aside from his capacity, Dr. Cartaya shows, to give more brilliancy to his career as a statesman and exemplary citizen, the austerity of his principles, his moral foundation, his firm adhesion to the rules of an honesty not common in these periods of organization and corruption, which practically make him appear before public opinion as the traditional and mystic "merle blanc" of the biblical legend.

When the "Cabinet of Honesty" was organized, Dr. Cartaya was appointed Secretary of the Treasury. And during the few months which he acted as head of said Department, he carried out a work of patriotism, well inspired, constructive, strengthening, restoring economic credit in Cuba, and bringing the National Treasury through channels of prosperity and solvency.

Upon accepting the responsibility of the office, Dr. Cartaya was not seduced by honors which he has never coveted, and with which he was prodigally endowed by Nature simultaneously with talents--the greatest of all--, but hardly encouraged by the sense that he exercized a noble function, and that by doing so, he was placing his endowments and his honesty at the service of the public affairs of Cuba.

He was an ideal Secretary. At a time when values were more altered than ever, during hours of corruption, of error, of mean passions, he took the keys of the Treasury, and following a policy of wise and prudent economy, restored, as we have said, the public credit, re-established normalcy in the administration, avoided bankruptcy, and made evident his solid culture, his intelligence, not common, and his energy only guided by the desire to maintain the Republic.

Reasons which are well known compelled him to abandon the office to which he gave honor, and obtained from President Zayas himself words of praise and encomium. For the Department of the Treasury, Dr. Cartaya passed to fill the office of Dean of the University, where he continues his patriotic work, to the satisfaction of all the professors, and with the enthusiastic and victorious adhesion of all his desciples.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Almost all the evils of Cuba are caused, evidently, by the negligence, by the inconsistency of the men who have the absolute control of public affairs. No country can exist if the men who direct it are not competent. And the capacity of a people is, ethically, the disposition of its rulers to guide it making use of moral attributes, and placing at the service of their patriotic efforts, gifts of intelligence, of honesty, of activity and of energy. The studies of political economy are in modern times, in the Nations, the real keys to the progress and material independence of the same. A country which depends from another economically, cannot be a country virtually free. Moral and doctrinal sovereignty, based on speeches and didactic platforms, are not worth anything. What is necessary is to have a real economic sovereignty, without any dangers of foreign interferences and without the possibility of foreign pressure. Hernandez Cartaya knows this. And accepting the appointment to the office of Secretary of the Treasury in the Cabinet of General Machado, he will surely crown the work which he left half done, since with Dr. Zayas as President of the Republic, all purposes of administrative moralization are childish.

It is for this reason that we congratulate ourselves that President-elect Machado should have selected him to fill that important position, and we can assure that in the same he will obtain glory and give real prestiges to the country.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT
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From: "HERALDO DE CUBA" - January 7, 1925.

Re: Eulogy of Dr. JESUS MARIA BARRAQUE, Secretary of Justice in the Cabinet of President Machado.

- -

JESUS MARIA BARRAQUE.

The Department of Justice, now occupied by Dr. Erasmo Regueiferos, and converted into a distributing agency of freedom regulated by tariff, will, within a short time, be transformed into a center of exemplariness and decorum. When General Machado takes the reins of the Government, there will be placed at the head of that Department a man of real prestige in our social and political world: Dr. Jesus Maria Barraque.

Up to the present time, in order to exalt the illustrious personality of all and every one of the members who will form the new Cabinet-- with which the President-elect intends to carry out his work of rectification of our government system-- we have met with this obstacle: there is not a single person who cannot resist criticism.

All the men that have been mentioned in these columns as members of the Cabinet of General Machado, are already prominent personages with a defined status and an already fixed reputation, and of which nothing can be said except what every one knows: that they are men of great moral solvency and supreme capacity, and capable not only of determined administrative functions, but also to cooperate in the work of national consolidation and depuration of our public customs which is being planned at this time.

Likewise, Barraque cannot be praised with compliments which may reveal him before his fellow citizens. He does not represent a hope nor a promise, nor even a pleasing possibility.

He is already a pleasing victorious reality.

Distinguished attorney, he gives brilliancy to the Cuban bar. In the practice of the functions of a statistician, he also reveals having an uncommon disposition and a refined honesty. When General Jose Miguel Gomez was the President of the Republic, Dr. Jesus Maria Barraque skillfully discharged the duties of Secretary of Justice. Our Judiciary never shone with so much brilliancy before public opinion as it did then. He restored normalcy in the service, purified the administration of law, cleaned out the Judiciary from venal judges, and extirpated all those defects of origin which annul the austerity of certain functions diminishing the inherent principles of purity and of the most authentic legality.

During the time that Doctor Barraque was the Secretary of Justice, the mercy of the Executive was restricted in a radical manner. Pardons were relegated to a second place; strictly granting only such pardons which were inspired in reasons of equity and justice.

Barraque has all the conditions and all the moral requisites to fill the highest position which exists in a modern democracy in matters of juridical authority. Under his rule, the Department of Justice will recover its lost prestiges, elevating its moral level, depurating its work, and eliminating such of its members who do not strictly comply with their duties and who contribute to give the idea that legality and justice among us is lamentable mythical.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

in short, if Dr. Jesus Maria Barraque did not have these merits, he would always be a worthy and competent candidate. Public opinion, which supported him during the time he was in office, knows what Dr. Barraque is capable of doing. In a different order of things, and confining ourselves to his political merits, Dr. Barraque has always been a traditional and enthusiastic "Machadist." The President-elect has always had in Barraque a cordial comrade and an addicted friend. And his elevation to the office of Secretary of Justice is something which gives honor to the Department, to Cuba, and which proves the good inspiration and the healthful purposes which guide all the actions of General Machado.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Appointment of new Secretary of Agriculture, Commerce and Labor.

SEP 10 1925

1. On Thursday, the 27th instant, Andrés Pereira resigned as Secretary of Agriculture, Commerce and Labor and General Manuel Delgado, Assistant Secretary of that Department, was appointed to the Secretaryship and sworn into office at noon on the 28th.

2. Pereira, who is a son-in-law of ex-President Zayas and was Comptroller of the Currency during the Zayas administration, left Cuba on a vacation two days after he was made a member of the Machado Cabinet and returned several days ago after an absence from his post of three months. The reason for his resignation is given as the ill health of his wife and his desire to be with her in the States.

3. General Manuel Delgado, a veteran of the Cuban Wars of Liberation, is a prominent Liberal and carried on an active campaign in the last elections. At one time he was an officer in the Rural Guards and later became Municipal Judge of Yaguajay, Santa Clara Province. He also served one term in Congress.

4. Nemesio Busto was appointed Assistant Secretary of Agriculture to fill the vacancy left by General Delgado's resignation and he took over that office in the afternoon of the 28th. Busto, a former member of the Cuban House of Representatives, was also prominently identified with Machado's campaign in the last elections.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, J. A. G. D.,
Assistant Military Attaché.

From: M. A., Havana. Report No. 2682 Date: August 29, 1925.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

MIL. INTEL. DIV.
1925 MAR 30 PM 1
WAR DEPARTMENT

NOTED
J. H. REEVES,
A. C. of S., G-2

SUBJECT "A Disillusioned Cuban."

To: The A. C. of S., G-2.

From The Military Attaché, Havana, Cuba.

No. 2576 *Date* March 23, 1925. , *19*

Replying to No. *Date* , *19*

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. MAR 28 1925

1. There is attached hereto copy of article entitled, "A Disillusioned Cuban," by Doctor Emilio Roig de Leuchsenring, which appeared in THE LIVING AGE, of March 7, 1925. Dr. Roig delivered this address before the Cuban Society of International Law on the twenty-second anniversary of the establishment of the Republic.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

Binding Margin

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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From: THE LIVING AGE
Saturday, March 7, 1925.

A DISILLUSIONED CUBAN

By Doctor Emilio Roig de Leuchsenring

From: "Cuba Contemporánea," December.
(Havana Liberal Review)

(A leading publicist of Cuba here draws an unsatisfactory balance-sheet of two decades of Cuban self-government. The article is translated from the author's address before the Cuban Society of International Law on the twenty-second anniversary of the establishment of the Republic).

When our island severed the bonds that united her as a colony to Spain and set up a free and sovereign republic, she merely took the first step, though unquestionably one of transcendental importance, along the path of national regeneration of which her sons dreamed when they were fighting for her independence.

Our change of government was not casual, fortuitous, and unforeseen. It was the fruit of the slow, persistent, carefully meditated labor of two generations of patriots who had devoted their energy, their fortunes, and even their lives, to attaining - by political reform or by armed force - certain ideals, to which they dedicated all their efforts. As early as 1837 Cuban patriots petitioned Spain, without result, to grant our island political reforms and constitutional privileges. From this effort sprang the Reform Party and the famous Junta de Información, both of which labored incessantly, though vainly, for this object.

More than thirty years passed, and on the tenth of October, 1868, the revolution of Yara broke out. Its objects were clearly expressed in the manifestoes and proclamations of its leaders: 'Cuba aspires to be a great and civilized nation. We seek universal suffrage, in order to ensure the sovereignty of the people. We stand for the emancipation of the slave, free trade with nations that grant us reciprocal privileges, and a representative assembly to enact our laws.'

When this revolution was suppressed, after ten years' fighting, both Parties - the Autonomists, who sought Dominion status under Spain, and the Revolutionists, who sought complete independence - continued to labor for their respective ideals. In 1892, when the Cuban Revolutionary Party was organized, it declared its purpose to be to abolish the arbitrary methods and bureaucratic institutions of the colonial régime, and to substitute for them democratic institutions adequate to deal wisely and efficiently with the problems arising out of 'the sudden bestowal of liberty upon a society organized for slavery.' . . .

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Have we been true to these ideals and programmes? Have we acted in accord with the doctrines and the spirit of the Revolution since attaining our independence? Most assuredly no!

The first years of our existence as a republic were years of difficulty and disorder. No sooner was the new government set up than the very vices and errors that the fathers of the Revolution had sought to eradicate everywhere reasserted themselves: partisan hatreds; personal self-seeking; corrupt greed; contempt for law, liberty, and justice; lack of patriotism; defiance of authority - which was now Cuban authority; abuse of power by those in office, and apathetic tolerance of such abuses by those who were not. Saddest of all, those vices are often flaunted in our eyes by the very men who fought and bled ostensibly to destroy them. We have changed our flag, we have changed our form of government, but at bottom there is no perceptible difference between the republic of today and the colony of yesterday.

Such has been our indolence and remissness in legislative and judicial reform that we are put to shame by what the fathers of the Revolution accomplished amid the hardships, distress, and perils of their precarious campaigns. Without waiting for victory to crown their labors, they enacted laws providing a civil government, regular taxes, and a military establishment; they adopted a penal code and a code of procedure; they passed legislation prescribing the qualifications of voters and regulating marriage and divorce. But we, with all the machinery of government in our hands, and during a period of peace, have not even put on our statute books the measures called for by the Constitution - measures that are indispensable for the normal functioning of the government. We have never defined by statute political crimes, although they are mentioned in the Constitution. We have never passed a press law, although liberty of the press is guaranteed in the Constitution. We have never given legal definition to such fundamental civic rights as those of holding meetings and forming associations. We have failed to legislate regarding such all-important subjects as agriculture, commerce, immigration, and labor.

When Spanish rule terminated, a few indispensable modifications in the existing laws were made by decree of the American Governor-General, and certain general provisions governing elections, the Civil Service, and provincial and municipal administration were drafted by his Advisory Council. But we still retain unchanged practically all the colonial laws in force in Cuba before 1899; although Spain herself has subsequently modified these laws at home and brought them up to date.

Not only is our system of law thus antiquated, but it is in the utmost confusion, because it has been amended piecemeal and at haphazard by conflicting and sometimes unintelligible orders of the American Governor-General during the period of intervention, and by our own subsequent enactments.

But we need to reform more than our laws. We must reform our customs. The stagnation, and even the retrogression, of our administrative and political life could hardly be more complete and disastrous than it is. Our republican practice still copies servilely what four centuries of colonial corruption taught us. Nearly every public evil from which we suffered during the Spanish régime, and against which we so bitterly protested from the platform, in the press, and on the battlefield, we have perpetuated of our own free will under the Republic. Indeed we have in many cases aggravated these evils.

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I have already referred to the failure of Congress to pass needed and beneficial legislation. Let me now speak of some of the detrimental laws that body has enacted. During our twenty-two years of self-government we have not only neglected the pressing legal reforms that the nation demands, but we have passed many laws for the special benefit of private enterprises and individuals, to the serious loss of the public treasury and the injury of the general welfare. Members of Congress have benefited by some of these bills, and have profited by their parliamentary immunity to escape the legal consequences of their corrupt acts.

Our political parties have no differences of principle to distinguish them from one another, and no ideals to recommend them to the voters. The candidates whom they run, with a few commendable exceptions, are nominated by rigged-and-bought conventions and are not men qualified either by ability or character for public office. The consequence is that the citizens elected to legislative and executive positions in the Central Government, the provinces, and the municipalities are not men of the people's choice, but are appointees of caciques and politicians whose influence or whose money enables them to put in public office agents who serve their personal interest at the expense of the country and the general welfare.

Our national treasury has become the private estate of the men at the head of the Government and of their political supporters, friends, and relatives. We have developed a specific political conscience which permits men of spotless character in private life, model husbands and fathers, to act in public office with a total disregard for the standards of honorable conduct they would observe in private business. The administration of justice is not always gratuitous or impartial, and the abuse of the pardoning power nullifies the labors of the magistrates who are competent and honest.

As in the days of the colony, our streets are filled with hawkers of lottery tickets, and the cockpit and games of chance still undermine the morals of rich and poor alike in both city and country.

Our public-school system is going from bad to worse, and illiteracy is increasing at a rate terrifying to those who stop to think, and who have the future of the Republic at heart. This retrogression and disorganization is manifest, not only in our primary schools, but also in our institutions of secondary and higher instruction. Even in the university, which aspires to be the supreme centre of our national culture, professors are often appointed in precisely the same way, and for the very same reasons, as petty ward-officials.

We have given no attention to improving our racial stock. It is the same that it was in colonial days. We have not tried to attract immigrants who would fortify our blood and identify themselves permanently with the fortunes of our country. Today, as yesterday, Spanish immigrants from certain provinces of the Peninsula continue to flock to our shores. They are good, industrious fellows, but are qualified for a very limited range of vocations. And to make comparison between colonial yesterday and republican today more striking, we still import, in defiance of our immigration laws, just as we did in olden times, cargoes of Chinamen practically bought by the head, who take bread from the mouths of our native Cuban workers. And if the slave trade has ceased, we still have indentured Negro-labor, the principal difference being

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that instead of coming, as formerly, from Africa, it now comes from Jamaica and Haiti . . . .

Furthermore, in this very year 1924, Republican Cuba, where there is complete separation of Church and State, has revived the religious question, forgetting that our Constitution guarantees complete liberty of conscience to all.

My space does not permit me to dwell further on these problems. I have merely enumerated them, in order that my patriotic fellow-citizens may examine and consider them thoughtfully. As great Varona once said: 'Our unhappy past suddenly rises before us, to throw in our teeth the taunt that we have fought, labored, and bled in vain. The generation of Cubans that preceded us, and that showed itself so great in its hour of sacrifice, may well regard us with astonishment and grief, and ask, bewildered, if this is the result of its labor - of the labor to which it devoted its heart and its life. The monster it thought it had crushed is still alive. The serpent of the fable has reunited its severed parts, that the keen blade of the hero had cleft asunder. Republican Cuba is the twin sister of colonial Cuba.'

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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9-1

1925 2657-9-12

MAR 28 1925

SUBJECT Celebration of the Ratification of the Hay-Quesada Treaty. (3660)

To: The A. C. of S., G-2.

From The Military Attaché, Havana, Cuba.

No. 2577 *Date* March 23, 1925. *19*

Replying to No. *Date* *19*

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. MAR 28 1925

1. I am enclosing herewith clipping from the HAVANA POST quoting the various local papers in connection with the celebration of the ratification of the Hay-Quesada Treaty.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

MIL. INTEL. DIV.
MAR 30 1925
WAR DEPARTMENT

2657-95

SUBJECT Havana University Students Protest against Fines Imposed by Correctional Court on Students. (2790)

To: The A. C. of S., G-2.

From The Military Attaché, Havana, Cuba.

No. 2578 *Date* March 24, *19* 25

Replying to No. *Date* MAR 28 1925 *19*

RECEIVED G/2 W.D.

1. At about noon Saturday, the 21st instant, about three hundred students of the Havana University staged a parade in protest against fines imposed by the Correctional Court of Havana on Mella, Alvarez and Fernandez Sanchez, students, for their manifiesto against the Isle of Pines demonstration on Wednesday, the 18th instant.

Upon approaching the presidential palace the students were shouting "death to Zayas," "down with imperialism," and "down with Americans." At this point they were met by the police who attempted to halt their march and ordered them to disperse. This order the students answered with a volley of stones and bricks, some of them striking and wounding several policemen, including Assistant Chief of Police Pedro de Cárdenas.

Police reserves called to the scene then charged against the students, battering them with clubs and firing their revolvers into the air. The students continued to resist the police for some time and many of both sides were badly beaten. After about ten minutes of rioting, the police were able to gain complete control and the students dispersed. A number of the students, including their leaders, were apprehended and jailed. Charges of sedition will probably be preferred against these.

Shortly after this battle between the students and the police, the students of the School of Medicine hoisted over their school a flag bearing the inscription "down with corrupted judges."

2. The national police of Havana on this occasion displayed the same energy and efficiency that has given them the reputation of one of the best police forces in the world.

3. Enclosed herewith is an editorial from yesterday's "Evening News," of Havana, relating to this subject.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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3-1 1925 2657-G-254

APR 8 27

WAR DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT ..... Translations from the Havana Press. (3090)

To: ..... The A. G. of S., G-2.

From ..... The Military Attaché, Havana, Cuba.

No. 2589 Date April 3, 1925. , 19

Replying to No. ..... Date ..... , 19

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. APR 9 1925
M. I. I.A. & N.B. 4/9

1. Attached are translations from local papers of April 2 and 3. With reference to the article from EL MUNDO, of April third, on page 2, regarding new cabinet members, the list given therein so far as it goes is correct, as is also the forecast regarding the probable appointments to the secretaryships of the Departments of Sanitation, Agriculture, and Public Instruction.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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1-1 1925 2657-f-754 APR 8
WAR DEPARTMENT

April 2, 1925 (Afternoon)
April 3rd (Morning)

HERALDO DE CUBA - April 2nd.

Article commenting upon the fact that the intentions of President Zayas to abolish the four per cent tax, is a new form of the "administrative tyranny" of the President; that this tax as well as all other taxes, exist by virtue of laws enacted by Congress, and the President has no right to abolish any tax without the express consent and authorization of Congress.

The National Federation of Economic Corporations will carefully study the existing railroad conflict for the purpose of trying to find a friendly settlement.

Cable despatch from Washington announcing that the American Secretary of State has been elected President of the Pan-American Union. His election was by the unanimous vote of the members present; the Ambassadors from Chile and Peru being absent.

Heraldo de Cuba is against the purposes to expropriate some lands occupied by "Las Animas" Hospital, stating that, in the first place, this constitutes a scandalous graft, and besides, said hospital should not be permitted to remain in an urbanized section of the city.

EDITORIAL, very unfavorably commenting upon the actions of the session of Congress which has just ended, and stating that the closing period has been marked by little and useless work on the part of the Senate, and by no work at all on the part of the House of Representatives; and that the House did not even have the courtesy of complying with the petition of ladies who requested the approval of a law of subsidies to asylums and charitable institutions. On the other hand, the Senate has passed, without any debates, laws such as that concerning strikes, the nationalization of the Clergy, and that authorizing the professors of Institutes to teach in private schools, which constitutes a severe blow to secondary instruction in Cuba.....

The President has authorized the Secretary of Public Instruction to spend $10,000.00 in the purchase of paintings by two famous Spanish painters who were recently in Cuba: Zuloaga and Uranga.

The new members of the House of Representatives will take possession of office next Monday.

LA DISCUSION - April 2, 1925.

Article stating that Dr. Zayas will not recommend anyone for the posts to be filled by members of the Popular Party in the Cabinet of General Machado, and he has only given to Machado a list containing ten names. The portfolios reserved for the Populars are: Public Instruction, Agriculture and Sanitation. It is believed that Machado will appoint: Dr. Portela, Secretary of Agriculture; Dr. Iturralde, Secretary of Public Instruction, and Dr. Pereda, Secretary of Sanitation.

The deed of purchase of lands from Mr. Barlow, was signed yesterday. This paper states that other claims will immediately follow, in connection with the lands occupied by Camp Columbia.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

LA PRENSA - April 2, 1925.

Mr. Otto Carl Mohr, the new Minister of Denmark in Cuba, presented his credentials this morning. -- The meeting of the Cabinet scheduled for this afternoon, has been called off. -- The President has signed a decree granting an appropriation of $65,000.00 to commence the work of repair of the streets of Santa Clara. -- Another appropriation of $6,638.74 was granted for repairs of streets of the town of Jaguey Grande.

The Secretary of the Treasury announced that the revenues collected by the National Treasury on April 1st amounted to the sum of $1.114,284.37.

The "Banquet of the People" in honor of Ambassador Torriente, organized by the Directors of the Habana newspapers, will take place on April 9th in the National Theatre.

LA NOCHE - April 2, 1925.

The Professional Men of Cuba who are organizing the banquet in honor of Dr. Torriente, held a meeting yesterdays in the office of Dr. Hernandez Miyares, and decided to invite all the professionals to be present at the wharf tomorrow afternoon to welcome Dr. Torriente. It was also resolved that the banquet will take place at the National Theatre on April 16th at 9:00 P.M. Adhesions to this banquet are received by Dr. Hernandez Miyares, Ricla 98, and by Dr. Carlos M. Calvet, at the office of Dr. Bustamante, Aguacate 128.

EDITORIAL, commenting upon the necessity of reorganizing the foreign service of Cuba, as many of its members discredit Cuba.

Dr. Hernandez Miyares publishes an article stating that the invitations for a banquet in honor of Dr. Torriente at the Hotel Telegrafo which are being sent out, have nothing to do with the banquet organized by the professional men of Cuba and which will take place at the National Theatre. The adhesions to the banquet in the National Theatre are only received in the offices of Dr. Hernandez Miyares and of Dr. Bustamante.

EL MUNDO - April 3, 1925.

This paper refers for ~~xxxx~~ the first time to the first Cabinet of General Machado, and states that the Secretaries which he will appoint, are:

Presidency:	Viriato Gutierrez
State:	Carlos Manuel de Cespedes
Justice:	Jesus Maria Barraque
Treasury:	Enrique Hernandez Cartaya
Interior:	Rogerio Zayas Bazan
Public Works:	Carlos Miguel de Cespedes.

Duplicated in N.Y. Times, April 4/25

The Popular Party has not yet suggested the names of the persons who are to occupy the portfolios assigned to said Party. However, this paper believes that Dr. Pereda or General Gispert will go to the Department of Sanitation; Carlos Portela or Nemesio del Busto to the Department of Agriculture; and Dr. Iturralde will probably go to the Department of Public Instruction. Nothing has yet been decided as to the Department of War and Navy.

According to reports received from Washington by the American Embassy, instructions have been sent to the Customs

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

authorities to grant special courtesies to General Machado on his arrival at Key West. General Machado will be received by President Coolidge on April 15th, and a banquet will be given in his honor in the White House on April 16th.

DIARIO DE LA MARINA - April 3, 1925.

Interview with Dr. Narciso Garay, Minister of Panama, in which he regrets the absence of the United from the League of Nations; to the cordial relations existing between the United States and Panama, and to the spirit of justice of the American people.

The following appropriations were granted by the President yesterday: $500,000.00 for the continuation of the work of construction and reconstruction of the streets of Habana; $128,750.00 for peving the Malecon, from Maceo Park to the "Maine" Monument, and $65,000.00 for the repair of the streets of Santa Clara.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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DEPT. STATE
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
1925 APR 18
2657-98
WAR DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT Cuban Congress Initiates Twelfth Legislative Period. (3210)

To: The A. C. of S., G-2.

From The Military Attaché, Havana, Cuba. M.I. I.A. E.B. 4/20

No. 2592 Date April 7, 1925. 19

Replying to No. Date APR 13 1925 19

1. The Cuban Congress yesterday initiated its twelfth legislative period with the renovation of about half the members of both houses. Senator Clemente Vazquez Bello, Speaker of the last House of Representatives, who was elected to the Senate from Santa Clara Province during the last elections, was, in the first session of the Senate yesterday, elected President of that body. The selection of the Speaker of the House of Representatives has not yet been made, but present indications are that Dr. Ramón Zaydin will probably be chosen.

2. The following is a list of the new members of the twelfth Cuban Congress as now constituted.

The new Representatives are:

PINAR DEL RIO:-Liberals: Heliodoro Gil Cruz, Martin Mora Diaz; Conservatives: Marcelino I. Garriga, Oscar Pino y Ponce de Leon, Pedro Reyes Valerio.

HABANA - Liberals: Federico G. de la Cuesta Cardenas, Jose R. del Cueto Sanchez, Gustavo Gonzalez Beauville, Rafael Guas Inclan, Giordano Hernandez Dou, Ismael Martinez Rivera, Raul Navarrete; Conservatives: Vito M. Candia y de Leon, Carlos M. de la Cruz Ugarte, Armando Chardiet Sagarduy, Agustin del Pino Alvarez; Populars: Jose Marcel Alfonso Pena, Carmelo Urquiaga Padilla.

MATANZAS - Liberals: Agustin Gronlier Sardinas, Prisciliano Piedra, Juan J. Rodriguez Ramirez; Conservatives: Jose M. Fernandez Soto, Daniel Lima Reyes; Andres Trujillo Zequeira.

SANTA CLARA - Liberals: Rafael Alfonso Alvarez, Alvaro Alvera Suarez, Octavio Barrero Velasco, Ricardo Campos Martinez, Manuel Capestany Abreu, Santiago C. Claret Marti, Ernesto Menlez Penate, Francisco Zayas Arrieta; Conservatives: Alberto Aragones Machado, Justo P. Carrillo Ruiz, Domingo Nazabal Castano, Santiago Rey Gonzalez, Pastor del Rio Carrillo, Manuel Villalon Verdaguer.

CAMAGUEY - Liberals: Julio C. del Castillo Perera, Abelardo Mola Mola; Conservatives: Emilio Martinez Quiroga, Ricardo Padierne Ochoa.

ORIENTE - Liberals: Anselmo Alliegro Mila, Leon Hortzel Pastrana, Armando Infante Maldonado, Jose Raul Mestre Tellechea, Manuel Planas y Rodriguez del Rey, Carlos de la Torre Llaurado, Jose I. Urbino; Conservatives: Pedro Goderich Bravo, Antonio Rodriguez Fuentes, Emilio Santa Cruz Pacheco, Francisco Soto Izquierdo, Antonio Bravo Acosta, Ricardo Villaverde Salcedo; Popular: Eladino Remirez Leon.

The total number of Representatives is 115, the legal quorum therefore 58. The House of Representatives is composed now of 57 Liberals, 50 Conservatives and 8 Populars.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

The new Senators are:

PINAR DEL RIO - Liberals: Faustino Guerrera; Conservatives: Wifredo Fernandez Vega.
HABANA - Liberals: Alberto Barreras, Lorenzo Fernandez Hermo.
MATANZAS - Liberals: Horacio Diaz Pardo; Populars: Celso Cuellar.
SANTA CLARA - Liberals: Clemente Vazquez Bello; Populars: Agustin Cruz Caballero.
CAMAGUEY - Liberals: Modesto Maidique; Populars: Jose Manuel Cortina.
ORIENTE - Liberals: Alfonso Duque de Heredia; Populars: Jose Manacho Pardo.

As now constituted the Senate is composed of 11 Liberals, 8 Conservatives, and 5 Populars.

3. It will be recalled that General Machado was elected President on a Liberal-Popular coalition ticket.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT

3-1 2657-J-250

APR 23

SUBJECT Membership of the Twelfth Cuban Congress. (3210)

From The Military Attaché, Havana, Cuba.

No. 2594 Date April 17, 1925, 19

Replying to No. Date, 19

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. APR 22 1925

1. There is enclosed herewith a list of the members of the Senate and House of Representatives as now constituted.

H. C. Clark

H. C. CLARK,
Captain, J.A.G.D.,
Asst. Military Attaché.

Binding Margin

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By AZ NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT

LIST OF SENATORS

PINAR DEL RIO PROVINCE

Daniel Compte y Molina
José R. Villalón y Sánchez
*Wilfredo Fernández Vega
*Faustino Guerra y Puente

HABANA PROVINCE

Agustín G. Osuna y Lapiedra
Manuel Varona Suárez
*Alberto Barrera Fernández
*Lorenzo Fernández Hermo

MATANZAS PROVINCE

Fausto G. Menocal Deop
Manuel Vera Verdura
*Horacio Diaz Pardo
*Celso Cuéllar del Río

SANTA CLARA PROVINCE

Ricardo Dolz y Arango
Manuel Martinezmoles
*Clemente Vázquez Bello
*Tinito Cruz y González

CAMAGUEY PROVINCE

Rosendo Collazo García
Adolfo Silva Medrano
*Modesto Maidique Venegas
*José Manuel Cortina

ORIENTE PROVINCE

Carlos González Clavel
Antonio Bravo Correoso
*Alfonso Duque de Heredia
*Tomás Camacho Padró

NOTE: * signifies NEW SENATORS.

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LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES

PINAR DEL RIO PROVINCE

Liberals

1. Salvador Diaz Valdés
* 2. Heliodoro Gil Cruz
3. César M. Madrid Vega
* 4. Martín Mora Díaz

Conservatives

1. Evelio Alvarez del Real
2. José Baldor Valdés
* 3. Marcelino I. Garriga
* 4. Oscar Pino y Ponce de León
* 5. Pedro Reyes Valerio
6. Antonio M. Rubio Linares

HABANA PROVINCE

Liberals

1. Félix Ayón Suárez
* 2. Federico G. de la Cuesta Cárdenas
3. Miguel M. Gómez Arías
* 4. José R. del Cueto Sánchez
* 5. Gustavo González Beauville
* 6. Rafael Guas Inclán
7. Carlos Guas Pagueras
* 8. Giordano Hernández Dou
9. Alfredo Horn do Suárez
*10. Ismael Martínez Rivera
*11. Raul Navarrete
12. Fernando Ortiz Fernández
13. Ricardo de la Torriente y Torriente
14. Ramón Zaydín y Márquez Sterling

Conservatives

1. Miguel A. Aguiar Ballori
2. Miguel Albarrán Monedero
* 3. Vito M. Candia y de León
4. Manuel Castellanos Mena
* 5. Carlos M. de la Cruz Ugarte
* 6. Armando Chardiet Sagarduy
7. Germán S. López Sánchez
* 8. Agustín del Pino Alvarez
9. Gustavo Pino Quintana
10. Emilio Sardiñas Zamora

Populars

* 1. José Manuel Alfonso Peña
2. José Ramón Cruella Reyes
* 3. Carmelo Urquiaga Padilla
4. Enrique Zayas Ruiz

MATANZAS PROVINCE

Liberals

1. Francisco María Fernández Hernánde
2. Amado Finalés Padrón
* 3. Agustín Gronlier Sardiñas
4. Aquilino Lombard Thondike
* 5. Prisciliano Piedra
* 6. Juan J. Rodríguez Ramírez

Conservatives

1. Antonio de Armas Nodal
* 2. José M. Fernández Soto
3. Domingo L cuona Mádan
* 4. Daniel Lima Reyes
* 5. Andrés Trujillo Zequeira
6. Octavio Verdeja Neyra

Populars

1. Francisco Campos Prieto

SANTA CLARA PROVINCE

Liberals

1. Rogelio Albert Aroix
* 2. Rafael Alfonso Alvarez
* 3. Alvaro Alvera Suárez
* 4. Octavio Barrero Velazco
* 5. Ricardo Campos Martínez
* 6. Manuel Capestany Abreu
* 7. Santiago C. Claret Martí
8. Juan Espinosa Espinosa
9. Santiago García Cañizarts
10. Manuel Hernández Leal
*11. Ernesto Méndez Peñate
12. Emilio San Pedro Hernández
13. Germán Woltar del Río
*14. Francisco Zayas Arrieta

Conservatives

* 1. Alberto Aragonés Machado
* 2. Justo P. Carrillo Ruiz
3. Ramón Echeverría Mora
4. Jorge García Montes
5. José A. Mulkay Martínez
* 6. Domingo Nazábal Castaño
7. Julio Ponce y Suárez del Villar
* 8. Santiago Rey González
* 9. Pastor del Río Carrillo
10. Manuel Ruiz Rojas
11. Donatilo Valdéz Aday
*12. Manuel Villalón Verdaguer

NOTE: * signifies NEW REPRESENTATIVES.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES (Continued)

CAMAGUEY PROVINCE

Liberals

* 1. Julio O. del Castillo Perera
2. Eliseo Figueroa Mirabal
* 3. Abelardo Mola Mola
4. Enrique Recio Agüero
5. Manuel Tomé Varona

Conservatives

1. Juan Cabrera Hernández
* 2. Emilio Martínez Quiroga
3. Federico Miranda Mola
* 4. Ricardo Padierne Ochoa

ORIENTE PROVINCE

Liberals

* 1. Anselmo Alliegro Milá
2. Porfirio Dellundé Báez
3. Diego Gassó Bombí
4. Quintín George Vernot
5. Manuel Hartmann Garrido
* 6. León Hirtzel Pastrana
* 7. Armando Infante Maldonado
8. Ramón de León Valdés
* 9. José Raul Mestre Tellechea
*10. Manuel Planas y Rodríguez del Rey
11. Américo Portuondo Hardy
12. Bartolomé Sagaró Benítez
*13. Carlos de la Torre Llauradó
*14. José I. Urbino

Conservatives

1. José Alberni Yance
2. Eduardo J. Beltrán Moreno
3. José Ramón Pino Paulino
4. Olimpo Fonseca Pérez
* 5. Pedro Goderich Bravo
6. Rafael Padirne Ochoa
* 7. Antonio Rodríguez Fuentes
* 8. Emilio Santa Cruz Pacheco
* 9. Francisco Soto Izquierdo
10. Alberto Silva Quiñones
*11. Antonio Bravo Acosta
*12. Ricardo Villaverde Salcedo

Populars

1. Elpidio Pérez
* 2. Eladio Ramírez León
3. Francisco Rodríguez Mojena

NOTE: * signifies NEW REPRESENTATIVES.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Results of the Second Session of the Twelfth Legislative Term of the Cuban Congress.

APR 21 1926

1. I am enclosing herewith the Ambassador's despatch of April 9 to the American Secretary of State, reporting the results of the second session of the twelfth legislative term of the Cuban Congress.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2759 Date: April 16, 1926.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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COPY

Habana, April 9, 1926.

No. 1393

The Honorable
The Secretary of State
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report concerning the results of the second session of the twelfth legislative term of the Cuban Congress, which commenced on November 3, 1925, and was concluded the third week of March, 1926. During this period forty-one sessions were held -- fifteen by the Senate and twenty-six by the House.

As a result of the second session the following laws were enacted:

Law granting another period of 12 months for registration of births.

Non reorganization of political parties and modifications of inscription restrictions contained in article 102 of the Electoral Code.

Law ordering Municipal Electoral Boards to reinscribe all voters appearing on the 1924 electoral census who were excluded by operation of article 88 of the Electoral Code.

Law providing that attorneys holding government posts except those who are members of the Cabinet and employed in the Department of Justice, may practice their professions.

Authorizing the Executive to apply surplus funds from all pension laws in force to the payment of pensions under special laws not yet included in the general budget.

Authorizing an extraordinary lottery drawing to raise funds for tourist propaganda.

Providing new personnel for Botanical Gardens of the University.

Amending Organic Law of the Judiciary so as to create new posts of District Attorneys.

Providing that time spent by attorneys in Department of Justice shall be considered as time spent in the practice of the law.

Granting a pension of $6,000 per annum to the widow and three daughters of ex Chief Justice Betancourt.

Creating the post of Inspector General of Secondary Instruction.

Granting a donation of $2500 to Mrs. Domitial Garcia for printing a book on Cuban artists.

Granting a pension of $6,000 per annum to the son of Capt. Miguel Campanioni.

Creating a new Municipal Court in Sancti Spiritus.

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Transferring the $6,000 pension of Col. Manuel Sanguily to his widow.

Authorizing the Executive to revise the present Customs Tariffs, make new schedules, extinguish present one and add new items.

Granting a pension of $1200 per annum to Maria Luisa Betancourt.

Providing salaries for members of the Provincial Councils.

Providing appropriation for expenses and salaries of offices of Delegate and Sub Delegate of Immigration and establishing a $2.00 tax on every resident of Cuba leaving the island.

Creating an Embassy in Madrid and a Legation for Poland, Czhecc Slovakia, Roumania and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croates and Slovenes.

Modifying an article of the mortgage law to conform to Cuban rules of majority being reached at 21 years.

Increasing the pay of teachers and personnel of the Institutes of Secondary Instruction.

Providing that no newspaper be allowed registration when its name is likely to lead to confusion with the name of an already existing newspaper.

Providing that in cases of seduction the seducer shall be acquitted if upon promising marriage to the victim she refuses to marry him.

Donation of $5,000 to Juan R. Xigues.

Authorizing the President to reorganize the land and sea forces.

Suspending for one year the collection of the 2% real estate tax from the sugar industry.

Registry Law (creation of new registries, subdivision of present registries, etc.)

Law authorizing the Executive to make amendments and suppression in the Registry Law.

Granting a donation of $12,000 to Col. Emilio Giro.

Authorizing the Executive to appoint the proper personnel for the Municipal courts in order to properly comply with the Non Reorganization Law of December 1925.

Repealing the $2 tax on residents leaving the island established by law of Feb. 10, 1926.

In addition the President vetoed: a bill granting a donation of $6,000 to the Veterans' Council of Holguin; a bill repealing the 2% real estate tax; a bill creating new courts and raising the category of courts in San Cristobal.

From the small number of bills vetoed it is apparent that little objectionable legislation reached the Executive. Considerable attention was given by Congress to the passage of banking legislation. Four important projects of this character were introduced: in the Senate, the Vazquez Bello

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Farm Loan Bank Bill; in the House, the German Lopez Bank Regulation Bill, the Santiago Rey Bank Legislation Bill, and a Bank of Issue Bill, the latter also presented by Señor Rey. None of these bills has reached the floor of Congress, and as stated in my last report on general conditions in regard to the Rey Bank of Issue Bill, there seems little likelihood of the passage of these measures.

The session was also marked by the introduction of anti-foreign or more properly "nationalistic" legislation, as for example, the Lopez and Rey banking bills, the Del Rio Insurance Regulation Act, and the Lombard and other labor bills.

The two measures which have provoked the largest degree of objection from the public are the Registry Law and the thirty-six Amnesty Bills. As previously reported the President caused the enactment of a supplementary Bill empowering him to modify the Registry Law before he would approve the latter. I have also cited the President's asserted intention to veto the thirty-five supplementary Amnesty Bills and not to approve the principal Amnesty Bill as it now stands.

Although further discussion may be given it at the third session which commenced on April 5th, the Newspaper Men's Retirement Bill, which has attracted considerable attention, seems to have been sidetracked. On the other hand, earnest effort has been directed towards protection of the sugar, and to a lesser extent, the tobacco industries. In this connection, the Cortina Sugar Defense Committee Bill and the Sugar Average Bill may be cited. The texts of both bills have been furnished the Department.

A further trend of the recent session which merits comment has been the tendency of Congress to delegate certain of its powers to the Executive. Characteristic of this trend is the authority granted the President to modify the Customs Tariff, to reorganize the Army and Navy, to appoint personnel of municipal courts for electoral purposes, and to modify and suppress objectionable features of the Registry Bill.

The session has been singularly free from the introduction of bills for Public Works due no doubt to the fact that the Public Works Law of July 15, 1925, provides for the construction of many public works which would otherwise have to be taken care of in separate legislation, and also to the circumstance that the tax on the public treasury to result from the Public Works Law necessarily limits the further obligations which the Department of Public Works may assume at this time.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HLW:L

E. H. Crowder.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT

DESTROYED AS REQ. BY Mj.Burleigh.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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One copy intended for the Resident Commissioner of Porto Rico in Washington, D.C.

One copy is for Bur. of Insular Affairs
Dept. of Commerce.
One copy also sent to Commissioner of Porto Rico

PORTO RICAN SOCIETY IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA.

From Consul Francis R. Stewart,
Santiago de Cuba, Cuba.

Date of preparation: 4/24/25.
Date of mailing : 4/24/25.

On November 9, 1924, there was organized in Santiago de Cuba a society of Porto Ricans under the name of "UNION PUERTORRIQUEÑA DE ORIENTE", its purpose being to bring together natives of Porto Rico who are residents of this city and the Province of Oriente for social and educational purposes and to render such charitable aid to its members as may become necessary.

The organization as originally founded, was headed by one ANTONIO PEREZ GROS, a native of Mayagüez, Porto Rico, having very extreme ideas, who immediately

endeavored

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endeavored to convert the "Union" into a machine for propaganda in favor of the independence of Porto Rico. Mr. Perez Gros' efforts in this direction were soon discovered, he and his supporters were expelled, and the society reorganized under new by-laws approved by the Governor of Oriente Province. Being now a non-partizan and non-political organization, natives of other countries who may be in sympathy with the ideas of its founders are permitted to become members also. The present membership of the union is near to seventy, and its progress may be considered quite satisfactory when the limited number of Porto Ricans living here is taken into consideration. If the "UNION PUERTORRIQUEÑA DE ORIENTE" continues to thrive it is the intention of its members to eventually found a clinic, or sanatorium, for the special benefit of its members and of the city of Santiago, as the Spaniards have done. The present officers of the society are as follows:

President:-	Jose R. Canet
Vice-President:-	Roman Velez
Executive Secretary:-	Luciano Salomon
Corresponding Secretary:-	Juan Villali
Treasurer:-	Luis Veles Salas

Trustees

Teodoro Luba
Maximino Pedraja
Juan Perez
Jose Pacheco
Romulo Beiro

Francis R. Stewart,
American Consul.

File No. 843.
FRS:jv

A true copy of the signed original.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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MILITARY INTEL. DIV.

4-1 1925 2657-Q-258 JUN 27

WAR DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT Proposed Conventions being Negotiated between the United States and Cuba. (3850)

From The Military Attaché, Havana, Cuba.

No. 2615 Date May 25, 1925, 19

Replying to No. Date JUN 2 1925, 19

1. I am enclosing herewith copies of four drafts of proposed conventions now being negotiated between the United States and Cuba, to wit,

a. Supplementary Convention for the Extradition on Account of Crimes and Offenses Committed against the Laws for the Suppression of the Traffic in Narcotics.

b. Convention with Cuba to suppress Smuggling.

c. Consular Convention.

d. Convention for the Prevention of Smuggling of Intoxicating Liquor into the United States.

2. During an interview between the President of Cuba and General Crowder, the Ambassador, on the 22nd instant, in which I acted as interpreter, President Machado expressed his tentative conformity to the consummation of these four treaties and said that he would immediately instruct the Cuban Secretary of State to take the necessary steps for their consummation.

3. With respect to the proposed Convention with Cuba to Suppress Smuggling and the Convention for the Prevention of Smuggling of Intoxicating Liquor into the United States, the President said that he had already issued orders to the proper Departments of his Government to put into effect their provisions without awaiting the formality of their ratification.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

Binding Margin

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Exec A
4-1 1925 2657-Q 718 3 JUN 31
WAR DEPARTMENT

Supplementary Convention for the Extradition on Account of Crimes and Offenses Committed against the Laws for the Suppression of the Traffic in Narcotics.

- - -

The President of the United States of America and The President of Cuba, being desirous of enlarging the list of crimes on account of which extradition may be granted with regard to certain offenses committed in the United States or in Cuba under the Treaty concluded between the United States and Cuba for the Mutual Extradition of Fugitives from Justice signed April 6, 1904, and the Protocol amending the Spanish text of this treaty signed December 6, 1904, with a view to the better administration of justice and the prevention of crime, have resolved to conclude a Supplementary Convention for this purpose and have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries, to wit:

The President of the United States of America:
Enoch H. Crowder, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Cuba, and

The President of Cuba:

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, which were found to be in good and proper form, have agreed to the following articles:

ARTICLE I

The following crimes are added to the list of crimes numbered 1 to 17 contained in Article II of the above mentioned Treaty, that is:

18. Crimes and offenses against the laws for the suppression of the traffic in narcotics.

ARTICLE II

The present Convention shall be considered as an integral part of the aforementioned Extradition Treaty signed December 6, 1904, which shall be read as if the lists of crimes therein contained had originally comprised the additional crimes specified and numbered 18 in Article I of the present Convention.

ARTICLE III

The present Convention shall take effect from the date of the exchange of ratifications and shall remain in force for a period of six months after either of the High Contracting Parties shall have given notice of a purpose to terminate it.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Supplementary Convention and have affixed their seals thereto.

Done in duplicate at the City of Habana this day of

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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4-1 1925 7657-J 258 JUN 31

Convention with Cuba to Suppress Smuggling.

- - -

The President of the United States of America and The President of Cuba, being desirous of suppressing smuggling between their respective countries and of assisting in the arrest and prosecution of persons violating the narcotic laws of the United States of America or of Cuba, have agreed to conclude a Convention to give effect to these purposes and have named as their Plenipotentiaries:

The President of the United States of America,
Enoch H. Crowder, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Cuba, and

The President of Cuba,

Who, having communicated to each other their respective full powers, which were found to be in due and proper form, have agreed upon the following articles:

ARTICLE I

The High Contracting Parties agree that the appropriate officers of the Governments of the United States of America and of Cuba respectively shall be required to furnish upon request to duly authorized officers of the other Government, information concerning clearances of vessels or the transportation of cargoes, shipments or loads of articles from the United States to Cuba or vice versa when the importation of the cargo carried or of articles transported is subject to the payment of duties; also to furnish information respecting clearances of vessels to any ports when there is ground to suspect that the owners or persons in possession of the cargo intend to smuggle it into the territory of the United States or of Cuba.

ARTICLE II

The High Contracting Parties agree that clearance from the United States or from Cuba shall be denied to any vessel carrying cargo consisting of articles the importation of which into the territory of the United States or of Cuba, as the case may be, is prohibited, when it is evident from the tonnage, size and general character of the vessel, or the length of the voyage and the perils or conditions of navigation attendant upon it, that the vessel will be unable to carry its cargo to the destination proposed in the application for clearance.

ARTICLE III

Each of the High Contracting Parties agrees with the other that property of all kinds in its possession which, having been stolen and brought into the territory of the United States or of Cuba, is seized by its customs authorities shall, when the owners are nationals of the other country, be returned to such owners, subject to satisfactory proof of such ownership and the absence of any collusion, and subject moreover to payment of the expenses of the seizure and detention and to the abandonment of any claims by the owners against the customs, or the customs officers, warehousemen or agents, for compensation or damages for the seizure, detention, warehousing or keeping of the property.

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ARTICLE IV

The High Contracting Parties reciprocally agree to exchange information concerning the names and activities of all persons known or suspected to be engaged in violations of the narcotic, customs, liquor and or immigration laws of the United States or of Cuba.

ARTICLE V

It is agreed that the customs and other administrative officials of the respective Governments of the United States and of Cuba shall upon request be directed to attend as witnesses and to produce such available records and files or certified copies thereof as may be considered essential to the trial of civil or criminal cases, and as may be produced compatibly with the public interest.

The cost of transcripts of records, depositions, certificates and letters regatory in civil or criminal cases, and the cost of first-class transportation both ways, maintenance and other proper expenses involved in the attendance of such witnesses shall be paid by the nation requesting their attendance at the time of their discharge by the court from further attendance at such trial. Letters rogatory and commissions shall be executed with all possible despatch and copies of official records or documents shall be certified promptly by the appropriate officials in accordance with the provisions of the laws of the respective countries.

ARTICLE VI

This Convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Habana as soon as possible. The Convention shall come into effect at the expiration of ten days from the date of the exchange of ratifications, and it shall remain in force for one year. If upon the expiration of one year after the Convention shall have been in force no notice is given by either party of a desire to terminate the same, it shall continue in force until thirty days after either party shall have given notice to the other of a desire to terminate the Convention.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Convention in duplicate and have thereunto affixed their seals.

Done at the city of Habana this day of one thousand nine hundred and twenty-five.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
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WAR DEPARTMENT

CONSULAR CONVENTION

The President of the United States of America and The President of Cuba, being mutually desirous of defining the rights, privileges, and immunities of consular officers of the two countries and deeming it expedient to conclude a consular convention for that purpose, have accordingly named as their Plenipotentiaries:

The President of the United States of America,
Enoch H. Crowder, Ambassador Extradrdinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Cuba, and

The President of Cuba

who, having communicated their full powers found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following articles:

I. Most favored nation consular privileges.

II. Extent to which consul is subject to local court jurisdiction.

III. Exemption from taxation.

IV. Arms and flag. Immunity of consular offices and archives. Acting officers.

V. Consuls may apply to authorities in protecting nationals.

VI. Notarial powers.

VII. Shipping disputes.

VIII. Estates of deceased nationals.

IX. Receipt for moneys due non-resident nationals.

X. Right to inspect all ships bound for ports of country appointing consul.

XI. Free entry of official supplies and personal property.

XII. Salvage of shipwrecked vessels.

XIII. Ratification; duration.

ARTICLE I.

Each of the high contracting parties agrees to receive from the other, consular officers in those of its ports, places, and cities, where it may be convenient and which are open to consular representatives of any foreign country.

Consular officers of each of the high contracting parties shall, after entering upon their duties, enjoy reciprocally in the territories of the other all the rights, privileges, exemptions and immunities which are enjoyed by officers of the same grade of the most favored nation. As official agents, such officers shall be entitled to the high consideration of all officials, national or local, with whom they have official intercourse in the State which receives them.

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The Government of each of the high contracting parties shall furnish free of charge the necessary exequatur of such consular officers of the other as present a regular commission signed by the chief executive of the appointing State and under its great seal; and it shall issue to a subordinate or substitute consular officer duly appointed by an accepted superior consular officer with the approbation of his Government, or by any other competent officer of that Government, such documents as according to the laws of the respective countries shall be requisite for the exercise by the appointee of the consular function. On the exhibition of an exequatur, or other document issued in lieu thereof to such subordinate, such consular officer shall be permitted to enter upon his duties and to enjoy the rights, privileges, and immunities granted by this treaty.

ARTICLE II.

Consular officers, nationals of the State by which they are appointed, shall be exempt from arrest, except when charged with the commission of offenses locally designated as crimes other than misdemeanors and subjecting the individual guilty thereof to punishment. Such officers shall be exempt from military billetings and from service of any military or naval administrative or police character whatsoever.

In criminal cases the attendance at the trial by a consular officer as a witness may be demanded by the prosecution or defense. The demand shall be made with all possible regard for the consular dignity and the duties of the office, and there shall be compliance on the part of the consular officer.

Consular officers shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the courts in the State which receives them in civil cases, subject to the proviso, however, that when the officer is a national of the State which appoints him and is engaged in no private occupation for gain his testimony shall be taken orally or in writing at his residence or office and with due regard for his convenience. The officer should, however, voluntarily give his testimony at the trial whenever it is possible to do so without serious interference with his official duties.

ARTICLE III.

Consular officers, including employees in a consulate, nationals of the State by which they are appointed other than those engaged in private occupations for gain within the State where they exercise their functions shall be exempt from all taxes, national, state, provincial, and municipal, levied upon their persons or upon their property, except taxes levied on account of the possession or ownership of immovable property situated in or income derived from property of any kind situated or belonging within the territories of the State within which they exercise their functions. All consular officers and employees, nationals of the State appointing them, shall be exempt from the payment of taxes on the salary, fees, or wages received by them in compensation for their consular services.

Land and buildings situated in the territories of either high contracting party, of which the other high contracting party is the legal or equitable owner and which are used exclusively for governmental purposes by that owner, shall be exempt from taxation of every kind, national, state, provincial, and municipal, other than assessments levied for services or local public improvements by which the premises are benefited.

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ARTICLE IV.

Consular officers may place over the outer door of their respective offices the arms of their State with an appropriate inscription designating the official office. Such officers may also hoist the flag of their country on their offices including those situated in the capitals of the two countries. They may likewise hoist such flag over any boat or vessel employed in the exercise of the consular function.

The consular offices and archives shall at all times be inviolable. They shall in no circumstances be subjected to invasion by any authorities of any character within the country where such offices are located. Nor shall the authorities under any pretext make any examination or seizure of papers or other property deposited within a consular office. Consular offices shall not be used as places of asylum. No consular officer shall be required to produce official archives in court or testify as to their contents.

Upon the death, incapacity, or absence of a consular officer having no subordinate consular officer at his post, secretaries or chancellors, whose official character may have previously been made known to the Government of the State where the consular function was exercised, may temporarily exercise the consular function of the deceased or incapacitated or absent consular officer; and while so acting shall enjoy all the rights, perogatives, and immunities granted to the incumbent.

ARTICLE V.

Consular officers, nationals of the State by which they are appointed, may, within their respective consular districts, address the authorities, national, state, provincial, or municipal, for the purpose of protecting their countrymen in the enjoyment of their rights accruing by treaty or otherwise. Complaint may be made for the infraction of those rights. Failure upon the part of the proper authorities to grant redress or to accord protection may justify interposition through the diplomatic channel, and in the absence of a diplomatic representative a consul general or the consular officer stationed at the capital may apply directly to the Government of the country.

ARTICLE VI.

Consular officers may, in pursuance of the laws of their own country take, at any appropriate place within their respective districts, the depositions of any occupants of vessels of their own country, or of any national or, or, of any person having permanent residence within the territories of their own country. Such officers may draw up, attest, certify, and authenticate unilateral acts, deeds, and testamentary dispositions of their countrymen, and also contracts to which a countryman is a party. They may draw up, attest, certify, and authenticate written instruments of any kind purporting to express or embody the conveyance or encumbrance of property of any kind within the territory of the State by which such officers are appointed, and unilateral acts, deeds, testamentary dispositions, and contracts relating to property situated, or business to be transacted within, the territories of the State by which they are appointed embracing unilateral acts, deeds, testamentary dispositions, or agreements executed solely by nationals of the State within which such officers exercise their functions.

Instruments and documents thus executed and copies and translations thereof when duly authenticated under his official seal by the consular officer shall be received as evidence in the territories of the contracting parties as original documents or authenticated copies, as the case may be, and shall have the same force and effect as if drawn by and executed before a notary or other public officer duly authorized in the country by which the consular officer was appointed, provided always that such documents shall have been drawn and executed in conformity to the laws and regulations of the country where they are designed to take effect.

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ARTICLE VII.

A consular officer shall have exclusive jurisdiction over controversies arising out of the internal order of private vessels of his country, and shall alone exercise jurisdiction in cases, wherever arising, between officers and crews pertaining to the enforcement of discipline on board, provided the vessel and the persons charged with wrongdoing shall have entered a port within his consular district. Such an officer shall also have jurisdiction over issues concerning the adjustment of wages and the execution of contracts relating thereto provided the local laws so permit.

When an act committed on board of a private vessel under the flag of the State by which the consular officer has been appointed and within the territorial waters of the State to which he has been appointed constitutes a crime according to the laws of that State, subjecting the person guilty thereof to punishment as a criminal, the consular officer shall not exercise jurisdiction except in so far as he is permitted to do so by the local law.

A consulr officer may freely invoke the assistance of the local police authorities in any matter pertaining to the maintenance of internal order on board of a vessel under the flag of his country within the territorial waters of the State to which he is appointed, and upon such a request the requisite assistance shall be given.

A consular officer may appear with the officers and crews of vessels under the flag of his country before the judicial authorities of the State to which he is appointed to render assistance as an interpreter or agent.

ARTICLE VIII.

In case of the death of a national of either high contracting party in the territory of the other without having in the territory of his decease any known heirs or testamentary executors by him appointed, the competent local authorities shall at once inform the nearest consular officer of the State of which the deceased was a national of the fact of his death, in order that necessary information may be forwarded to the parties interested.

In case of the death of a national of either of the high contracting parties without will or testament, in the territory of the other high contracting party, the consular officer of the State of which the deceased was a national and within whose district the deceased made his home at the time of death, shall, so far as the laws of the country permit and pending the appointment of an administrator and until letters of administration have been granted, be deemed qualified to take charge of the property left by the decedent for the preservation and protection of the same. Such consular officer shall have the right to be appointed as administrator within the discretion of a tribunal or other agency controlling the administration of estates provided the laws of the place where the estate is administered so permit.

Whenever a consular officer accepts the office of administrator of the estate of a deceased countryman, he subjects himself as such to the jurisdiction of the tribunal or other agency making the appointment for all necessary purposes to the same extent as a national of the country where he was appointed.

ARTICLE IX.

A consular officer of either high contracting party may in behalf of his nonresident countrymen receipt for their distributive shares derived from estates in process of probate or accruing under the provisions of so-called workmen's compensation laws or other like statutes provided he remit any funds so received through the appropriate agencies of his Government to the proper distributees, and provided further that he furnish to the authority or agency making distribution through him reasonable evidence of such remission.

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ARTICLE X.

A consular officer of either high contracting party shall have the right to inspect, within the ports of the other high contracting party within his consular district, the private vessels of any flag destined or about to clear for ports of the country appointing him in order to observe the sanitary conditions and measures taken on board such vessels, and to be enabled thereby to execute intelligently bills of health and other documents required by the laws of his country, and to inform his Government concerning the extent to which its sanitary regulations have been observed at ports of departure by vessels destined to its ports, with a view to facilitating entry of such vessels therein.

ARTICLE XI.

Each of the high contracting parties agrees to permit the entry free of all duty and without examination of any kind of all furniture, equipment, and supplies intended for official use in the consular offices of the other, and to extend to such consular officers of the other and their families and suites as are its nationals, the privilege of entry free of duty of their baggage and all other personal property, whether accompanying the officer to his post, or imported at any time during his incumbency thereof; provided, nevertheless, that no article, the importation of which is prohibited by the law of either of the high contracting parties, may be brought into its territories.

It is understood, however, that this privilege shall not be extended to consular officers who are engaged in any private occupation for gain in the countries to which they are accredited, save with respect to governmental supplies.

ARTICLE XII.

All proceedings relative to the salvage of vessels of either high contracting party wrecked upon the coasts of the other shall be directed by the consular officer of the country to which the vessel belongs and within whose district the wreck may have occurred. Pending the arrival of such officer, who shall be immediately informed of the occurrence, the local authorities shall take all necessary measures for the protection of persons and the preservation of wrecked property. The local authorities shall not otherwise interfere than for the maintenance of order, the protection of the interests of the salvors, if these do not belong to the crews that have been wrecked, and to carry into effect the arrangements made for the entry and exportation of the merchandise saved. It is understood that such merchandise is not to be subjected to any customhouse charges, unless it be intended for consumption in the country where the wreck may have taken place.

The intervention of the local authorities in these different cases shall occasion no expense of any kind, except such as may be caused by the operations of salvage and the preservation of the goods saved, together with such as would be incurred under similar circumstances by vessels of the nation.

ARTICLE XIII.

This convention shall be ratified by the High Contracting Parties in accordance with their respective laws, and the ratifications thereof shall be exchanged at Habana as soon as possible. It shall take effect from the day of the exchange of the ratifications and shall thereafter remain in force until one year after either of the High Contracting Parties has given notice to the other of a desire to terminate it.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Convention in duplicate and have thereunto affixed their seals.

Done in the City of Habana this

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.

Doc 4
A-1 1925 7657-9-238 JUN 31

WAR DEPARTMENT

Convention for the Prevention of Smuggling of Intoxicating Liquor into the United States.

- - -

The President of the United States of America and The President of Cuba, being desirous of avoiding any difficulties which might arise between them in connection with the laws in force in the United States on the subject of alcoholic beverages have decided to conclude a Convention for that purpose, and have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries:

The President of the United States of America,
Enoch H. Crowder, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Cuba and

The President of Cuba,

•

who, having communicated their full powers found in good and due form, have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

The High Contracting Parties declare that it is their firm intention to uphold the principle that 3 marine miles extending from the coastline outwards and measured from low-water mark constitute the proper limits of territorial waters.

ARTICLE II

(1) The President of Cuba agrees that he will raise no objection to the boarding of private vessels under the Cuban flag outside the limits of territorial waters by the authorities of the United States, its territories or possessions in order that enquiries may be addressed to those on board and an examination be made of the ship's papers for the purpose of ascertaining whether the vessel or those on board are endeavoring to import or have imported alcoholic beverages into the United States, its territories or possessions in violation of the laws there in force. When such enquiries and examination show a reasonable ground for suspicion, a search of the vessel may be instituted.

(2) If there is reasonable cause for belief that the vessel has committed or is committing or attempting to commit an offense against the laws of the United States, its territories or possessions prohibiting the importation of alcoholic beverages, the vessel may be seized and taken into a port of the United States, its territories or possessions for adjudication in accordance with such laws.

(3) The rights conferred by this article shall not be exercised at a greater distance from the coast of the United States, its territories or possessions, than can be traversed in one hour by the vessel suspected of endeavoring to commit the offense. In cases, however, in which the liquor is intended to be conveyed to the United States its territories or possessions by a vessel other than the one boarded and searched, it shall be the speed of such other vessel and not the speed of the vessel boarded, which shall determine the distance from the coast at which the right under this article can be exercised.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ARTICLE III

No penalty or forfeiture under the laws of the United States shall be applicable or attach to alcoholic liquors or to vessels or persons by reason of the carriage of such liquors, when such liquors are listed as sea stores or cargo destined for a port foreign to the United States, its territories or possessions, on board Cuban vessels voyaging to or from ports of the United States, or its territories or possessions or passing through the territorial waters thereof, and such carriage shall be as now provided by law with respect to the transit of such liquors through the Panama Canal, provided that such liquors shall be kept under seal continuously while the vessel on which they are carried remains within said territorial waters and that no part of such liquors shall at any time or place be unladen within the United States, its territories or possessions.

ARTICLE IV

Any claim by a Cuban vessel for compensation on the grounds that it has suffered loss or injury through the improper or unreasonable exercise of the rights conferred by Article II of this Treaty or on the ground that it has not been given the benefit of Article III shall be referred for the joint consideration of two persons, one of whom shall be nominated by each of the High Contracting Parties.

Effect shall be given to the recommendations contained in any such joint report. If no joint report can be agreed upon, the claim shall be referred to the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague described in the Convention for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes, concluded at The Hague, October 18, 1907. The Arbitral Tribunal shall be constituted in accordance with Article 87 (Chapter IV) and with Article 59 (Chapter III) of the said Convention. The proceedings shall be regulated by so much of Chapter IV of the said Convention and of Chapter III thereof (special regard being had for Articles 70 and 74, but excepting Articles 53 and 54) as the Tribunal may consider to be applicable and to be consistent with the provisions of this agreement. All sums of money which may be awarded by the Tribunal on account of any claim shall be paid within eighteen months after the date of the final award without interest and without deduction, save as hereafter specified. Each Government shall bear its own expenses. The expenses of the Tribunal shall be defrayed by a ratable deduction of the amount of the sums awarded by it, at a rate of five per cent. on such sums, or at such lower rate as may be agreed upon between the two Governments: the deficiency, if any, shall be defrayed in equal moieties by the two Governments.

ARTICLE V

This Treaty shall be subject to ratification and shall remain in force for a period of one year from the date of the exchange of ratifications.

Three months before the expiration of the said period of one year, either of the High Contracting Parties may give notice of its desire to propose modifications in the terms of the Treaty.

If such modifications have not been agreed upon before the expiration of the term of one year mentioned above, the Treaty shall lapse.

If no notice is given on either side of the desire to propose modifications, the Treaty shall remain in force for another year, and so on automatically, but subject always in respect of each such period of a year to the right on either side to propose as provided above three months before its expiration modifications in the Treaty, and to the provision that if such modifications are not agreed upon before the close of the period of one year, the Treaty shall lapse.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ARTICLE VI

In the event that either of the High Contracting Parties shall be prevented either by judicial decision or legislative action from giving full effect to the provisions of the present Treaty the said Treaty shall automatically lapse, and, on such lapse or whenever this Treaty shall cease to be in force, each High Contracting Party shall enjoy all the rights which it would have possessed had this Treaty not been concluded.

The present Convention shall be duly ratified by the High Contracting Parties in accordance with their respective laws; and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Habana as soon as possible.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Convention in duplicate and have thereunto affixed their seals.

DONE at the city of this day of
in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-five.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

SECRET

1926 2657-g-258

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Convention for the Suppression of Smuggling.

2657-g-258 FEB 11 1926

1. During the negotiations between our Embassy and the Cuban State Department for a Convention for the Suppression of Smuggling initiated by our government (a copy of which was furnished your office with my despatch No. 2615 of May 25, 1925), the Embassy encountered strong opposition on the part of the Cuban State Department to a clause granting to the United States the right of search of Cuban vessels under the same conditions granted by Mexico, Great Britain and other countries to the United States in conventions under the same title and the Cuban Foreign Office insisted on securing reciprocal rights to board and search American vessels which was not granted by our government to any of the other countries signing these conventions.

2. After considerable jockeying between the Embassy and the Cuban Foreign Office and considerable undue delay on the part of the Cuban Foreign Office, I, at the request of the Ambassador, placed the matter before President Machado about three weeks ago. As the result of our conversation, the President in my presence called the Cuban Secretary of State on the telephone and instructed him to accept the American draft of this treaty in its entirety and to proceed immediately to its accomplishment. Thereafter, the Secretary of State, who previously maintained that reciprocal right of search in this treaty was necessary in order to demonstrate Cuba's complete freedom and also in furtherance of its nationalistic policy, withdrew from his stand in the matter and instructed his assistants to proceed for the completion of the treaty as indicated by the President.

3. In these negotiations the Cuban State Department was represented by Dr. Gustavo Gutierrez, legal adviser on international law to the Cuban State Department (who was an active member and a director of the Veterans and Patriots Association movement and is now professor of International Law of the University of Havana), and it developed that he, Dr. Gutierrez, inspired all objections that arose against parts of the several treaties now being negotiated between our government and Cuba.

4. After Dr. Gutierrez had received instructions from the Secretary of State to prepare the Spanish text of the treaty in accordance with the wishes of our government and during a conversation with the First Secretary of this Embassy and Mr. Vallance, an assistant solicitor of our State Department who is temporarily here in connection with the negotiations of this treaty, in spite of the President's and the Secretary of State's instructions to the contrary, he would not agree to the acceptance of the search clause without the granting of reciprocal right to Cuba and stated that he would prepare and submit to the Cuban Senate a memorandum registering his objections to such action. Since then, in spite of

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2740 Date: Feb.4,1926.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

all efforts on the part of the Embassy to reach an agreement, no progress has been made.

5. This morning, at the request of the Ambassador, I again called on President Machado to acquaint him personally with the situation. The President showed great annoyance over the attitude of Dr. Gutierrez and told me that he would immediately send for the Secretary of State in order to question him why his, the President's, previous instructions regarding this matter had not been promptly attended to, and that I was to inform the Ambassador that he, the President, would make it his personal business to see to it that the treaties initiated by the United States with Cuba now pending will receive immediate attention and be accomplished in the form desired by our government.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

4-1 926 2657-g-258
3
MAR 30 1926
WAR DEPARTMENT
3850

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Deportation of Undesirable Aliens;
Smuggling of Aliens into the U. S.

RECEIVED G-2 W.D., MAR 29 1926

1. I am enclosing herewith copies of Embassy Despatch No. 1314, of January 26, 1926, with reference to the deportation of aliens and the smuggling of aliens into the United States from Cuban territory.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2751 Date: March 22,1926.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MI... INTEL. DIV.
MAR 30

COPY

4-1 976 2657-G-258

Havana, January 26, 1926.

No. 1314

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to Article IV of the Cuban counter-draft for the Convention for the Suppression of Smuggling, transmitted with my Despatch No. 1225 dated November 3, 1925, dealing with the deportation of undesirable aliens. Reference is also made to my telegrams No. 2 January 3 3PM and No. 7 January 8 4PM, to my Despatch No. 1295 of January 11, 1926, and to Department's telegram No. 6 January 14 9PM, dealing with this subject.

I enclose copy of Presidential Decree No. 1,601, dated July 27, 1925, published in the Official Gazette on July 28, 1925, concerning the deportation of undesirable aliens. I also enclose a translation of this Decree. It will be observed that the grounds on which aliens may be deported are set forth in paragraphs A, B and C of Article I. In Article III it is provided that in no case may the alien "be sent to a country in which he has been charged with a common crime or prosecuted for a political crime."

It is believed that this Decree will be of particular interest to the Department on account of the statements contained in the introductory paragraphs respecting the power vested in the President of Cuba to deport undesirable aliens by executive decree.

I also transmit herewith statements indicating the reasons for some of the deportation decrees that have been published in the Official Gazette.

I understand that the Cuban Government is now prepared to cooperate with the United States to prevent the use of Cuban territory by aliens as a means for surreptitiously entering the United States in violation of its laws. Cuba is interested in obtaining immigrants who are agriculturists and skilled laborers. The supply of common labor of Cuban nationality is considered to be sufficient to meet the demands for that class of labor here. The large numbers of immigrants of this class have have arrived in Cuba since the enactment of our immigration laws is considered by some persons to be partly responsible for the so-called Lombard Bill requiring that 75 per cent of the employees in all firms and establishments in Cuba must be citizens of Cuba. I enclose a clipping from the Havana Post for January 26, 1926, relating to the so-called Lombard Bill. Attention is invited to the statements that "over 90 per cent of the Spaniards in Cuba are able to take out citizenship papers at once and by becoming Cubans could enjoy the full benefits of the Lombard measure," and that "of the approximately 300,000 Spaniards in Cuba, at least 200,000 will become Cuban citizens." Although I have been assured that this legislation will not become a law, it is an evidence of the interest that Cubans are taking in the reduction of the percentage of alien population.

The subject of fraudulent naturalization of aliens in Cuba in order that they may enter the United States as non-quota immigrants, has been receiving consideration by the Cuban authorities. During a recent conference at the Cuban Department of State in connection with the negotiation of the Convention for Mutual Aid in the Suppression of Smuggling, I was informed that the Cuban Government was exercising caution in granting Cuban naturalization to applicants. Many persons are said to have

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been punished for false representations in connection with applications for naturalization as Cuban citizens. Criminal proceedings have also been instituted in many cases in which persons have applied for Cuban papers and have produced fraudulent evidence of birth in Cuba prior to the date on which registration of births was required by statute. It is my understanding that aliens who have been found guilty of such offenses are subject to deportation under the provisions of Paragraph A of Article I of the Decree of July 27, 1925, transmitted herewith.

For the Department's convenience in considering this subject and its possible bearing on the consideration of legislation contemplating the application of quota restrictions to immigrants from Cuba, I may state that Articles4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the Cuban Constitution provide as follows:

"Art. 4. Cuban citizens are native born of naturalized.

Art. 5. Native-born Cubans are:
First. Those born of Cuban parents within or without the territory of the Republic.
Second. Those born within the territory of the Republic of foreign parents, provided that on becoming of age they claim the right of inscription as Cubans in the proper register.
Third. Those born in foreign countries of native-born parents, who have forfeited their Cuban nationality, provided that on becoming of age they claim their inscription as Cubans in the same register.

Art. 6. Naturalized Cubans are:
First. Foreigners who, having served in the Liberating Army, may claim Cuban nationality within six months following the promulgation of this Constitution.
Second. Foreigners established in Cuba prior to January 1st, 1899, who may have retained their residence after said date, provided they claim Cuban nationality within the six months next following the promulgation of this Constitution, or, if minors, within a like period after they shall have attained their majority.
Third. Foreigners who, after five years' residence in the territory of the Republic and not less than two years from the time that they declared their intention of acquiring Cuban citizenship, may obtain their letters of naturalization in conformity with the laws.
Fourth. Spaniards residing in the territory of Cuba on the 11th day of April, 1899, who may not have been registered as such in the proper registers prior to the same month and day of 1900.
Fifth. Africans who may have been slaves in Cuba, and those who were emancipated and comprised in article 13 of the treaty of June 28th, 1835, entered into by Spain and England.

Art. 7. Cuban citizenship is forfeited:
First. By acquiring foreign citizenship.
Second. By accepting employment or honors from another government without permission of the Senate.
Third. By entering the military service of a foreign nation without a like permission.
Fourth. By a naturalized Cuban residing five years continuously in his native country, except by reason of his being in the employ of or fulfilling a commission of the Government of the Republic.

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Art. 8. Cuban citizenship may be reacquired as may be provided for by law.

The Organic Law of the Executive Power of Cuba contained in Decree No. 78, dated January 12, 1909, provides as follows with respect to the issuance of passports:

"Article 83. The Secretary of State may grant and issue passports and authorize passports to be granted, issued and verified in foreign countries by the diplomatic and consular officers. No other person shall grant, issue or verify any such passports.

Where a Legation of Cuba is established, no person other than the diplomatic representative of the Republic or his legal substitute, shall be permitted to grant or issue passports.

Article 84. The Secretary of State or the officer designated by him to examine applications for passports, shall receive and attest, without charge, all oaths and affidavits required to be made under the law or the rules of the Department in such cases.

Article 85. No passport shall be granted, issued or verified to any person other than a Cuban citizen. A passport shall be merely a certification of citizenship and identification, its purposes being merely to enable the bearer to be admitted within the territory of a foreign government in the quality of, and with the privileges thereby allowed to, a Cuban citizen.

Article 86. All diplomatic and consular officers who are authorized to grant, issue or verify passports, shall make return of the same to the Secretary of State in such manner and as often as he shall require and such returns shall specify the names and description of the persons to which the passports have been granted, issued or verified.

Article 87. If any person who shall not be lawfully authorized to do so, shall grant, issue or verify any passport or other instrument in the nature of a passport or if any consular officer who shall be authorized to grant, issue, or verify passports shall knowingly and wilfully grant, issue or verify any such passport to or for any persons not a Cuban citizen, he shall incur the penalties prescribed in article 338 of the penal Code, and may be tried and sentenced by the court of competent jurisdiction of the place in the territory of Cuba where he may be arrested or in custody.

The law with respect to naturalization of aliens will be made the subject of a later despatch.

It is believed that these provisions should be considered in connection with the drafting of regulations under the proposed Convention for Mutual Aid in Preventing Smuggling Operations, which includes measures to suppress the smuggling of aliens. I believe that Cuba does not desire to have quota restrictions applied to Cubans desiring to go to the United States and that therefore the Cuban authorities can be depended upon to take measures to prevent the fraudulent acquisition of Cuban nationality by aliens as a means of entering the United States.

In this connection I am informed that by means of an informal agreement the Canadian Government is cooperating with the United States in preventing aliens from using its territory as a means of smuggling themselves into the United States. I believe that it might be helpful if I could be furnished with information regarding the measures that have been adopted by Canada with this end in view.

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I should also be glad to be informed whether the Department would consider arranging with the Cuban Government for the physical examination of all prospective immigrants from Cuba. I understand that such an arrangement has been in operation in the British Isles and has been found to be very satisfactory.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Crowder.

Enclosures:

As stated.

WRV:MEL

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

PRESIDENTIAL DECREE.

Re: Deportation of undesirable aliens.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

Decree No. 1,601.

WHEREAS the maintenance of tranquility and public morality is inherent to the right of preservation and the sovereignty of the State, and it is incumbent upon the Government to adopt adequate measures to this end, in order that at the same time that provision is made to prevent the violations of the Law and of the fundamental rules of morality the parties presumed guilty may be offered every class of guarantee in order that the authority invested with the ~~xxxxxxxx~~ assisting in the task of the Government may not overstep the bounds of his office in the fulfilment of his duties.

WHEREAS the statistics and antecedents which the Government has studied show that delinquency, transgressions of public morals and propaganda of a subversive nature which cause such great damage to normalcy in work, have increased in the near past due to the fact that foreigners are in a great measure responsible for such unlawful acts.

WHEREAS, Article 30 of the Constitution, in prohibiting the deportation of nationals from the territory of the Republic does not extend this guarantee to foreigners resident therein, who in this sense cannot be placed on an equal plane with Cubans in accordance with the provisions of subdivision Second of Article 10 of said Constitution.

WHEREAS it is absolutely necessary to specify for the knowledge of those elements who are not Cubans by birth or by naturalization, the causes which may give rise to their deportation, and at the same time point out the procedure which should be observed for the deportation thereof from the national territory.

WHEREAS in accordance with the first paragraph and subdivision one of Article 68 of the Constitution, in the manner in which it has been interpreted by the full Supreme Court, in its decision of May 17, 1916, handed down in the writ of unconstitutionality of Record No. 5 of that year, the President of the Republic is invested with authority to issue decrees and orders for all matters of government and administration of the State which he may deem proper with the sole limitation that they shall not be contrary to the laws, as is the case in the subject matter treated in this Decree.

WHEREAS in subdivision 17 of Article 68 of the Constitution in the manner in which it has been interpreted by the Supreme Court in its decision No. 13 of December 1, 1916, the President of the Republic must look after the maintenance of order within the nation.

WHEREAS in use of the authority vested in me in subdivision 1 and 17 of Article 68 of the Constitution, and taking into consideration Articles 30 and 10 of said legal text.

I RESOLVE:

of foreigners:

To issue the following Decree on deportation ~~from the territory of the Republic~~

ARTICLE 1. - The following may be deported from the territory of the Republic:

A. - Foreigners condemned by decision handed down by a national or foreign Court of competent jurisdiction in causes for infamous crimes or offenses; for the violation of the Law of July 10, 1894, on suppression of intimidation through use of explosives, or the Law of July 25, 1919, on the distribution, prescription and use of narcotics; for any other crime in which the guilty party has repeated a prior offense or for three

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crimes condemned by the Correctional Courts, or for more than three misdemeanors which envolve moral turpitude.

B. - Foreigners who directly or indirectly bring into Cuba any person in order to devote the same to prostitution or other immoral purpose, or who obtain, aid, assist or in any other manner contribute toward the furnishing of passage money for any person for the same purpose; or who attempt, induce, suggest, oblige, persuade and withdraw, whether with their consent or otherwise, persons to be devoted to prostitution or other immoral purposes, temporarily or perwanently, or who manage, work, live, or pay for any house, room, or place used for prostitution or other immoral purpose, or who take in as boarders, allow to live free of charge, maintain or exploit any person devoted to the exercise of prostitution or other immoral purpose.

C. - Foreigners who carry on subversive propaganda or propaganda which belittles or tends to belittle the prestige of the institutions, authorities or officials of the Republic, or who advocate or propagate the unlawful destruction of property, anarchy, the unlawful change of the regime of government, the overthrow by force or violence of the constituted government, assaults against persons who occupy public offices because they discharge the duties thereof, or who in any other manner libel or threaten the authorities or officials lawfully constituted, or induce, instigate or take part in the carrying on of the acts penalized in Articles 593, 594 and 597 of the Penal Code, or in any unlawful or violent manner alter the normal development of work in the agriculture, industry or commerce of the Nation.

ARTICLE 2. - Only in cases of extreme gravity shall foreigners married to Cuban women with children from said marriage, and who have resided more than five years in the territory of the Republic, be deported.

ARTICLE 3. - A foreigner who is deported in accordance with this Decree shall be sent, at the option of the Secretary of the Interior, to the last port abroad from which he sailed for Cuba, to a port of the country in which he had his last residence before coming to Cuba or to a port of the country of which he is a national, but in no case may he be sent to a nation in which he has been charged with a common crime or prosecuted for a political crime. In case all the ports to which he may be sent shall be found in the above condition, the Secretary of the Interior may select the port of destination apart from any of the above.

ARTICLE 4. - A foreigner deported from the national territory may not return without authority of the Secretary of the Interior, and if he violates this prohibition, he shall be deported without prejudice to the prior serving of the penalty incurred by reason of said violation.

ARTICLE 5. - The Department of Justice shall urgently transmit to the Department of the Interior every decision in cases mentioned under subdivision A of Article 1 of this Decree against a person who is not a Cuban by birth or naturalization.

ARTICLE 6. - The chiefs of penal establishments, as soon as they receive from the respective Courts the term of the sentences imposed on foreigners for any of the crimes or misdemeanors mentioned in this Decree, shall immediately communicate with the Secretary of the Interior mentioning the date on which said term shall expire; this shall be done as many times as said terms or penalties are changed.

ARTICLE 7. - The Secretary of the Interior before the convicts included in subdivision A of Article 1 of this Decree, have served their term, in consideration of the nature of the crime, its seriousness, the damage produced thereby and the general circumstances of the criminal liability, may decree the deportation of the same from the territory of the Republic, which shall be done as soon as the term has been served. The repetition referred to in subdivision A of Article 1 of this Decree,

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in order to be taken in consideration, must have been taken into consideration by the Courts of Justice in the decision in which the crime has been qualified and punished.

ARTICLE 8. - The authorities, their agents and other public officials who have knowledge that a foreigner has committed any of the acts enumerated in paragraphs B. and C. of Article 1 of this Decree, shall secretly communicate with the Department of the Interior without divulging the same, setting forth~~of~~ the facts in a brief manner but in such detail as may permit the defining of the violation.

ARTICLE 9. - The Department of the Interior, as soon as it has knowledge through the above mentioned channel or in any other manner of the existence of an occurrence of the class included in paragraphs B. and C. of Article 1 of this Decree, shall order the institution of the proper investigation appointing an official to take whatever steps are necessary to verify said occurrence.

If the fact brought to the attention of the Secretary of the Interior is not verified, he shall order the discontinuance of the investigation and the filing away of the same. In the contrary case, the deportation of the accused may be ordered under the procedure hereinafter expressed.

ARTICLE 10. - The Secretary of the Interior shall officially notify the foreigner of the Decree ordering his deportation, giving him a period of three days within which to leave the country, unless for reasons of public order it should be proper to detain him under arrest until the time of his departure.

ARTICLE 11. - As soon as the foreigner is notified of his deportation, he may obtain advice of counsel presenting his defence and presenting such evidence to uphold his case, and the order of deportation shall in no case be delayed unless the Secretary of the Interior deems it proper to await the hearing of the evidence.

ARTICLE 12. - The decision in these cases is final, and no appeal is granted against it, but any Decree of deportation may be suspended or revoked when there are reasons therefor.

ARTICLE 13. - The Decree of deportation as well as those suspending or revoking the same, must be well founded, signed by the President of the Republic, countersigned by the Secretary of the Interior, and published in the Official Gazette, and in no event shall the interposing of an appeal delay the fulfilment thereof.

ARTICLE 14. - The Secretary of the Interior is entrusted with the fulfilment of this Decree and authorized whatever measures he deems proper in the premises.

Given at the Presidential Palace, Habana, July 27, 1925.

GERARDO MACHADO,

President.

ROGERIO ZAYAS BAZAN,

Secretary of the Interior.

(Official Gazette of July 28, 1925).

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Enclosure No. encl 3

Despatch No.

(Copy)

4-1 812.00 2657-f-258

THE HAVANA POST of January 26, 1926:

LOMBARD MEASURE MAY AFFECT CUBAN POLITICS

El Dia writes under the headline, "The Right To Live," as follows:

The trade bodies established in Cuba and especially the National Federation of Economic Corporations have started an active campaign against the approval of the 75 percent native labor bill now pending action in the Senate.

On more than one occasion we have frankly stated that we are openly in favor of the Lombard bill, because it is a measure of practical nationalism and tends to protect the Cubans in general, from the sugar planters down to the humblest workers, who are at present without protection of any kind whatsoever and are under the yoke of the egotistical foreign capitalists, who care little whether the Cubans are ruined as long as their profits continue to be large.

In Cuba misery really exists, regardless of what the holders of juicy government jobs and lottery ticket "colecturias" want to lead us to believe. The majority of the Cuban families are unable to keep the wolf away from the door on account of the competition of foreign workers and employes of all imaginable nationalities. The Cuban, naturally more than anyone else, has a right to live and if he sees this right restricted or endangered he fully is justified to seek the necessary means to defend and protect himself.

The Cuban people can tell the government, congress and public opinion that we want to regenerate ourselves, but we want to eat first. And because we believe that a people must first be able to eat, that is why we back the Lombard native labor bill, providing that 75 percent of the personnel in all firms and establishments in Cuba must be natives.

On the other hand, it is silly to assert that this measure would be harmful to the Spaniards in Cuba and highly protected for the Cuban negro or colored elements, because at least over 90 percent of the Spaniards in Cuba are able to take out citizenship papers at once and by becoming Cubans could enjoy the full benefits of the Lombard measure.

This is precisely one of the aspects that pleases us most of the bill. Because it means that of the approximately 300,000 Spaniards in Cuba, at least 200,000 will become Cuban citizens. That would mean 200,000 voters more, and this certainly would bring about new and healthy orientations to our political struggles.

That is why we do not agree with the arguments of the National Federation of Economic Corporations against the Lombard bill and urge the Senate to enact it at once.

And as to the Spaniards, they who always have lived here with us in times of peace and war now entertain the most harmonious and cordial relations with Cuba, they will be glad to become Cubans and we to welcome them as such, because, what we want is not antagonism and rivalries but friendship and the spirit of cooperation towards the welfare of Cuba and its people, who have a right to live and must be granted it by all means.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Enclosure No.

Despatch No.

(Copy)

STATEMENT OF DEPORTATION DECREES from September 3 to September 30, 1925:

OFFICIAL GAZETTE, September 7, 1925
Decree 1,891 of September 4, 1925

Virgilio Amigo y Blanco	Rebellious propaganda
Abilio Gonzalez y Hiuos	"
Jose Perez y Lopez	"
Jaime Colome y Cazasallas	"
Juan Dominguez Berneta	"
Pedro Lopez Gonzalez	"
Manuel Coto Constenla	"
Enrique Diaz Arias	"

OFFICIAL GAZETTE of September 7, 1925
Decree 1,898 of September 4, 1925

Jose Maria Fernandez Alvarez	Rebellious propaganda
Victor Rodriguez Fernandez	"

OFFICIAL GAZETTE of September 11, 1925
Decree 1,925 of September 10, 1925

Francisco Calan y Fernandez	Rebellious propaganda

OFFICIAL GAZETTE of September 15, 1925
Decree 1,949 of September 14, 1925

David Dorado Diaz	Rebellious propaganda

OFFICIAL GAZETTE of September 23, 1925
Decree 2,000 of September 22, 1925

Agustin Vega Gonzalez	Rebellious propaganda
Americo Alvarez y Alvarez	"
Leon Kelsaer	"

OFFICIAL GAZETTE of September 24, 1925
Decree 2,011 of September 19, 1925

Antonio Somoza y Rodriguez	Rebellious propaganda
Manuel Requejo	"
Jose Suarez y Vega	"
Jose Gonzalez y Bolaños	"
Paulino Suarez y Garcia	"
Guillermo Sanchez y Barral	"
Manuel Gonzalez y Acovo	"
Ramon Hernandez y Vera	"
Anacleto del Camp y Lopez	"

OFFICIAL GAZETTE of September 28, 1925
Decree 2,031 of September 26, 1925

Peisach Polonsky	Rebellious propaganda

OFFICIAL GAZETTE of September 29, 1925
Decree 2,039 of September 28, 1925

Roberto Edelson	Rebellious propaganda
Jose Garcia y Cernadas	"
Anastasio Allengas y Villanca	"
Jose Ramirez y Campos	"

OFFICIAL GAZETTE of September 29, 1925
Decree 2,040 of September 28, 1925

Jose Pablo Castro y Vargas	Rebellious propaganda
Saverino Casielles Garcia	"
Saturnino Garcia e Iglesias	"

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICIAL GAZETTE of September 29, 1925
Decree 2,041 of September 25, 1925

Jesus Romero Duval	Rebellious propaganda
Jose Brantua (a) "Yarini"	"
Roberto Edelson	"
Joaquin Alejo Nuñez	"

LIST OF DECREES published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE during the month of October, 1925, ordering the deportation of alleged undesirable foreigners:

No. of Decree	Date of Decree	No. of Persons	Nationality	Grounds
2,066	Sept. 29	13	Spanish	Rebellious propaganda
2,067	" 29	10	"	"
2,070	" 29	2	"	"
2,087	Oct. 1	1	"	"
2,105	" 5	2	"	"
2,111	" 5	2	French	Prostitution
2,121	" 9	1	"	Rebellious propaganda
2,127	" 13	1	Italian	"
2,130	" 13	7	1 American	"
			1 French	"
			1 Italian	"
			1 Jamaican	"
			3 Spanish	"
2,131	Oct. 13	2	Spanish	"
2,137	" 15	1	"	"
2,155	" 16	1	French	Prostitution
2,157	" 21	2	Spanish	Rebellious propaganda

Total - - 45

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

346

NOV 25 2657-g 258 1929

3800-9

WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Economic)

Subject: Smuggling.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 23 1929

1. By the end of 1925 the rum running activities from the port of Havana had reached the proportions where there were forty-five known vessels using Havana as a base and an estimate of the value of contraband liquor carried from Havana to the Florida and Gulf coasts was in the neighborhood of $80,000,000 for that year.

2. In 1926 there was signed between the United States and Cuba two Conventions on the subject of smuggling. A brief summary of the provisions of these Conventions follows:

a. The first Convention was signed in Havana March 4, 1926 and provided for the right of search by the authorities of the United States of Cuban vessels outside the limits of American territorial waters, but within a distance that could be traversed in one hour by the suspected vessel. Provision was also made for the seizure of a vessel where there was doubt in the minds of the United States authorities as to its ultimate destination.

b. The second Convention was signed in Havana on March 11, 1926 and made provision for mutual aid in the discovery and punishment of the violators of the smuggling laws. In this Convention specific mention was made of the following means:

(1) Agreement that clearance of contraband merchandise shall be denied.
(2) Agreement to refuse clearance to vessels which, by their nature, were incapable of performing the voyage to the destination shown by their papers, or which, by their unsavory reputation, was suspected as smuggling boats.
(3) Provision, when clearance is given to a suspected vessel, for the requirement of exacting a bond to produce a duly authenticated landing certificate showing that merchandise or persons were actually discharged at the port through which the vessel cleared, and if such vessel failed to produce the certificate of lawful discharge of merchandise or persons, or produced a false certificate, the bond posted should be forfeited and thereafter for a period of five years the vessels would be denied the right to enter or clear from any port.
(4) Agreement to employ all reasonable measures to prevent the departure of persons from one territory to the other except legally.
(5) Provision for the return of smuggled aliens and provision for the seizure of smuggled goods.
(6) Provision for the exchange of information.
(7) Provision, when information had been given of probable smuggling activities, to do everything possible to prevent the same by all means within the power of the two countries.
(8) Provision for the giving of testimony of officials in one country by officials of the other country.

3. From these Conventions it can be seen that there were no real teeth in either of them and the traffickers in liquor were reported to have been jubilant and to have organized to do business from Havana on an even greater scale than before. The large scale operations were at this time conducted principally by Canadian capital, with English capital somewhat interested.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3160. Date: Nov. 19, 1929.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

4. The last paragraph of Article VI of the second Convention reads as follows: "Such notification and information may be furnished and received only by appropriate officials who shall be designated by the respective Governments." The United States Treasury Department decided to interpret this paragraph as giving the United States the right to send secret agents to Havana in order to deal with the situation. It is doubtful whether such an interpretation was justified, but the practice was not questioned at the time, and the precedent seems to be firmly established, the Cuban Government being fully cognizant of the fact that the Treasury agents are here, although it is not believed their identity is commonly known.

5. At the time of the promulgation of the above cited convention, President Machado had been in office but a very short time and gave indications of wishing to cooperate with the United States in this matter. As an indication of this, Treasury Circular No. 15 dated June 24, 1925, was issued and published in the Official Gazette of June 29, 1925. This circular provides for the strict interpretation of all laws for re-exportation of goods received in Havana with special reference to the re-exportation of alcoholic liquors.

6. Due to the activities of the Treasury agents, the cooperation of President Machado, and the strict interpretation of the above mentioned Treasury Circular, the situation improved greatly during 1927 and the early part of 1928 to such an extent that during 1928 it was estimated that not more than $15,000,000 worth of liquor reached the United States from Havana.

7. The campaign as conducted by the Treasury agents is somewhat as follows: Inasmuch as neither the Convention nor the Cuban laws provided sufficient penalties to discourage rum runners, the Treasury agents took means to combat them outside the law. There was established an organization with six sub-agents and some forty confidential informants (commonly referred to as "stool pigeons."). The confidential informants were paid anywhere from $2.00 for a small piece of information to an actual salary of $200 a month. When a Treasury agent learned that an illegal embarcation was to take place, he would inform the Embassy. The Secretary in charge of this work would then telephone to the Foreign Office, which office would, in turn, cause orders to be given through the Treasury Department to the Coast Guard to apprehend the vessel. At the same time, the Treasury agents would inform the Chief of the Judicial Police. In nearly ninety per cent of the cases, the vessels were seized.

8. Occasionally charges, usually for infringement of port regulations, would be brought against the vessel and a fine imposed and the vessel then returned to its owner. However, usually the vessel was seized and allowed to rot in port until beyond repair. The latter course was entirely outside of the legal rights of the Cuban officials, but the Treasury agents much preferred this latter action.

9. The situation changed somewhat in September 1928 with the issuance of Presidential Decrees Nos. 1540 and 1568, which repealed Treasury Circular No. 15 of 1925. The new regulations provided for the exaction of a bond of $1.00 for each case of liquor shipped in transit through Havana and no longer required proof of delivery of the merchandise to any given destination. This change was welcomed

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3160. Date: Nov. 19, 1929.

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by the traffickers in liquor because they were more than willing to forfeit this $1.00 bond and considered that they were paying $1.00 more a case for their liquor than before. At this time it was reported that the Canadian agents were again planning activities on a larger scale. The plan put into operation at this time was as follows: Liquor would be shipped in bond to Havana for re-exportation; an invoice for a shipment of 50,000 cases, for instance, would be in ten sections so that a portion of the shipment could be recovered from bond; the papers would be delivered to the Royal Bank of Canada and the rum runner would then contract with the agent for the delivery of a number of cases, the rum runner paying the wholesale price, plus the agent's commission, plus the $1.00 a case for bond. By this time President Machado had become too interested in other affairs to give personal consideration to the liquor question and it became distinctly unfavorable to the United States.

10. In this connection there is attached hereto a memorandum from the Secretary of Embassy in charge of the liquor smuggling to Ambassador Judah which cites the lack of cooperation on the part of the Cuban authorities in the matter of the vessel TRES REYES.

11. Inasmuch as the Embassy was unable to revive the interest in cooperation by Cuban officials that had been so successful during the years 1926-1927 and the first half of 1928, the Treasury agents were forced to resort to attacking rum running interests outside the law. These agents were fairly successful in their work and did obtain the cooperation of Cuban officials in driving out foreigners (either Americans or other nationals) from Cuba on the ground that they were undesirables. They were unable, however, to break the Cuban "ring" which is still in operation.

12. Briefly, the present situation may be summed as follows:

a. The President has lost interest in cooperating with the United States in enforcing the purposes of the two Conventions which, in themselves, carry no enforcement provisions.

b. Without pressure from the President, it is impossible to combat certain high influences which are protecting the Cuban "ring."

c. The Cubans have lost interest in the Convention, except for the fact that it keeps foreigners from competing with Cubans in this liquor smuggling.

d. There is no possibility of the Cuban Government so altering the Convention as to put more teeth into it, but, on the contrary, any attempted modification would probably lead the Cuban Government to have it abrogated.

e. Under existing conditions, the Cuban "ring" is prospering, but rum runners of other nationalities are discouraged.

Source: Embassy.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, Gen.Staff, Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3160. Date: Nov. 19, 1929.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

COPY

4-1 NOV 25 2657-g-258 1929

WAR DEPARTMENT

Habana, March 11, 1929.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE AMBASSADOR:

The Treasury Department Agent has informed the Embassy that the Cuban authorities throughout the Island are apparently doing nothing to stop smuggling operations to the United States. As a specific instance of this, he has mentioned a statement made by Mr. Varona, Administrator of the Habana Customs, to one of the Agent's employes to the effect that he, Varona, would do nothing to stop smuggling to the United States if it adversely affected Cuban interests, whether President Machado signed a decree to that effect or not. From another source the Embassy has been reliably informed that a certain high Cuban official connected with the Judicial Police has stated that the Cuban authorities in general have been advised that they should do nothing to prevent smuggling which is not absolutely provided for in the Treaties to Prevent Smuggling now in force between Cuba and the United States.

As an example of flagrant disregard of the Embassy's requests for cooperation from the Cuban authorities in holding up vessels known to be smuggling, the case of the TRES REYES may be cited. As early as January 22, the Embassy requested information of the Cuban Foreign Office regarding the Cuban schooner TRES REYES which was at that time already suspected of smuggling contraband into the United States via Nassau. On February 6 the Embassy informed the Foreign Office that the TRES REYES was suspected of smuggling liquor and that Miguel Sastre, well known to the Cuban police, had a part interest in her. The Embassy at that time requested the competent Cuban authorities, through the Cuban Foreign Office, to take whatever action might seem necessary to them.

On March 5 in a note marked "Very Urgent," the Embassy informed the Foreign Office that the Federal Liquor Company was on that date putting shipments of liquor on board the TRES REYES, and all information which the Embassy had, pointed to the fact that the cargo was to be smuggled illegally into the United States. The Foreign Office was asked at that time to be kind enough to have the TRES REYES held in Habana for the time being in order that a proper investigation might be made. On the same date the Counselor of Embassy, Mr. Curtis, telephoned the Foreign Office and asked that the TRES REYES be held pending an investigation. Also on the same date an employe of the Agent went to the Custom House with a letter to Mr. Varona from the Embassy asking that the employe be shown such papers as the Customs authorities might have regarding the clearance and cargo of the schooner TRES REYES. After waiting for three hours, the employe received little or no information.

On the following day a further urgent note from the Embassy was sent to the Foreign Office, informing the latter that Manuel Alfonso y Peña, jr., alias "Menudo," then claimed to be the owner of the TRES REYES and that he claimed that he was then in a position to have the TRES REYES cleared with the cargo of liquor aboard. The Foreign Office was again requested to hold the vessel for the time being so that the necessary investigation might be made.

The aforementioned notes from the Embassy were duly acknowledged by the Foreign Office and with reference to the latter two, the Embassy was advised that the matter had been referred to the Treasury Department for appropriate action.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

On Saturday morning, March 9, Mr. Curtis personally telephoned the Sub-Secretary of State in the Foreign Office, saying that the Embassy had received information that the vessel was about to be cleared; that the above mentioned Alfonso y Peña had been able, through his influence, to obtain the necessary clearance papers; and that the cargo was destined for the United States. The Sub-Secretary informed Mr. Curtis that he would immediately take the matter up with the Treasury Department. Nevertheless, the vessel left Habana harbor Saturday afternoon as Alfonso y Peña stated it would, and no further action, so far as the Embassy is aware, was taken by the appropriate Cuban authorities.

It is a well known fact that the aforementioned Alfonso y Peña has been mixed up in white slave cases, narcotic shipments, alien running and the smuggling of liquor into the United States. In spite of the foregoing and in spite of the definite proof that he has been implicated in these illegal practices, nothing whatsoever has been done by the Cuban authorities to make Alfonso y Peña desist from his illegal practices. Another Cuban associated with Alfonso y Peña is José Ramon Cruells, who has recently been directly interested in illegal liquor shipments.

It should also be stated in this general connection that the Cuban Customs have in the two instances quoted below failed to give the Consul General the information which they should have given him regarding shipments of liquor leaving Habana harbor, and which two cases would have been of value to the Agent in checking up on shipments of liquor out of Cuba:

On February 7, steamship CARRILLO,
5,000 cases of whiskey; shipper was
Mario Miro; Consignee, Melhado y Sons,
Belize, British Honduras.

1,233 cases alcohol;
Shipper: Facundo Sardiñas, Habana,
Consignee: Facundo Sardiñas, Puerto Barrios
in transit to Belize, British Honduras.
Carrier: American steamship PARISMINA.
February 20, 1919.

(Goods to be landed on rum runners H. S. ALBERT
and DOUGLAS B. CONRAD at Puerto Barrios and
cleared to Belize, British Honduras. Goods
to be discharged off New Orleans.)

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

7657-F-759

CHARGE CARD

2—7965

DATE	CHARGED TO	DATE	CHARGED TO	DATE	CHARGED TO
6/18/25 (2)	2a				

Paper 2 destroyed by direction of Mj.Burleigh (51)

W. D., O. C. of S.
Form No. 5

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
JUN 5

4-1925 2657-f239

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
By authority letter of Dec. 18, 1933, from TAGO to Archivist
By AFI
Date 6-13-69

WAR DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT Change of Policy toward the United States by the Cuban Department of Justice. (3390)

From The Military Attaché, Havana, Cuba.

No. 2618 *Date* May 26, 1925. *19*

Replying to No. *Date* *19*

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. JUN 3 1925

1. One of the chief sources of friction between the American Embassy and the Cuban Foreign Office during the Zayas administration was the almost complete failure in the administration of justice. The inability or rather the unwillingness of the Foreign Office to cooperate with the Embassy in the solution of a number of important pending cases, in which American citizens were parties, occasioned extensive diplomatic correspondence chiefly relating to the insistence of the Embassy that the Department of Justice be required to exercise some jurisdiction in the cases and bring them to a final determination in the courts, which usually resulted in the repeated insistence of the Foreign Office that under the Cuban Constitution the Judiciary is a separate and independent department and not subject to the influence or control of the Foreign Office or of the Executive himself.

2. The Secretary of State further took the position that the Cuban laws, substantive and procedural, undeniably are archaic and admit of many delays in the solution of cases, but that the Cuban Government is not chargeable with a failure of justice or with any responsibility for delays which the law authorizes as long as the Cuban laws remain unamended. He also contended that no case could be made out in favor of a diplomatic remedy for American litigants as long as the action of the courts was in accord with the law, even though it led to extraordinary delays.

3. The result is obvious. There are a number of such cases still pending which have been pending before the Cuban courts in various forms practically during the entire Zayas administration which might have been long since disposed of had the Foreign Office and the Department of Justice manifested proper interest and cooperation in their solution. A number of the cases involved questions of international law and the failure or denial of justice in the courts, involving in some instances long periods of confinement of American citizens awaiting trial. These cases have likewise engaged the attention of the State Department in Washington, but their final solution is still pending.

4. The new Cuban administration gives promise of the adoption of a policy of friendly cooperation. President Machado on May 23, two days after his inauguration, granted the Ambassador a conference during which the latter expressed the desire of his Government to bring to an early determination all of these long standing cases and expressed the hope that the President would authorize the new Secretary of Justice to fully cooperate with the Embassy with that end in view. President Machado stated that it was his desire to give special consideration to international relations, especially with the United States, and that he would

Binding Margin

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

instruct the Secretary of Justice to make a special effort to have all pending cases in which the Embassy is interested brought to an early and just determination. The President, in the presence of the Ambassador, gave the Secretary of Justice such instructions by telephone and asked that myself and Captain Clark, who has been handling legal matters in the Embassy, to immediately call upon the Secretary of Justice and take up the matters informally with him. This was done and the Secretary of Justice expressed a like desire to render the fullest cooperation with the Embassy in the solution of all matters relating to his Department.

5. On May 25 Captain Clark had a second conference with the Secretary of Justice, presenting certain cases which call for prompt action, with the result that appropriate telegraphic instructions were sent by the Secretary of Justice to the fiscals of the courts having jurisdiction, directing the procedure to be taken, which was in full accord with the desires of the Embassy. It is the hope of the Embassy that other outstanding cases, of a more complicated character, will be satisfactorily disposed of at an early date.

6. The Secretary of Justice during the first interview stated that the Embassy could be assured of the proper cooperation of his office, even beyond the scope of its routine duties, as he desired the Embassy to regain confidence in the Judiciary of Cuba.

7. There is every indication that all other Departments of the Cuban Government under President Machado's new administration will give this Embassy the same friendly and special cooperation as has already been displayed by the Department of Justice.

8. In spite of the fact that Dr. Carlos Manuel de Cespedes, the Secretary of State, during the Zayas administration, continues to hold the same office under the present government, I know first hand that President Machado has given him strict instructions to change the policy of his office in its relations with the United States Government and that he, the President, will during his administration insist on closer cooperation and better understanding between the two governments.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ROUTING SLIP

Date 8/5/25

File No. 2657-Q-260

M. A. No. 26211

From: RECORD SECTION, G-2.

To:

Chief, Latin-American (2 a)

Chief, Far Eastern (2 b)

Chief, European (2 c)

Chief, Aviation .

Chief, Training

Chief, M. I. _____

File ✓

ENCS. ATTACHED TO COPY #_____

P. C. ATTACHED TO COPY #_____

DISPOSITION OF COPIES:

#2 to _____

#3 to 2a

#4 to _____

#5 to _____

Note: Original or copy #1 sent to file

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

WAR DEPT. CHIEF OF STAFF
MILITARY DIV.
JUN 5

1925 2657-G760

WAR DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT Policy of Machado Administration to cut Governmental Expenses.

(3190)

From The Military Attaché, Havana, Cuba.

No. 2621 *Date* May 29, 1925. *19*

Replying to No. *Date* MILITARY A/2 U.S. JUN 3 1925 *19*

1. The policy of the Machado administration to cut governmental expenses was reflected in the cabinet meeting yesterday at which it was decided to introduce various economies in the government and among other steps along this line, to suppress unnecessary posts, with particular attention to the elimination of "botellas" (sinecures). In the Department of Public Works alone about 900 names have been eliminated from the pay rolls since May 20.

2. A meeting of all cabinet Secretaries is scheduled for today at the Treasury Department for the discussion and, if possible, the completion of the next fiscal year's budget with a view to its transmittal to the Congress next Monday for immediate action.

3. During the cabinet meeting yesterday the President directed the Secretaries not to include in the new proposed budget any salary increases or elevations in rank of any public employees and to reduce all items as much as possible.

4. One of President Machado's first official acts upon assuming the reins of government was to issue an order suspending all contracts and payments authorized by his predecessor in his many presidential decrees and further directed that all existing contracts be strictly investigated before payments are liquidated.

5. Another indication of the present administration to reduce expenses is reflected in the vetoing by President Machado of fourteen pension bills passed by the Cuban Congress during the incumbency of President Zayas together with a statement he has made on the subject to the effect that he is in general against pension bills and will sanction only those which he really believes are warranted.

W. H. Shutan

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

Binding Margin

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
In replying refer to
2657-G-260

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
WASHINGTON

June 12, 1925

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INT.
1925 2657-2-260 JUN 13
WAR DEPARTMENT

Subject: Military Attache Report.

To: Bureau of Foreign & Domestic Commerce, Commerce Dept.

1. Enclosed herewith, for your information, is copy of military attache report as follows:

From	Date	No.	Subject
		Letter	
M/A Cuba	5-29-25	2621	Policy of Machado Administration to cut Governmental Expenses.

2. ~~Acknowledgment of receipt of this report is requested, together with your comments as to its value, by indorsement hereon.~~

3. It will not be necessary to return the report to this Division.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

N. E. MARGETTS,
Lieut. Colonel, General Staff,
Chief, M. I. 5.

MAILED M. I. D.
JUN 12 1925

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

1 Cuba 11

f-1
3220 2657-g-24

WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Cuban National Codification Commission - Revision and Modification of Cuban Laws.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. AUG 6 1925

1. I enclose herewith translation of Presidential Decree No. 1608 published in the Cuban Official Gazette of July 30, 1925, reorganizing the Cuban National Codification Commission, established under a law of March 9, 1922, for the purpose of modification, revision, and amplification of the Cuban organic laws and procedural codes to be later transmitted to the Cuban Congress for enactment. The commission as reorganized is comprised of twelve members of high professional standing and legal qualifications and presided over by the Secretary of Justice.

2. There are also designated as ex-officio members of the commission the Code Committee of the Senate, the Chairman of the Code and Justice Committee of the House of Representatives, the Dean of the Havana College of Attorneys, the Director of the Office of Legislative Projects, and the first assistant counsellor or the same. For the purpose of the most expeditious and scientific method of carrying out the work of the commission its members are divided into three sections: (a) Civil Legislation, (b) Commercial Legislation, (c) Criminal Legislation.

3. The commission is directed to hold at least two sessions per month with an allowance of $25.00 per day for each member attending the sessions, but not to exceed more than $100.00 per month, each.

4. The decree creates the Office of Legislative Projects in the Department of Justice with a Director in charge with a salary of $6,000.00 per annum and additional designated personnel. The purpose of the last mentioned office is to prepare legislative projects for the consideration of the commission and to publish and distribute the approved projects in the manner designated.

5. The revision, modernization and codification of the Cuban laws have never heretofore been seriously undertaken, although universally recognized as one of the most pressing needs ever since the establishment of the Cuban Republic. The serious undertaking of the work by a commission of a small number of especially qualified professional economists, lawyers and jurists was strongly urged by Provisional Governor Magoon in 1908, and has since been urged by representatives of the American Mission in Cuba from time to time, and also particularly stressed by Ambassador Crowder to President Zayas in 1922, which probably resulted in the enactment of the law of March 9 of that year creating a Code Commission (which accomplished nothing), and again to President-elect Machado before his inauguration in May, 1925.

From: M.A. Havana Report No. 2661 Date: July 31, 1925.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

6. The cogent reasons and urgent need for the revision and modernization of the Judiciary and general laws of the Cuban Republic were presented to General Machado by the Ambassador in a memorandum on the subject prepared by the undersigned in January of this year. It was pointed out that the Cuban Republic is endeavoring to function under a system of old Spanish laws extended to Cuba at a very early date - archaic in the country of their origin and even more so in Cuba because of the transition from a monarchial to a republican form of government and the rapid stride made in recent years in Cuba's industrial development. It was suggested that perhaps the most urgent need was for a revision of the Spanish internal tax system; the criminal and civil codes; the criminal and civil code of procedure, and likewise of the commercial code which does not meet the present day commercial needs, particularly as affecting international trade, and seriously affects the creditor class because of their inability under those laws to collect just debts and obtain proper security. It was likewise suggested that the laws covering the relation of husband and wife, master and servant, guardian and ward, bankruptcy, principal and agent, insurance, actions of injunction, replevin, chattel mortgages, powers of attorney, mandamus, and many others should be brought up to date.

7. In pointing out the necessity for such revision, it was stated that the only desire and purpose of the United States Military Government in Cuba, following the close of the war, was to so administer the affairs of the government as to give security to persons and property, restore confidence and encourage the Cuban people to establish a republican form of government as quickly and efficiently as conditions would permit; that unlike the duties confronting the United States with respect to Porto Rico and the Philippines, which became insular possessions, carrying full responsibility for establishing therein a republican form of government in harmony with that of the United States, it was the desire of the United States in her relations with Cuba to make as few changes as possible in the administrative methods, the judicial procedure and the laws, leaving the Cuban people free to determine for themselves the changes of law, substantive, administrative and procedural, found necessary and desirable in reforming the old monarchial system to meet the needs of a modern republic. Notwithstanding the great need for such reforms, the first serious attempt during the past 22 years is now to be undertaken by the Cuban Government to provide a scientific and modern system of laws to conform to her republican constitution and meet the needs of a present day government.

8. As an aid to the members of the 1922 commission in their work, this Embassy last year procured Spanish copies of the seventeen volumes of the laws of the Philippine Commission, and a copy of the revised laws of Porto Rico, through the Bureau of Insular Affairs in Washington, and delivered them to the then Chairman of the commission. That data will be available for the use of the new Code Commission.

9. It is the stated purpose of the new code commission to complete its work and have it presented by the President to the Cuban Congress by November first of this year for enactment. The reorganization of the code commission at this time indicates a determined purpose of President Machado, as stated prior to his inauguration, to carry out his plans to modernize the Cuban laws, and reorganize the Judiciary and other departments of the Cuban government to whatever extent may be found necessary during this administration.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, J.A.G.D., Asst. Military Attaché.

From: M.A.Havana Report No. 2661 Date: July 31, 1925.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Encl

4-1 Cuba 1925-7-261

WAR DEPARTMENT
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
AUG 31

PRESIDENTIAL DECREE.

Re: REORGANIZATION OF CODIFICATION COMMISSION.

(Official Gazette of July 30, 1925).

No. 1608

WHEREAS: A necessity contemporary with the foundation of the republic, and which has not even been partially fulfilled, is that of a codification of our laws which, conserving the proper part of our characteristic juridical institutions, will at the same time bring into effect the innovations required by the profound change experienced in the political and economical conditions of Cuba and by the present scientific progress.

WHEREAS: Separate, fragmentary or unharmonious reforms which, from time to time, and due to the urgency caused by a new regime have been introduced into the legislation inherited from our former metropolis, as well as certain organic laws enacted by reason of unavoidable provisions of the constitution of the republic, increase, to a great degree, the need of new codes and laws which shall entail the new standards of law now in force and those which for the purpose of completing them it may be proper to enact with the traditions that should be maintained.

WHEREAS: For the said purpose there was a partial response in Decree No. 13 of January 6, 1908, in relation with the modifications of the Penal Code, the plausible initiative of the Havana College of Lawyers in convening a National Juridical Congress in 1916 for the preparation of the bases of a project of Cuban Civil Code, the appointment by said Congress of a commission to draft the said project composed of five of our most reputed lawyers and later the creation by the Law of March 9, 1922, of the National Codification Commission which extinguished the former commission.

WHEREAS: The aforementioned commission due to the large number of its members, which defeats its nature, converting it into more of a popular assembly than a real select technical body, as well as to the honorary nature of the office of commissioner, has up to the present failed to produce any results.

WHEREAS: In view of this negative experience it is indispensable, without contravening the law, for the Executive to provide the most efficient means to carry out this patriotic task in a conscientious and active manner by using the powers conferred upon him and disposing in an adequate manner of the credit for said object expressly assigned in the budget law in force.

WHEREAS: In harmony with such purpose nothing seems more proper than to reorganize said Commission, and to issue certain reglamentary provisions which will facilitate its functions by reducing to a small number of attorneys at law of undoubted vocation and acknowledged competency in this class of work the large number with which it was originally constituted, and it not being reasonable that the task that is to be carried out and which requires a dedication of full time in some cases become a burden upon them alone, whose time is required in other preferential matters, the real practical way to go about this is to establish a technical office which will properly function and cooperate with the Commission, tendering it material for its deliberations and preparation of its projects, systematizing initiative, ordering compilations and performing other useful duties, with the freedom and the punctuality which it is rightful to demand and require of paid officials.

THEREFORE: In use of the powers conferred upon me by the Constitution and the laws, on proposal of the Secretary of Justice:

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

I RESOLVE:

FIRST: To reorganize the National Codification Commission, ordering that it be made up of the following gentlemen:

Dr. JOSE ANTOLIN DEL CUETO Y PAZOS, Ex Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Professor of Civil Law and Ex Professor of Commercial Law of the Havana University.

Dr. ANTONIO SANCHEZ DE BUSTAMANTE, Professor of International Law of the University of Havana, member of the International Court of Justice of The Hague.

Dr. RICARDO DOLZ Y ARANGO, Senator and Professor of Law of Procedure of the Havana University.

Dr. RAUL TRELLES Y GOVIN, Justice of the Supreme Court.

Dr. ARTURO HEVIA Y DIAZ, Ex Justice of the Supreme Court.

Dr. FERNANDO ORTIZ Y FERNANDEZ, Member of Congress, Ex-Professor of Public Law of the Havana University and author of works on criminology.

Dr. BALBINO GONZALEZ Y PASARON, Justice of the Havana Audiencia.

Dr. GUILLERMO PORTELA Y MOLLER, Professor of Criminal Law of the Havana University.

Dr. JOSE LUIS VIDAURRETA, Lieutenant Fiscal of the Supreme Court.

Dr. RAFAEL GUAS E INCLAN, Member of Congress and criminal lawyer.

Dr. ANTONIO LUCIO VALVERDE, counsellor at law and professor of the Commercial College.

Dr. JUAN MARINELLO VIDAURRETA, Civil lawyer.

The following shall be ex officio members of the Commission:

The Code Committee of the Senate, the Chairman of the Code and Justice Committee of the House of Representatives, the Dean of the Havana College of Attorneys, the Director of the Office of Legislative Projects and the first assistant counsellor or the same.

The Commission shall be presided by the Secretary of Justice, already elected to said office by the Commission when created, and in his absence, by the Director of the Office of Legislative Projects. The other appointments made in presidential decree of March 16, 1922, are hereby revoked.

SECOND: For the greatest rapidity and efficacy in the work of the National Codification Commission, this will be subdivided, from the commencement of its duties, into three permanent Sections which will be known as: Section on Civil Legislation; Section of Commercial Legislation and Section on Penal Legislation, which shall devote their activities especially to the juridical matters indicated by their respective titles.

The Commission shall organize from among its own members the Section on Administrative Legislation, when the Office of Legislative Projects shall have made the preparation and drafted the proper projects.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

THIRD: The Sections shall operate separately and shall be made up as follows:

(a) SECTION ON CIVIL LEGISLATION: Chairman: Dr. Antonio Sanchez de Bustamante; The Chairman of the Code and Justice Committee of the House of Representatives, member; Dr. Raul Trelles, member; The Dean of the Havana College of Lawyers, member; Dr. Juan Marinello Vidaurreta, Secretary.

(b) SECTION ON COMMERCIAL LEGISLATION: Chairman: Dr. Jose Antolin del Cueto; The Chairman of the Code Committee of the Senate, member; Dr. Arturo Hevia, member; Doctor Balbino Gonzalez y Pasaron, member; Dr. Ricardo Dolz, member; Dr. Antonio Lucio Valverde, Secretary.

(c) SECTION ON CRIMINAL LEGISLATION: Chairman: Dr. Fernando Ortiz y Fernandez; Dr. Guillermo Portela, member; Dr. Jose Luis Vidaurreta, member; Dr. Rafael Guas Inclan, member; Dr. Enrique Roig y Fortesaavedra, Secretary.

The President of the National Codification Commission, and in lieu thereof, the Director of the Office of Legislative Projects shall preside the meetings of the Sections, when present thereat.

FOURTH: The National Codification Commission, when ordered by the President, shall hold plenary sessions whenever at least nine of its members are present at which meetings resolutions shall be adopted as are deemed proper on any of the following topics:

(a) Internal organization of the Commission's work.

(b) Resolutions that may be necessary in order to harmonize the different projects of reforms approved by the Sections.

(c) Those special resolutions on matters of the jurisdiction thereof which are solicited by the Secretary of Justice.

The Sections will hold at least two sessions per month, whenever ordered by the President thereof, or when they decide to do so by the presence of at least three of their members.

Resolutions shall be adopted, in plenary sessions of the National Codification Commission, as well as in the sessions of the Sections by the majority vote of the members present.

The Commission and the Sections may request directly of any department of the Administration, through the Secretary of Justice, that they send data, antecedents and reports deemed necessary for the success of their work.

FIFTH: Each member of the Commission shall collect a stipend of $25 per session attended by him. No matter what number of sessions may be held in each month, no member of the Commission may collect more than $100 per month for his services.

SIXTH: All the administrative and auxiliary personnel, stenographers and other employees of the National Codification Commission shall cease in office from this date.

SEVENTH: The Office of Legislative Projects is created in the Department of Justice, the same to be in charge of a Director who must be an attorney at law and have recognized reputation as a jurist, and he shall be paid a salary of $6,000 per annum, payable in twelfth parts with the rank of Superior Chief of Administration.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

The Office of Legislative Projects shall also have the following personnel: An Assistant Counsel who must prove having practised law during ten years or having held public office which requires such professional degree, or judicial functions or a professorship at the Law School, with the annual salary of $3,600 distributed in monthly portions and with the rank of Chief of Administration of the First Class; another Assistant Counsel with an annual salary of $1800 payable in monthly instalments and the rank of official of the fifth class; another official of the fifth class with a salary of $1800 per annum payable in monthly instalments; two stenographers with a salary of $75 per month each and a typist with a salary of $60 per month.

EIGHTH: The said office shall take charge of the preparation of legislative projects for the purpose of exhibiting them for the examination and approval by the Sections or by the plenary Commission, according to the character of the same, to correct the style and form of the approved projects and to take charge of the printing and publication of the same. A large enough edition of each project shall be made so that copies of the same may be distributed among the Senators, Congressmen, Professors of the Law Faculty, College of Lawyers and Notarial College, Justices, officers of the judiciary, libraries and principal scientific corporations of Cuba and abroad, as well as among the press and other persons and entities among whom it is convenient to distribute the same. Once the publication of each project has been made the Director of the Office shall deliver two copies, authenticated by him, to the Secretary of Justice, one of which shall be remitted to Congress with the corresponding Presidential Message for the resolution thereon which the Legislative Power might see fit to adopt and the other copy shall remain on file in the Department of Justice.

NINTH: To appoint for the office of Director of the Office of Legislative Projects, Dr. Mariano Aramburo y Machado.

For the first post of Assistant Counsel: Dr. Ruben Martinez Villena, and for the second post, Dr. Domingo Villamil y Perez.

TENTH: The Secretary of Justice is entrusted with the execution of this Decree.

Given at the Presidential Palace, Havana, July 27, 1925.

GERARDO MACHADO.
President.

J. M. Barraqué,
Secretary of Justice.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

1 Encl

H-I 2657-G.362

3500

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Reform of the Judiciary.

MILID 1/1 WAC SEP 23 1925

1. I am enclosing herewith translation from LA LUCHA, of September 3, 1925, giving a list of forty-eight judges, who, in the interest of the reform of the Judiciary, have been subjected to criminal and administrative proceedings. Included among this number is Judge Oscar Zayas y Portelo, nephew of ex-President Zayas, Correctional Judge, who, it is reported, has been indicted without bail for the crimes of malversation, falsification of official documents, and prevarication.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, J. A. G. D.,
Asst. Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana Report No. 2690 Date: September 16, 1925.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Cuc 1

4-1 265 1 of 262

LA LUCHA - September 3, 1925.

Re: List of 48 Judges subject to criminal and administrative proceedings.
- -

Twenty-three criminal cases have been instituted; and eight proceedings for dismissal. Eleven Courts pending investigation - One disciplinary correction.

Several days ago, all the newspapers of this city published reports concerning the investigations made in the Judiciary, and that proceedings had been instituted against more than 45 Judges throughout the national territory. We immediately requested our Correspondents in all towns and cities of importance to investigate and report everything connected with this case, and we soon obtained sufficiently exact reports of the Judges against whom action was taken. La Lucha has never failed to recognize the importance of the declarations made by the President of the Republic and the Secretary of Justice shortly after taking possession of their offices on May 20th, as the future of our Republic was involved. And even before that time, La Lucha has waged campaigns for the investigation of the actions of certain judges who had been transgressing the Law, especially in electoral matters.

Enthusiastic as we were over said purposes of the Government, admirably seconded by the President and the Prosecuting Attorney of the Supreme Court, we tried to follow the proceedings, but we often ran against the impatient attitude of the public which was not aware to what extent the depuration was being carried out. The lack of confidence of the people was principally due to the fact that they did not know what procedures were to be followed. Because persons who are not acquainted with legal affairs, believed that as soon as the existence of any fault was verified, the dismissal of the guilty judge should immediately follow, without stopping to think that in the same manner that a mere citizen finds protection in the laws in force, so the public officials also have protection for their defense.

It is for this reason that wishing to satisfy the inquisitiveness of the public, we started to investigate in each Judicial District of the Republic the action taken in connection with the depuration in the Judiciary, in spite of the fact that the Courts were not in session, to enable us to give exact information, in order that the people might have full confidence in the high officials who were making the investigations, and in the good purposes of depuration and expurgation of the Executive Power and the Judiciary. Our task has not been unfruitful, and from the reports obtained from our Correspondents we can now give a list of the Judges subject to proceedings, investigation, and criminal action, after having made a careful classification, as follows:

CRIMINAL ACTION.

Criminal Proceedings have been instituted against the following:

Municipal Judge of Guane
Two Municipal Judges of Surgidero de Batabanó
Municipal Judge of Jaguey Grande
Two cases against the Municipal Judge of Sabanilla del Encomendador, who has been dismissed from the Judiciary
Municipal Judge of Cardenas
Substitute Municipal Judge of Marti
Substitute Municipal Judge of Limonar
Municipal Judge of Canasi
Substitute Municipal Judge of Agramonte
Municipal Judge of Aguada de Pasajeros
Municipal Judge of Ranchuelo
Municipal Judge of Abreus
Municipal Judge of Sancti Spiritus
Municipal Judge of Caibarien
Municipal Judge of Calabazar de Sagua
Judge of First Instance and of Instruction of Moron
Judge of First Instance and of Instruction of Ciego de Avila
Municipal Judge of Esmeralda
Acting Municipal Judge of Santa Cruz del Sur
Municipal Judge of Puerto Padre

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

PROCEEDINGS OF DISMISSAL

Proceedings of dismissal have been instituted against the following Judges:

Municipal Judge of Trinidad
Judge of First Instance and of Instruction of Moron
Judge of First Instance and of Instruction of Ciego de Avila
Municipal Judge of Nuevitas
Correctional Judge of Camaguey
Judge of First Instance and of Instruction of Nuevitas
Municipal Judge of Ciego de Avila
Judge of First Instance and of Instruction of Santa Cruz del Sur

PENDING INVESTIGATION

We have been able to learn that investigation is now pending against the following judges, and therefore it is not known what action will be taken against them, whether criminal proceedings, proceedings of dismissal, or both:

Judge of First Instance and of Instruction of Victoria de las Tunas
Judge of First Instance and of Instruction of Puerto Padre
Judge of First Instance and of Instruction of Palma Soriano
Municipal Judge of Palma Soriano
Municipal Judge of Manzanillo
Municipal Judge of Guantanamo
Municipal Judge of Gibara
Municipal Judge of Yateras
Municipal Judge of Jiguani
Municipal Judge of San Gerónimo
Municipal Judge of Sagua de Tánamo

DISCIPLINARY CORRECTION

Proceedings of Disciplinary Correction are being instituted against the Judge of Instruction of Guane, in the Province of Habana.

CORRECTIONAL COURT OF THE FOURTH SECTION

As is known, criminal proceedings have been instituted against officials and clerks of the Correctional Court of the Fourth Section, of Habana, and the suspension from salary and office of Judge Oscar Zayas, is expected at any moment.

COURT OF INSTRUCTION OF THE FIRST SECTION

Our readers also know that criminal action has been taken against the officials and employees of the Court of Instruction of the First Section of Habana for malversation, and our readers also know that certain decisions have been rendered in connection with this case.

IN CIENFUEGOS

Reports received from Cienfuegos indicate that criminal action will soon be brought against three Municipal Judges who have acted in the Municipal Court of Cienfuegos, and these actions promise to create a sensation.

DR. RAUL TRELLES

Magistrate Trelles is still making certain investigations in Courts of the Province of Matanzas and it is certain that other criminal actions or proceedings of dismissal will result.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

TO ORIENTE

As soon as Dr. Trelles finishes his work in Matanzas he will proceed to inspect the Courts of the Province of Oriente, where, we understand, many new criminal actions or proceedings of dismissal will be instituted.

IN THE SUPREME COURT

We understand that resolutions are now pending before the Supreme Court to proceed against several judges of the Province of Pinar del Rio, but nothing has yet been decided by the Chamber of Government.

AGAINST A MAGISTRATE

And finally, we must say that the proceedings of dismissal instituted against the Magistrate of the Audiencia of Oriente, Dr. José Mariano del Portillo, is rapidly progressing and the hearing of the case before the Supreme Court will take place shortly.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ROUTING SLIP

Date 9-25-25

File No. 2657-g-262

M.-A. No. MA2-2690

From: RECORD SECTION, G-2.

To:

Chief, Latin-American (2 a)

Chief, Far Eastern (2 b)

Chief, European (2 c)

Chief, Aviation

Chief, Training

Chief, M. I._____

File ✓

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

1 Enc

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.

2-1 1925 2657-Q-263 NOV 7

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE.
HAVANA, CUBA.

#2709. October 29, 1925.

Subject: President Machado's Address to the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Co. of Boston.

To: A.C. of S., G-2.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D./ NOV 4 - 1925

There are enclosed herewith copies of translation from "El Mundo" of October 16, 1925, of the address delivered by President Machado at the 288th Annual Banquet of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston which took place in Havana October 6, 1925.

W. H. Shutan,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
NOV 7 1925
3-1 2657-Q-263

FROM "EL MUNDO" - October 16, 1925.

Address delivered by the Honorable President of the Republic of Cuba, General Gerardo Machado, at the 288th banquet of the "Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston, held at the Sevilla-Biltmore Hotel, in Habana, the night of October 6, 1925.

His Excellency the Ambassador of the United States of America and one of the best friends of the Cuban people, Mr. Crowder;

The Honorable Secretary of State of Massachusetts, Mr. Cook;

The Honorable Captain and Members of the "Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts", which has at all times been the herald and champion of liberty.

Gentlemen:

The Cuban people, joined to the United States by ties of gratitude, affection and admiration, feels deep sympathy for the great American people who came to help us at the most difficult moments of our struggle for independence, generously shedding their blood on the heroic fields of Santiago and San Juan, thus uniting for all times our peoples in a sublime religion of sacrifice.

Each day that goes by, we Cubans feel that our devotion to the United States is loyally corresponded. A short while ago during my recent voyage to the United States I received constant demonstrations of the affection which is felt there for the people of Cuba, and I was convinced that it should serve me as an advantageous example. When I visited the American nation, I became acquainted with its business men, its statesmen and officials, and personally became acquainted with President Coolidge; this great man who knows how to love liberty and practice civic virtue, as was done by Washington, Lincoln and Roosevelt, and as should be done by the Representative Head of the greatest people on the face of the earth, and I must confess that that voyage was the inspiring influence of the Government which I should give Cuba, because from there, together with the practical teachings of reality, I brought with me the fervent desire of making this little country, small in territory but large in purposes of patriotism, through its enthusiasm, its integrity and the purity of its public administration, a nation as great as the United States. It is convenient that visits like this which we have the honor to receive from you be constantly repeated for the good of Cuba and of the Americans who reside here, because through these visits and through the advice of men like your Ambassador, our relations which up to the present time have been most cordial, shall be more so in the future, and shall not be limited merely to the social intercourse and to the interchange of salutations and courtesies, but shall at the same time be practical and beneficial to our economical interests, because it is necessary that these interests be increased and intensified in order that this little country shall become great, and be even greater the gratitude which we should and may feel for the American people. These visits will be, without a doubt, not only convenient but likewise useful and advantageous.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

It is a fact that if friendship and affection were the only results of the fraternal embrace which this night joins Cubans and Americans, this would be sufficient to prove the benefits of your trip; but it is necessary that the men of the United States who visit Cuba, return with the impression that this nation which feels with an American soul desires fervently that you correspond to these sentiments and to that gratitude with the same generosity with which you came to offer your lives for our independence, cooperating with us to make a great country of this small nation which you helped to make free.

The men whose ancestors in Massachusetts one hundred and fifty-one years ago threw overboard a cargo of tea as a protest against the burdensome taxes imposed by the mother country, carrying out the act of rebellion which is perhaps the most beneficial known to humanity, know that we, as they did, did do everything for our independence and sovereignty; that just as their nation, inspired in these ideals, helped us in our efforts to obtain it, we have confidence in that they will continue to help us in the hard labors of peace to preserve them and enhance them; that at no time and under no circumstance whatsoever will Cuba forget the heroic acts of Roosevelt and his companions at Santiago, Caney and San Juan; and that all the people of this country, small in size but large in enthusiasm, will always be ready to stand beside the United States when the need arises.

Cuba is at this time really commencing its national reorganization. The present administration which took office on the twentieth of May past, devotes special attention to public instruction, public works, sanitation and other branches of the administration; but it is also necessary to devote a great deal of attention to the financial problems, and these, in my opinion, are all summarized in the fact that Cuba should be the market of supply of the United States of those products which due to the natural advantages, it may produce under the most favorable circumstances, and among which sugar should be given first consideration. This will be more easy to achieve if the American people realize that a large part of the sugar properties in Cuba belong to Americans, and that therefore, the sugar that is produced in Cuba should be considered in the United States, in part, as a national product, and should be given the proper aid and protection. By doing this, you would bring positive benefits to this sister republic which to-day is honored with your presence, and at the same time you would assist many of the commercial national interests of yourselves.

We have interests incommon, and if in history we are united by ties of ideals and patriotism, it is likewise necessary that we be joined by close financial ties.

The Government of Cuba can positively offer absolute guarantees to foreign citizens who reside in our country. Capital, in Cuba, a great part of which is American, has absolute protection of the Cuban Government. This being so, it seems equitable that the products of our soil be likewise guaranteed and protected by you and by yours, my dear comrades; and I call you thus, because I am also a soldier and a veteran who was made a prisoner of war with my family when I was only three years of age, and who later, almost a child, took up arms to help obtain the freedom of my country.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

You, in Massachusetts, gave forth the cry of "liberty or Death", and we in Cuba, following your noble example, repeated this cry. Our two nations are enjoying the results of these efforts, and it is our duty to maintain them. The only way to maintain real liberty, is through an honest national administration, and I assure you that Cuba, through me, will have an honest administration, whatever it may cost.

I am going to close my words, which I assure you have been the spontaneous and sincere expression of the sentiments of my heart; a heart full of reverence and of love for my country and my people, and of gratitude and affection for the American people, and of great admiration for your State which was the cradle of liberty of the New World.

I am proud of having sat at this table as a guest at the banquet No. 288 of the "Ancient and Honorable Artillery of Massachusetts, the personification of culture, enthusiasm, progress, philanthropy and patriotism.

Now I ask for a toast, sincere and coming from the bottom of my heart; a toast on foot for a soldier of your Ancient Company; for a great and honorable man, for the first citizen of your country: for Calvin Coolidge, the President of the United States.

FSL.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

4-1

2655-Q-266 24
WAR DEPARTMENT 3417

G-2 Report

CUBA
Subject: MAINE Memorial Exercises.

Archives 9/2 W.D. FEB 23 1926

1. Enclosed herewith is clipping from The Havana Post of February 16, 1926, giving detailed account of the ceremony attending the unveiling of the tablet bearing the names of the American seamen lost in the battleship MAINE disaster.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2742 Date: Feb. 16, 1926.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ROUTING SLIP

Date 2/24/26

File No. 2657-G-264

M.-A. No. 442-2742

From: RECORD SECTION, G-2,

To:

Chief, Latin-American (2 a) ✓

Chief, Far Eastern (2 b)

Chief, European (2 c)

Chief, Aviation

Chief, Training

Chief, M. I._____

File

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DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Cuban Nation Joins With Americans in Remembering Dead of the Maine on the 28th Anniversary of Its Sinking

Impressive Ceremony Attends Unveiling of Tablet Bearing Names of 266 American Seamen Who Went Down With Ill-Fated Battleship in Havana Harbor

MORE THAN 10,000 PERSONS ATTEND

Eloquent Speech by Commander in Chief Carmi Thompson of the United Spanish War Veterans Dedicated Bronze Tablet to Memory of Departed Comrades.

Cubans and Americans yesterday combined their efforts in sponsoring an impressive memorial service for the American seamen who lost their lives in the Maine disaster 28 years ago. The unveiling of a tablet, bearing the names of the 266 Maine victims, was an important feature of this ceremony. This tablet was presented by the national United Spanish War Veterans, with an impressive dedicatory speech, by the commander-in-chief of the organization, Colonel Carmi I. Thompson.

President Machado made an eloquent and patriotic address and the American Ambassador, General Crowder, delivered a message from President Coolidge, in a discourse that he gave at the conclusion of the president's address.

The Rev. Father John C. Chadwick, opened the services with an appropriate prayer, that was a classic in composition and a masterpiece in eloquence. Father Chadwick was chaplain of the Maine at the time of the catastrophe and counted as personal friends the men whose names have been indelibly inscribed on a page of Cuba's history, in the cause of freedom.

The playing of Cuba's national anthem, by the general staff military band, marked the official opening of the services, followed by "The Star Spangled Banner" and the British national hymn. The British anthem was played in honor of Admiral Sir James Ferguson and officers of H. M. S. Calcutta and Capetown, who with the British minister, T. J. Morris, occupied seats in the presidential stand.

The Cuban navy and army department, of which Dr. Rafael Iturralde, is secretary, officially sponsored this ceremony, with the distinguished patriot and soldier, General Pedro Betancourt, in charge of the program.

Mrs. Machado, wife of the president, and his daughter, Miss Angela Elvira Machado, stood by his side during the services, and nearly a full representation of the diplomatic corps, as well as the cabinet officers and their wives, occupied seats on the president's stand, with a large delegation of representative Americans who came here especially for this ceremony.

Thousands of persons attended the service regardless of a light rain that fell at intervals, and the arrival of the presidential party was signalled by a great ovation.

A military parade in which Cuban, American and British troops participated, was an impressive feature of the ceremony. The procession was headed by a squad of policemen and the general staff band led a battalion of American sailors, followed by a battalion of Cuban sailors. A battalion of coast artillery, followed by a battalion of infantry and a squadron of cavalry came next, with a battalion of British sailors, accompanied by their own band, formed the rear section of the procession. On the return march the British sailors led the procession from the Maine monument back to Plaza de Armas, from where they embarked on the British cruisers that left Havana harbor last night.....

During the services the troops who took part in the parade formed an immense guard around the monument, which was laden with flowers.

President Machado Speaks.

At the conclusion of Father Chadwick's invocation, President Machado stepped forward and was greeted with applause and his address, which follows, was delivered in an eloquent and impressive manner:

"Mr. Ambassador,

"Ladies and Gentlemen:-

"We meet today to render a loving tribute to the memory of these noble officers and sailors of the American navy who lost their lives in the service of their country on the night of the 15th of February, 1898, during the visit to Havana of the battleship Maine.

"The ship of war, which had arrived a few days before, proudly and serene, and was anchored in the harbor, suddenly and unexpectedly, on that tragic night was the scene of a terrible disaster, which, in a few moments, converted it into a mass of debris that disappeared beneath the waters.

"Cuba, bound to the United States by unbreakable ties of affection, has desired to show its appreciation by revererring the memory of the victims of that tragedy and here, facing the Gulf, raised this monument that, white and majestic, appears to the sight as an imperishable symbol of the affection and mutual respect of two brotherly peoples who one day shed their bloods together for the ideal of the independence of this country.

"Complete cordiality reigns today between those who were adversaries at that time, which, full of trouble and of glorious struggles, gave birth to this Republic that by its progress and its great aspirations for peace, civilization and culture justifies the great sacrifices made for its establishment.

"We will maintain undying affection and appreciation for the United States, that country whose sincerity of purpose and respect for our nationality have always been evident since the famous joint resolution that, sculptured on the marble of this monument, will be seen and appreciated by our future generations. In all its actions and in all its relations with our people, the great nation of Washington and Lincoln has demonstrated to the world that there still live in its soul the principles and ideals that inspired McKinley and Roosevelt in 1898.

"Expressing my personal esteem and consideration for your noble country and its distinguished president, the Honorable Calvin Cool-

(Continued on Page Seven)

SECRETARY WILBUR OF U. S. NAVY SOUNDS PATRIOTIC NOTE IN SPEECH AT MAINE EXERCISES

Cuban Navy and Army Department, Officially Sponsoring Program, Is Assisted by Detachments of American Sailors and British Bluejackets in Patriotic Ceremony

STIRRING ADDRESS BY GEN. MACHADO

Gen. E. H. Crawder, American Ambassador Representing President Coolidge, Delivered Masterly Address in Impressive Manner to Multitudes in Drizzling Rain

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—(AP)—Curtis D. Wilbur, secretary of the navy, speaking tonight at the Maine memorial exercises at Fort Myer, sounded a high note of altruism and patriotism in lauding the significance of the Spanish-American war for the United States as well as for Cuba.

Secretary Wilbur said in part:

"When the explosion of the Maine occurred in Havana harbor America was standing upon the threshold of world power. If in the interests of human liberty, right and justice she stepped forward to secure the rights of the oppressed Cubans, she entered the sphere as a great world power. If, on the other hand, America had turned her back upon the afflicted Cubans, we cannot say what the result of this course would have been, but we now know that in heeding this call of the oppressed she was not only achieving liberty for Cuba, but also for herself. America was developing a sense of world responsibility.

"We commemorate tonight an incident and a war of transcendent significance to the people of the island of Cuba. It is difficult for us even now, after only twenty-three years, to realize the desperate condition in which the people of Cuba were involved at the time of the declaration of war. Where desperate need existed in 1899 we now have a peaceful, happy and prosperous people. Cuba now has a republican form of government under a constitution in which liberty is established and maintained.

"We cannot but rejoice that a new flag has been added, and that this flag, like our own, is devoted to liberty, justice, equality.

"My purpose tonight is not to recount the glorious deeds of our soldiers and sailors in the Spanish-American war, but rather to rejoice over the liberty achieved for our neighboring republic and to note that the mysterious explosion which destroyed the Maine was like a signal gun arousing America to a new sense of responsibility for the welfare of her neighbor. By heeding this call we liberated three times as many people as were liberated by our revolution and more than twice as many as were liberated by our civil war."



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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

and the British national hymn. The British anthem was played in honor of Admiral Sir James Ferguson and officers of H. M. S. Calcutta and Capetown, who with the British minister, T. J. Morris, occupied seats in the presidential stand.

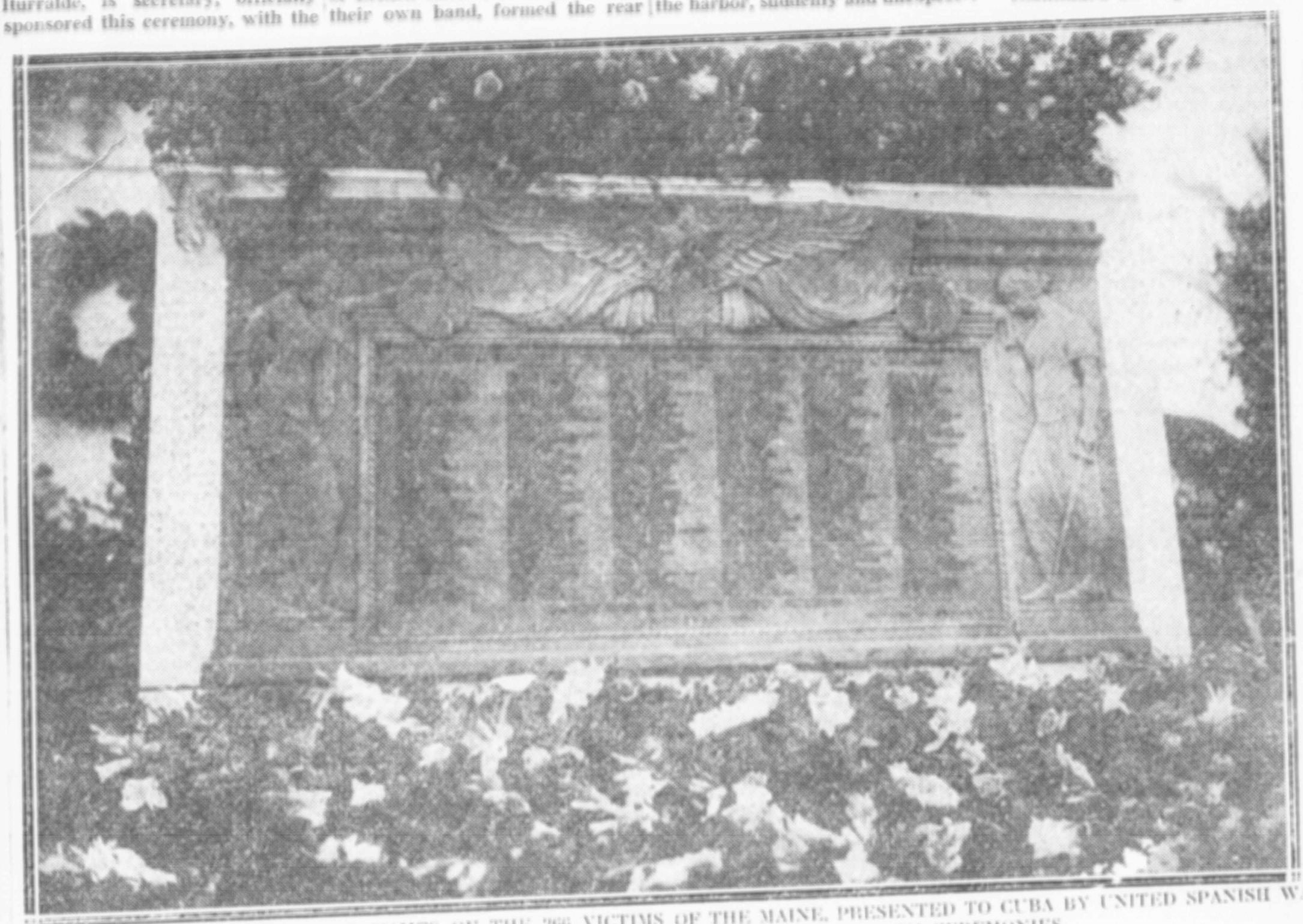
The Cuban navy and army department, of which Dr. Rafael Iturralde, is secretary, officially sponsored this ceremony, with the feature of the ceremony. The procession was headed by a squad of policemen and the general staff band led a battalion of American sailors, followed by a battalion of Cuban sailors. A battalion of coast artillery, followed by a battalion of infantry and a squadron of cavalry came next, with a battalion of British sailors, accompanied by their own band, formed the rear ing tribute to the memory of these noble officers and sailors of the American navy who lost their lives in the service of their country on the night of the 15th of February, 1898, during the visit to Havana of the battleship Maine.

"The ship of war, which had arrived a few days before, proudly and serene, and was anchored in the harbor, suddenly and unexpect-

people, the great nation of Washington and Lincoln has demonstrated to the world that there still live in its soul the principles and ideals that inspired McKinley and Roosevelt in 1898.

"Expressing my personal esteem and consideration for your noble country and its distinguished president, the Honorable Calvin Cool-

(Continued on Page Seven)



BRONZE TABLET, BEARING THE NAMES OF THE 266 VICTIMS OF THE MAINE, PRESENTED TO CUBA BY UNITED SPANISH WAR VETERANS, AND WHICH WAS DEDICATED YESTERDAY WITH CEREMONIES

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MAINE MEMORIAL SERVICES ATTRACT HUGE GATHERING

(Continued from Page One)

idge, in the name of the Cuban people, I greet you, the representatives of the great American navy, who came today to pay homage to the memory of their departed mates. Cuba is glad to receive you, as also the sailors of His Britanic Majesty, whom I also greet and who brighten this act of devotion with their presence, wishing to all that the brilliant star of their respective glories may always shine in defense of just causes and for the good of humanity."

Address of American Ambassador

The American Ambassador, General Crowder, was the next speaker on the program, and the following address was delivered in an impressive manner:

"Your Excellency, Members of the Cabinet, and High Officials of the Government, General Betancourt, Colonel Thompson, Comrades:

"I am directed by the President of the United States to make known to your Excellency the very great pleasure and satisfaction which your presence on this occasion has given him, and to thank you on his behalf for the tribute which, by your presence and your remarks, has been paid to the officers and men of the United States Navy who lost their lives in the service of their country while on a friendly visit to this port. This action on your part, Mr. President, the President of the United States recognizes not only as an indication of your own personal regard for the United States, but as in keeping with the sympathy which from the time of the destruction of the Maine, twenty-eight years ago, has been manifested on all appropriate occasions by the Cuban people, and as illustrative of that good-will which is so heartily reciprocated by the Government and people of the United States.

"In addition to delivering to your Excellency this message from the President of the United States, you will permit me, I know, an expression of personal sentiment. In all the years of my official residence here there have been pilgrimages to the site of these relics where appropriate memorial services have been held, participated in by your own camp of Spanish War Veterans and with equal devotion by the Veterans of the Cuban War of Independence and other patriotic associations of both countries. These annual pilgrimages found their culmination last year in the dedicatory exercises of the completed monument erected by the generosity of the Cuban people. Scarcely less notable is the scene we witness today in the visit of the United Spanish War Veterans of America and the placing of the beautiful tablet on the pedestal of the monument, thus handing down to posterity the names of the Maine dead and making a permanent record of the supreme sacrifice they made.

"The genius of man may design monuments and the generosity of governments may erect them, but it has required sentiments such as I have indicated to make of this monument what it has in fact become—a shrine where the patriots of both countries may assemble in memory of those who, because of their sacrifices, helped to prepare the way for the birth of the Cuban nation, for we now know that the complete significance of the untoward event of the sinking of the ill-fated battleship was to arouse our countrymen from a dormant attitude toward the unequal but persistent struggle Cuba was waging to obtain her independence and to prepare the minds and hearts of our people for our association with her on the field of battle.

"We shall not be loyal to the ties of intimate relationship then formed nor to the memory of those who lost their lives in that historic incident if in future years we fail to maintain this monument as such a shrine, to the end that the patrotically minded who would build upon the principles upon which both governments are founded, and who would foster a spirit of friendship between them, may find here their inspiration for renewed and well-sustained efforts to achieve these great results."

Col. Thompson Dedicates Tablet.

Colonel Carmi A. Thompson, commander-in-chief of the United Spanish War Veterans, was the next speaker on the program. The following excerpts are from the elequent discourse with which he dedicated the bronze tablet to the memory of the American seamen whose names it bears:

"Since the dawn of civilization mankind has revered the memory of those who die for humanity's sake. Today we are gathered in the shadow of a beautiful and appropriate memorial erected by the grateful people of Cuba as a tribute to those of a sister republic who rendered sacrificial service for the cause of Cuban freedom. We come here to record their names in lasting bronze: to offer our tribute to their memory and to pledge anew our allegiance to the cause of liberty and freedom for which they made the supreme sacrifice.

"Bravery alone does not make a hero. There must also be a cause and in that cause must lie the freedom and progress of mankind. The cause for which these men gave their lives is known to all the world. Volumes have been written about the long, heroic struggle of Cuba for liberty, and the memorable event which is foremost in our thoughts on this occasion. The blast which here lighted the sky 28 years ago tonight heralded the arrival of a new freedom. This monument is a proclamation in reverence and in honor of the men who in the spirit of freedom gave up their lives."

After outlining the development of a true democracy and expounding the principles of patriotism, Commander Thompson referred to the Maine victims, as follows:

"Humanity can never pay its debt to such heroes as are honored today. Sacrifice has ever been the price of liberty, but liberty dearly bought is fondly cherished. The spirit of these men was not local. Their influence embraced the furtherest frontiers of life. Such is the spirit that was nurtured in a backwoods home, a rude log house built by neighborhood labor, one man giving free help to his brother, not brother in the blood of birth, but in the most noble of all kinship, the kinship of freedom.

"The youngest daughter of that spirit is Cuba—beautiful, dark-eyed and romantic. Her glorious struggle for freedom will forever be an inspiration to all liberty-loving people. The world's pity for Cuba in the unequal contest was changed to admiration as her little army of patriots inspired by the soul of Marti, and led by Gomez, the great general, and Maceo, the brilliant and fearless leader, won victory after victory over the trained armies of the Old Empire.

"Cuban heroism and the spirit of the United States made Cuba free and the friendship between these sister Republics has been consecrated by the mingled blood of their heroes. This monument which so graciously typifies this friendship will always be a reminder that the spirit of these departed calls to us for allegiance to the cause of liberty and freedom. Let him who treads this hallowed let is so dedicated to the end that men may remember, honor and emulate their supreme sacrifice for freedom, patriotism and humanity." no death. Who dies for freedom the whole world round.

"The nobiest sacrifice is the sacrifice laid upon the altar of liberty. A wreath of roses fades; a tower of brass may crumble; but a garland of sentiment lives forever. The gentle hand of heroism wipes away all jealousies; it harmonizes antagonistic souls and blends in melodious chorus the hearts of men. In liberty there is no death. Who lives for freedom lives throughout eternity.

"And now, on behalf of the United Spanish War Veterans, an organization composed of those who served honestly and faithfully in the naval and military establishments of the United States during the Spanish-American war, and as its commander-in-chief, I have the honor to dedicate this tablet to the memory of those whose names are inscribed thereon, and this tablet is so dedicated to the end that men may remember, honor and emulate their supreme sacrifice for freedom, patriotism and humanity."

Former Maine Ensign Speaks

Captain W. T. Cluverius, who was an ensign on the Maine at the time of the disaster, and who is representing the United States navy on this mission, gave an oration that was unsurpassed in eloquence and fervor. Following is the opening of the well delivered address:

"It is with a mingled feeling of sorrow and rejoicing that I find myself on Cuban soil again.

"When I think upon the great loss the Navy of my country has sustained in the splendid crew of a splendid ship, I grieve. Yet when I consider the bright page that has been added to my country's history by these brave names, I rejoice. We are sad as we recall the sacrifice of the men of the Maine, but we glory in the fact that their lives were laid down upon the altar of liberty that made Cuba free.

"We are called veterans who fought side by side in '98. How quickly have gone all the years between, yet how fraught with vital events have been those years to the great republic of the North and to our younger brother of the Antilles. History has been made before our eyes. Out of a war was Cuba born, and because my country was responsible for the advent of this smiling child into the family of nations, at the hour of your birth, the United States became a world power with domain and duty in every sea.

"Then came the Graet War which swept through the world and found us allied in the cause of right. Our nations survived, standing even firmer than before.

"What a large company of us, comrades, have been spared to meet together again on this memorable occasion which your Ambassador said recenlty in Washington would mark an epoch in the history of Cuba. Officially I come as a representative of the United States Navy, an envoy of one hundred thousand officers and men whose thoughts are centered upon us here. Personally, and in all humility, I join with you to do homage to these—my shipmates of the Maine."

After a vivid description of the last journey of the Maine and kindly reference to the sympathy and friendship of the Cubans for the Americans in their grief because of this great loss of life, followed by an outline of America's participation in the war for justice and freedom, he concluded his oration as follows:

"My friends, these simple words may one day serve even greater purpose. If ever doubt or misunderstanding by any chance should arise between your country and mine, which God forbid, let us look back to this shaft with its names of bronze an dto this day with its memories of gold.

"And the looking back, if we but remember the Maine, clouds will disappear, doubt will be dispelled, and naught else can possibly exist between us save good will and everlasting peace."

Venerable Soldier Represents Comrades

General Pedro Betancourt, Commander of the Cuban Veterans of the Wars of Independence, was the next speaker on the program. In a voice that was occasionally filled with just emotion, by memories of the sacrifices and achievements of his comrades-in-arms, he eulogized the American troops for their valliant assistance in the cause of Cuba's freedom.

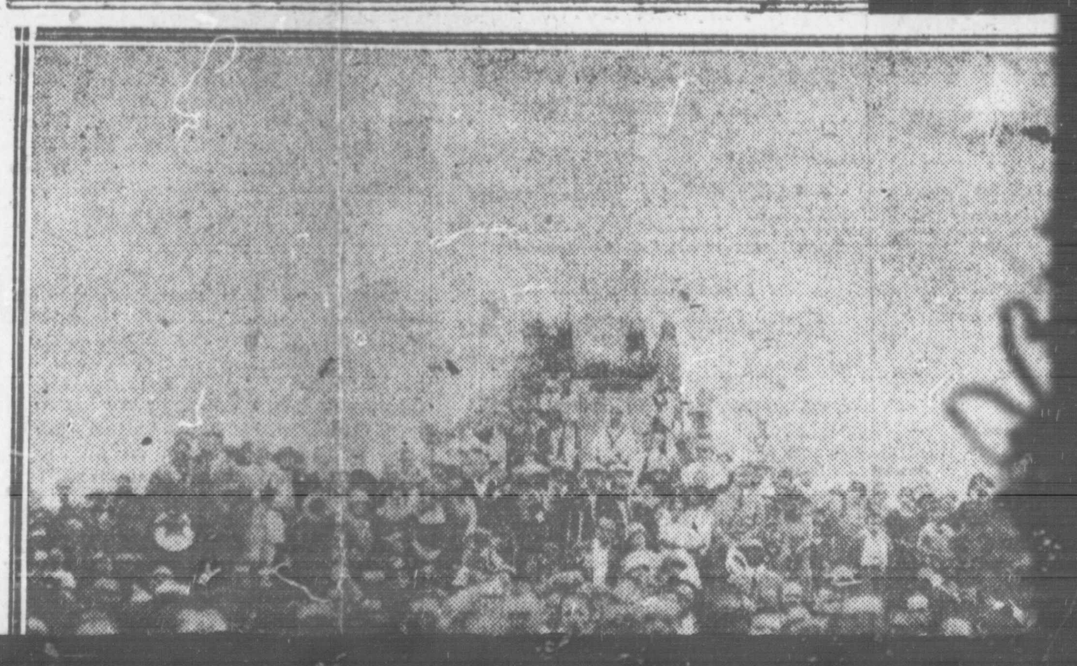
A otuching incident of the program was the presentation by General Betancourt of a huge Cuban flag to the United Spanish War Veterans of America, through their commander, Colonel Thompson, and his acceptance of an American flag, while the military band played the national anthems of each nation. This act concluded the impressive ceremony.

Many Floral Offerings

The two sides of the monument were banked with beautiful floral offerings. Near the recently added tablet was a huge oval wreath, an offering from President Machado, A design of a Cuban and an American flag, made of Cuba's exquisite flowers, formed the center-piece in this floral wreath.

Floral offerings from various sources included those from the United Spanish War Veterans of New York, United Spanish War Veterans of Minnesota, United Spanish War Veterans, Havana Camp, Committee Pro-Cuba of New York, James J. Walker, Mayor of New York, the Senate, the Chamber of Representatives, the American Legion, Havana Post No. 1, the Women's Overseas Service League, the Women's Auxiliary of the National United Spanish War Veterans, and the Woman's Club of Havana.





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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

equal devotion by the Veterans of the Cuban War of Independence and other patriotic associations of the cause of Cuban freedom. We come here to record their names in lasting bronze: to offer our tribute the honor to dedicate this tablet to the memory of those whose names are inscribed thereon, and this tablet as a representative of the United States Navy, an envoy of one hundred thousand officers and men whose thoughts are centered upon us here. Personally, and in all Women's Overseas Service League, the Women's Auxiliary of the National United Spanish War Veterans, and the Woman's Club of Havana.



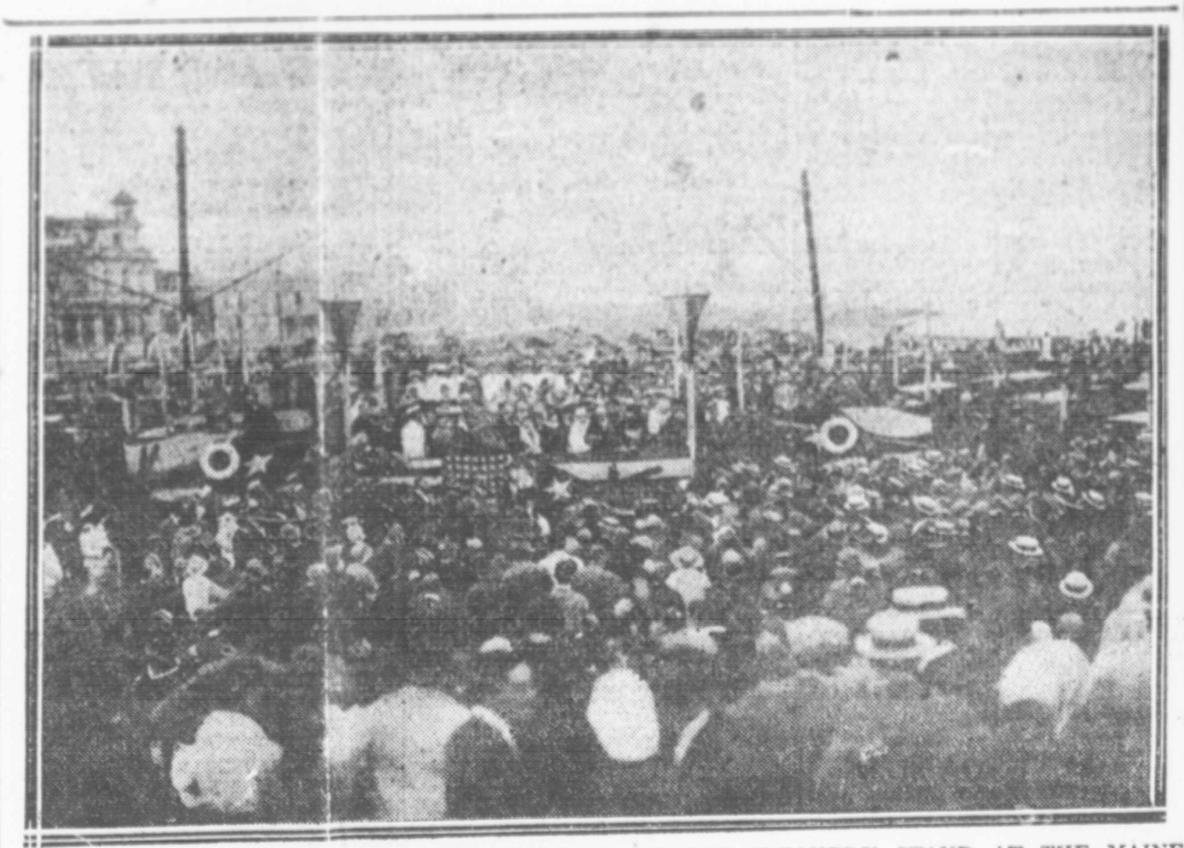
PRESIDENT MACHADO AND UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR CROWDER, SECRETARY OF STATE CARLOS MANUEL DE CESPEDES, GENERAL PEDRO BETANCOURT, HEAD OF THE CUBAN VETERANS' ASSOCIATION, SECRETARY OF WAR AND NAVY ITURRALDE, AND OTHER PROMINENT CUBAN OFFICIALS AND AMERICAN VISITORS



PHOTOGRAPH SHOWING A PART OF THE LARGE GATHERING FACING THE PRESIDENTIAL BOX, MAINE MONUMENT IN THE BACKGROUND



BRITISH SAILORS AND MARINES OF H. M. S. CAPETOWN AND CALCUTTA, WHO JOINED WITH THE AMERICANS AND CUBANS IN PAYING HOMAGE TO THE VICTIMS OF THE MAINE



PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN FROM THE WESTERN END OF THE SPEAKERS' STAND AT THE MAINE MEMORIAL EXERCISES

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
1925 2657 2-265
2990
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Social)

Subject: "Yankee Capitalists" in Cuba.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. APR 21 1926

1. I am enclosing herewith translation of a leaflet in Spanish received at the Embassy in an envelope addressed to "Mr. Enoch Crouder, Yankee Ambassador, City." The signature at the bottom of this leaflet, i.e., "The Executive Committee of the Cuban Division of the Anti-Imperialistic League of America," is, up to the present, of uncertain origin and it is very doubtful if such an organization actually exists in Cuba.

2. It is my opinion that this is the work of a disgruntled individual, but further investigation will be made in an effort to ascertain the true source and meaning of this leaflet.

W. H. SHUMAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2761 Date: April 16, 1926.

Copy sent to M.A. Mex. in c/w copy of letter from Mr. Lane, Dept. of State, relative to "League of War against American Imperialism", which was furnished him Feb. 2/26 (G-2/10058-1276).

1277

ALB

G-2
1-15-27

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ROUTING SLIP

Date 4/21/48

File No. 2657-G-265

M.-A. No. 6662-2761

From: RECORD SECTION, G-2,

To:

Chief, Latin-American (2 a)

Chief, Far Eastern (2 b)

Chief, European (2 c)

Chief, Aviation

Chief, Training

Chief, M. I._____

File ✓

ENCS. ✓ ATTACHED TO COPY # 2

P. C. ATTACHED TO COPY #_____

DISPOSITION OF COPIES:

#2 to_____

#3 to_____

#4 to_____

#5 to_____

Note: Original or copy #1 sent to file

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

4

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

2657-2-266

4-1

2

WAR DEPARTMENT

May 5, 1926.

copies furnished M.A. Mex. DC and G-2, 8th C.A. for their information, May 5, 1926.

No. 2768

To: The A. C. of S., G-2

Subject: Mexican Revolutionary Activities in Cuba.

RECEIVED MAY 11 1926

1. With reference to G-2/2657-Q-266 from Chief, M.I.2a, dated March 23, 1926, under the above subject, which was not received here until April 28, I have to state that the presence in Cuba of General Guadalupe Sanchez created suspicion that he was probably here for the purpose of plotting against the present Mexican government. During his presence here I followed closely his movements and tried to discover the nature of his activities. I could learn nothing of importance or of special interest.

2. I also investigated the rumor that a contraband shipment of arms and ammunition had been made from Cuba to Mexico, but was convinced at that time on the strength of information secured from the Cuban Department of Interior and other Cuban government sources that this was not true.

3. When the local press began commenting upon General Sanchez' presence here (these articles are said to have been inspired by the Mexican Legation in Cuba), the President of Cuba on March 19 instructed the Cuban Secretary of the Interior to order General Sanchez out of Cuba within twenty-four hours and to deport him to Mexico immediately if he failed to comply with that order. General Sanchez could not be located or the message delivered to him until some days after the President's instructions were issued. As soon as the order was delivered to him, General Sanchez immediately left under secret surveillance for Santiago enroute to Santo Domingo and embarked from the former to the latter port on the steamer GUANTANAMO at nine A.M., April 3.

4. I have seen all correspondence between the Governor of Oriente Province and the Department of the Interior regarding this case and can assure you that the Governor did not report at any time that he had lost trace of General Sanchez' movements after his arrival in Santiago.

5. During an interview with President Machado on April 30, I asked him if he had any information regarding General Sanchez' movements before his deportation from Cuba or concerning other Mexican revolutionists. The President said that he had nothing tangible against Sanchez or other Mexicans but that he suspected that the object of Sanchez' presence in Cuba was probably for seditious pur-

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

poses against the Mexican Government and that his reason for taking the initiative in ordering Sanchez out of the country was to prevent the growth of such a movement on Cuban soil.

6. Neither the General Staff of the Cuban Army nor the Information Section thereof has any knowledge of General Sanchez' activities in Cuba, or other Mexican revolutionists here, other than what was printed in the local press.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

copy retained in M.I.D.
2143

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2
JJB/AMB

G-2/2657-Q-266

2657-Q-266

April
March 23, 1926.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE MILITARY ATTACHE, CUBA:

Subject: Mexican Revolutionary Activities in Cuba.

1. According to an Associated Press report from Havana, dated April 18, it is rumored that a contraband shipment of arms and ammunition has been made from Matanzas to Mexico, and that, about a month ago, a junta of Mexican revolutionists was held in Cuba. Presumably General Guadalupe Sanchez, who it will be recalled, successfully initiated active operations in the De la Huerta revolution of 1923, is considered responsible for this revival of revolutionary activities. He is said to have left Havana for Santiago de Cuba en route to Santo Domingo; however, the report further states that, according to a telegram to the Department of Gobernacion from the Governor of Oriente province, Sanchez disappeared from Santiago de Cuba and officials have been unable to trace his movements.

2. We desire that you investigate these rumors of Mexican revolutionary activities in Cuba, and report such bases of fact as you find exist for them, together with subsequent developments.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

DOUGLAS POTTS,
Lieut. Colonel, General Staff,
Chief, M.I.2a.

vm

MAILED
APR 23 1926
M. I. D.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
WAR DEPARTMENT

V 4-1 (2657-Q-267) 3220

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Presidential Message to Congress.

MAY 5 - 1926

1. I am enclosing herewith complete Spanish text of the President's Message to Congress on April 5, 1926, together with a free translation of so much thereof as relates to the Cuban army and navy.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2764 Date: April 30, 1926.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

GACETA OFICIAL - April 22, 1926. TRANSLATION

enclosure 1
OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D.C.
4-1 P2657-g-26)
WAR DEPARTMENT

WAR and NAVY

Department of War.

In spite of the disadvantage entailed by reduced personnel, the army continues performing excellent services, not only in the execution of its duties, which, as the Armed Force, demands the maintenance of order and the vigilance of the rural districts, but also in other departments of the nation where officers render very valuable services in the exercise of commissions of a purely civil character.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the government believes that it is possible to improve even more the actual efficiency of the army in relation to the needs of the country, making it an effective organization better fitted to those needs and with this end in view, asks the Honorable Congress for authorization which this body was kind enough to concede by the Law of March 2 of the present year, from which it will be better able to reach the desired end within the space of six months allowed by said law.

INSTRUCTION: For the construction of appropriate sites for the schools of cadets and application with suitable enclosed riding schools, which permit the holding of daily classes of riding during the rainy season, it is necessary to have a credit of $300,000, which grant was solicited at the beginning of the first and second legislature of the past year. The above mentioned schools are located at inadequate places; the first - School for Cadets - at Morro Castle, in whose shady vaults, deteriorated by time and dampness, the young cadets suffer detriment to their health; and the School of Application, which is at Camp Columbia, is composed of wooden buildings almost rudely constructed without regard to modern rules of hygiene and architecture.

Cuba, having been chosen as the seat of the Fourth Pan American Congress for Target Shooting, must answer fittingly to the honor which that choice imposes upon us and to do so it is necessary to have a concession of not less than $50,000 in order that there may be defrayed all the expenses to be incurred by the accommodation of the various foreign rifle teams and of the different commissions and, particularly, of the delegates to the said congress who have been designated by the foreign countries.

CONSTRUCTION OF BARRACKS. - The concession of a special credit is of urgent necessity in order to proceed with the reparation of various buildings occupied by the army in all districts and, especially, is attention invited to the state in which is found the works begun some time ago, and which are paralyzed, on the "General Monteagudo" barracks in Santa Clara, which must be finished in the shortest order to avoid the loss by the nation of large sums invested in the same and in order that the troops destined for said place may be duly housed. For the completion of these works a credit of approximately $85,000 is required.

BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY OF THE VETERINARY SERVICE - This laboratory, although installed in a building which does not meet the most elementary requirements, has rendered for more than seven years a great service to medical (medicina humana) and veterinary science, having saved the country in that which pertains to existence very nearly $100,000 after meeting all expenditures, including personnel, feeding of the animals, and property acquired. It is necessary to concede a credit of $30,000 for the construction of an up to date building dedicated exclusively to this laboratory with which it would be able to render more useful services than those actually lent in the preparation of many serums and vaccine virus needed for the army.

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MILITARY MAP OF CUBA - It is not possible that this map, drawn by purely military methods and corrected by the same process, be used longer without an established base which can be given only by geodetic operations, aided by geographic works necessary to realize the repletion of the triangular nets. With this object, a credit of $10,000 is needed for the acquisition of the most indispensable instruments and an annual credit of $30,000 for the payment of personal expenses, auxiliary material and necessary provisions. However, with only the actual military personnel, it is not possible to fulfill this mission.

The printing of the military map is realized today by the ancient method, slow procedure, costly, which it is not possible to change because of not having the means for it. With copies of the military map it has been possible to make a preliminary study of the aqueduct for the city of Santiago de Cuba, as well as the realization for the enlargement of the springs supplying Havana; in a similar way the preliminary plans of highways of the new plan of Public Works, as much in the part referring to the Central Highway as in the branches of the subsidiaries, have been realized on the already cited military map by the technical personnel of the ~~army~~ Department of Public Works and the latter has allowed the army to cooperate in these very important works for the development of national activities in spite of the fact that the process of printing has notoriously increased the labor. To avoid this great difficulty it is necessary to acquire an up to date plant for photographic reproduction and lithographic printing, which, without being of great dimensions or high cost, would permit a rapid printing and perfection of the plans of the elevation of the General Staff of the Army at a small cost; being necessary that Congress grant a credit of $40,000 for the acquisition of machinery and apparatus and an annual credit of $10,000 for the payment of technical personnel and material which would permit the furnishing, not only the maps which military necessity demands, but also those needed by other departments, such as Public Works, Agriculture, Commerce and Labor, Public Instruction and Fine Arts, etc.

Department of Navy.

In virtue of the authorization conceded by the Law of March 2 of this year, the national navy will also be reorganized, with the purpose that its services, already numerous, yield more intimately to the requirements of the Republic and to this end it will be charged with other important matters which until now have been dependent upon the different Departments of State.

The national navy, like the army, requires various special credits, the following being the most indispensable:

WAR MATERIAL - A credit of $50,000, already solicited in previous messages, for the acquisition of fire controlled instruments for the Bethlehem cannons and repairing, overhauling and verification of the telescopic sights, as well as for taking care of all the services of communications and superintendence of target practice, including the elements of observation stations of ranges and distance estimates.

Another credit is also necessary for the installation of radiotelegraph stations in the General Staff Corps and in the Headquarters of Districts, for direct communication with the war units with the greatest secrecy possible when the circumstances demand it.

SANITATION - A credit is required for the installation of dispensaries in the Headquarters of the Districts Norte and Sur and in the Naval Academy.

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INSTRUCTION - The lecture halls for artillery and physics classes of the Naval Academy need modern apparatus for the instruction of the students and for the acquisition of material of great importance which the Academy lacks, a concession of a corresponding credit is needed.

It is also a matter of great importance for the practice of navigation of the future midshipmen to acquire a ship, part sail and part steamer, which would be much less expensive for the nation, for practice and would provide greater fund of experience for the future officers.

ADMINISTRATION - Conforming to the written statement in the Message at the inauguration of the Second Legislature of 1925, the Honorable Congress must give preferential attention to the granting of a credit of $188,612.95 for the payment of the debt which, since the European War, has been pending settlement by our Navy Department with the Navy Department of the United States of America for furnishing war material, various and miscellaneous materials delivered to our vessels when these worked jointly with those of the United States.

The total debt for the above mentioned materials, which was $207,050.67, has been reduced to the previously mentioned amount of $188,612.95 for the payment of which there does not exist any assignment in the budget law. The partial amounts owed for each purpose are as follows:

For war material - - - -	$149,631.76
For various materials -	46,596.32
For reparations - - - -	10,772.33
For miscellaneous - - -	50.26
TOTAL OWED - - - - - - - -	$207,050.67
Paid on account - - - -	18,437.72
Actual debt - - - - - -	$188,612.95

The payment of this debt has been the object of repeated complaints and now the moment has arrived in which it must be liquidated.

MILITARY SCHOOL AND NAVAL ACADEMY - In the Cadet School there are actually 40 students in the second year and 48 in the first year, even though the authorized quota is 75, this number refers to civil ones and the remainder, up to 88, corresponds to the military, which do not increase the enrollment, but which are on detached service in the school as such students.

The School of Application continues rendering excellent services to the officers and in it operates the academic course of the Sections of Artillery with four students, of Infantry 10, and of Cavalry 15. Examinations will take place as customary next June.

The course for supernumerary officers and sergeants aspiring to become officers of the army continues developing normally, having 91 students who will be examined in the present month in accordance with the regulations of the law of March 4, 1923.

There have been sent to the United States of America as students of the First School of Aviation 7 cadets of aviation who will study at Brooks Field, San Antonio, Texas, the course for aviation pilots with the purpose that if they are successful they can take the advanced course which requires the appointment of aviation officer.

In the present month, barring insuperable obstacles, there will take place a National Military Competition in target shooting, which, similar to those of previous years, will manifest the great impetus which that part of the military instruction referring to target practice with portable arms has received since 1921 to date. The following units will participate in these competitions: units of the military districts of the army and the cadet corps of the navy of the regular battalions and from groups of the various squadrons of the GUARDIA RURAL, the engineer corps, signal corps and members of the national navy. There will be also individual contests between members of the army and navy.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

The Naval Academy, from which last January were graduated 16 Ensigns and four Third-class Engineers, will not resume operations until next September, at which time there will be commenced a course for which applicants desiring to enroll for the term of four years have been already notified to take the examinations for admission on July first.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 7[illegible]0058
By AMF [illegible] ARS, Date 05/04/89

Enclosure 1
4-1 1925 2657-Q-265
WAR DEPARTMENT

COPY

THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF CUBA.
HAVANA, CUBA.

June 17, 1926.

TO MEMBERS OF

THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF CUBA:

The resolution submitted to the United States Senate by the junior Senator from Utah, Mr. King, is of such prime and vital importance to every American citizen who is engaged in commercial enterprises in Cuba that it has been deemed imperative that immediate consideration by our Chamber be given thereto.

The resolution (S. Res. 245), together with the explanatory proceedings of the Senate, session of June 9th last, are attached herewith.

It is undoubtedly the firm conviction of the large majority of Americans, resident or with commercial interests in Cuba, that since May 20th, 1925, the Republic of Cuba has had a Federal Government of which it can well be proud and which will compare most favorably with the governments of the foremost nations.

While it is recognized that a certain amount of reorganization and readjustment is still necessary to complete the programme outlined by the present governmental regime, it is nevertheless a generally conceded fact that most remarkable strides have been made through the untiring efforts of General Machado and his advisers.

It would seem that the submitting of the Senate resolution 245 is most inopportune in view of the strenuous activities of the present Cuban government in its commendable efforts, self evident to all of us and it is hardly conceivable that affirmative action on the resolution by the Senate could be considered either ethical or just under the present Cuban administration.

The text of the attached transcript is self explanatory. As you value your commercial future in Cuba, even though you do not permit the consideration of ethics or justice to weigh in the matter, read the attached copy most carefully, then subscribe to the referendum presented herewith with a simple "yes" or "no," sign it or not, as you desire, but return it promptly to the Secretary of the Chamber.

If it is the desire of our membership that the passage of resolution #245 be strenuously opposed, prompt action is imperative and it is hoped you will send in your reply by first mail, or better still, by messenger.

Respectfully submitted,

HUGO HARTENSTEIN,
Vice-President.

- -

REFERENDUM

1. - Do you endorse Resolution 245 as submitted by Mr. King of the Senate under date of June 9th, 1926?

2. - If you do not endorse this Resolution, do you approve action by your Chamber with a view of defeating the passage of that Resolution?

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Encl 7
4-1 1926 2657-G-268

From: "HERALDO DE CUBA" - June 22, 1926.

Re: DEPURATION OF THE JUDICIARY.

DEPURATION OF THE JUDICIARY.

One of the most glorious victories of the moralizing administration of President Machado is undoubtedly the depuration of the Judiciary which is being carried out with so much energy, proven tact and noble intention by the Secretary of Justice, Dr. Jesús María Barraqué, and the wise and virtuous President of the Supreme Court, Dr. Juan Gutierrez Quirós.

We are very glad, in this case, to acknowledge with an ample spirit of justice that Dr. Barraqué, whom we have criticized on other occasions, is now adjusted to a policy of saving moralization which the entire country, in an unceasing clamor, had uselessly demanded. We do not hesitate to proclaim before public opinion that the Secretary of Justice is disposed to depurate, with unshaken firmness, one of the three powers on which rests, in the civilized world, the real order which determines the equilibrium of society. He has the firm intention, as proven by his actions, that the guilty officials who constitute a blemish of the Judiciary, be removed therefrom, restoring to the Cuban Judiciary the historical prestige and lustre which of late gradually fell into discredit, up to the point that the decisions were sold, and the resolutions of the Courts were never adjusted to the provisions of the laws.

The honest and pure cooperation which Dr. Barraqué lends to the Chamber of Government of our highest Court of Justice has been very effective, and will undoubtedly redound in incalculable benefits to the Cuban society.

For Dr. Juan Gutierrez Quirós, energetic and honest, there are no influences, ties of affection or pressure sufficiently powerful to neutralize his depurating action. Every fault receives its sanction. No crime remains unpunished. And what is to be admired the most is that throughout this work there is noticed in the same degree that the purpose which inspires it is noble, and the procedure used is wise. Every official of the Judiciary who deviated from the legitimate path has been expelled. And the arm of the law, which formerly was stopped by any pressure, now falls in an implacable manner over those who prostituted their investiture.

The trials of the cases of all the members of the Judiciary who neglected the performance of their duties are now being held in the Chamber of Government of the Supreme Court. And the magistrates charged with the duty of prosecuting and judging their guilty companions, do not pick out, to remove them, such faults of a moral character which would disqualify them forever and make perpetual culprits of them in the midst of a society which does not forgive. They are therefore adjusted, for the purpose of removing them from office, to such crimes of a technical nature -- so to speak -- which especially affect their capacity as officials.

In this way, the dismissal of a venal judge or a bribing magistrate only affects his juridical personality, but does not belittle his moral personality, and therefore it does not affect his social reputation or the reputation of the irresponsible members of his family.

Prosecuting Attorney Vivancoz, also an upright spirit whose moral excellence nobody discusses, cooperates in this worthy, patriotic and important work. And it is necessary that the people of Cuba observe this movement of depuration which guarantees their rights and gives to every citizen a democratic equality before the law.

G. G. BEAUVILLE.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

JUL 1926

From: "DIARIO DE LA MARINA" - June 22, 1926. 4-1 2657-Q-268

Re: Statement given out by the State Department with regard to the accusations of Senator King.

- -

THE STATE DEPARTMENT, in view of the accusations made by the American Senator, Mr. King, who has declared that our Government does not attend to the several claims made by American citizens, has made this an international controversy.

Our Foreign Office considers that the accusations of the American Senator are not based on the truth, and that Cuba at all times has given its attention and just resolutions to the claims presented by American citizens or entities. The Foreign Office states that notwithstanding the diplomatic nature of the same, if it be necessary to clear up these matters entirely to bring forth other data and information in its possession it would not hesitate in giving them publicity.

The State Department, after setting forth the antecedents of this matter, makes a list of the claims made by the American Embassy, and of the manner in which they were disposed of by our Government.

The following is the full text of the lengthy report of the Foreign Office:

"ANTECEDENTS.

"Mr. King is the author of a motion presented by him to the American Senate on the 9th instant, which was remitted by resolution of said high legislative body to be reported upon by its Foreign Relations Committee, and the same having been published with its preamble and together with the speech of said Senator in the Congressional Record, that is, the record of the sessions of the Congress of the United States of America, in which resolution it is requested that in view of the fact that many of the American citizens residing in Cuba allege that they have been refused the protection provided for and guaranteed by the Platt Amendment and the Treaty of Permanent Relations in force between the United States and Cuba, that the Senate resolve that through its Foreign Relations Committee an investigation be made to ascertain which of said claims made by American citizens are legitimate, and in case that they be, that it recommend the procedure and the measures which will assure to said citizens the protection of life and property according as is established in said Treaty and in the Constitutional Amendment of reference.

"CRITICISM OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT AT WASHINGTON.

"In the preamble of said motion which, as will be seen later on, is extemporaneous, the State Department of Washington is criticized for not having afforded to said American citizens the protection to which they were entitled; the Administration of Justice in Cuba is censured by the publication of the severe opinion of an American attorney given many years ago; the Executive and Congress of Cuba are exposed, their morality being impugned; and with absolute and unbelievable ignorance of the present situation, unjust charges are made for the supposed denial of justice as well as for the abuses which he states are suffered by American citizens in Cuba notwithstanding the stipulations of the Platt Amendment which at present appears in the Treaty of Permanent Relations to which he gives an interpretation and an application contrary, on the merits and on the form, to the Treaty which guarantees the independence of Cuba and which is not proper to examine at this time.

"Finally Senator King, on the 19th instant, made the following statement through the United Press:

'If it is true that the American Ambassador desires that a Referendum be carried out among certain elements to ascertain whether or not the senatorial investigation on the conduct of Cuba with respect to certain American citizens who own property there, should be proceeded with, he is overstepping the authority inherent with his office.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

'If Cuba desires to be worthy of the confidence and good-will of the United States, it should change its methods and abandon corrupt political practices by establishing a body of honest and competent judges, adopting in all branches of the public administration the strictest economy and greatest degree of efficiency, and above all to give the greatest application to the principles of honesty.

'I do not believe that the State Department of the Republic of Cuba has forgotten its duty with respect to these American citizens, but I do believe that it has treated the petitions of these American citizens with indifference, their rights having been violated by the Government of Cuba, their property being destroyed or confiscated.'

"REFUTATION OF THE CUBAN STATE DEPARTMENT.

"Although Mr. King, Senator for the State of Utah, is not the authorized mouthpiece of the Washington Government in the matter of foreign relations, the direct allusion to the State Department of Cuba which is attributed to him in the cablegram of the United Press which was published in yesterday's papers, obliges this Department not to leave, without comment, the allegations which according to this despatch he has seen fit to make.

"The motion of Senator King probably responds to the steps which are continuously taken near Federal Senators by certain very few American citizens and their attorneys in Washington, who, instead of first utilizing and exhausting the regular legal channels for the decision of their rights, make efforts to have their Government support their pretenses through diplomatic channel, and if this is not satisfactory, through the proceedings and measures which the motion presented refers to.

"Perhaps it is for this very reason that the essential affirmations of Mr. King do not seem to be based upon the truth. As far as is known, the State Department of Washington has not failed to bring to the attention of the Cuban Government with all haste and interest, through Ambassador Crowder, those claims of American citizens which prima facie it considered well founded; and the State Department of Habana has replied in each case, after a careful examination, attending to some, and rejecting others for failure on the part of the claimants to exhaust their legal remedies before applying for the diplomatic protection of their Government. In addition, this Department, rather than treat with indifference the decisions of American citizens, as is alleged by Mr. King according to the cablegram of the United Press, has gone as far as it is possible to go, without invading the sphere of action which corresponds exclusively to the Courts of Justice, always setting forth, with precision and clarity all the aspects of the difficult questions submitted, and suggesting the legal remedies which were open to the claimants in order to obtain justice from the Courts or competent authorities.

"The claims pending at the present time which have been officially brought to the knowledge of the Cuban Government, since there is no truth in the allegation that these have been presented directly by the interested parties to the State Department of Cuba, are reduced to a very brief number, and are being studied and reported upon with all diligence in accordance with desires of the President who is inspired in a high sense of justice to law, in order that they shall not take up more of the time nor embarrass the relations between the two governments.

"This State Department adjusting itself to diplomatic practice has not made public the reply which up to the present time it has given to the American Embassy in each case; but if it be necessary in order to re-establish the truth of the facts and to give publicity to the patriotic and wise doctrine based upon principles universally admitted in international law which rules these controversies, the same with regard to American citizens as to other foreigners, it would do so without a doubt when the proper time is reached.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

"To summarize, the Cuban Government is always willing to consider and duly and impartially decide each and every one of the claims of foreign citizens which have a juridical basis, are founded on true facts and are presented in accordance with international law, but in defense of the rights of Cuba, firmly rejects the pretenses of those who, without reason, attempt to withdraw their lawsuits and interests from the action of the Courts of Justice by placing them under the protection of a Foreign Power.

"CLAIMS PRESENTED AND THEIR STATUS.

"The principal claims made by the American Embassy are the following:

"1. - BETANCOURT & CO. For unlawful attachment. Rejected on November 16, 1925, because the claimant company is not a foreign citizen; for failure to exhaust legal remedies, and for lack of legal action to claim.

"2. - BARLOW. Return of lots. Decided by Presidential Decree of November 6, 1924.

"3. - BARLOW. - BUENAVISTA COMPANY. Claim for the payment of pipe lines by the Ayuntamiento of Marianao. Rejected November 10, 1925, for lack of foreign nationality of the company, incompetency of jurisdiction, and failure to exhaust legal remedies.

"4. - BARLOW. For denial of justice in his lawsuit against Gomez Mena with regard to the ownership of the Manglar de Urrutia. Rejected by note of April 19, 1926, among other reasons, because of the litigous character of the rights and actions acquired; for failure to exhaust legal remedies; and lack of legal action to claim.

"5. - STANTON. Claiming payment of the Blue Bonds of the Habana Municipality. The Cabinet Meeting, at the request of the Secretary of State, appointed a Committee made up of the Secretaries of Justice, Interior and of the Treasury to report on this matter and it was resolved to reply that the claim should be directed agninst the Habana Municipality.

"6. - AMERICAN MILLS CO., of ATLANTA, GA. Claiming payment of an account for supplies furnished the Postal Department amounting to $34,592.28. The debt was acknowledged and payment ordered.

"7. - WALTER FLETCHER SMITH. Denial of justice; unlawful despoliation of property, and destruction of houses at the Playa de Marianao. Arbitration was proposed in this matter a few days ago.

"8. - CHARLES HARRAH. For destruction of a railroad belonging to him from Jaimanitas to Playa de Marianao and other property. Presented for the first time on June 16th, sent to the Legal Department on June 17th, antecedents sought from the Department of Public Works, and note of the Embassy acknowledged on the 18th instant.

Other claims have been decided according to law, some being rejected and others admitted, when depending upon the Executive and when duly proven."

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

3 encls.

4-1 US 2457-g-268

G-2 Report

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 3800

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
By authority letter of Dec. 12, 1969, from TAGO to Archivist.
By
Date 6-12-69

CUBA (Political)

Subject: U.S.Senate Resolution 245 introduced June 9, 1926 (page 10,938, Congressional Record, Volume 67, No. 150), providing for Senate investigation as to whether the provisions of the Platt Amendment incorporated in the treaty between the United States and Cuba respecting the protection of life and property of American citizens in Cuba is being violated.

RECEIVED W.D. JUN 30 1926

1. Considerable uneasiness in administrative, political and commercial circles in Cuba has arisen due to the press reports received in Cuba of the introduction of the above mentioned resolution in the United States Senate by Senator King. The resolution was first given publicity by only one English language daily, almost a week following its introduction. Due to the activities referred to below, the resolution has since attracted rather wide attention.

2. On June 17 the American Chamber of Commerce circulated among its members a letter inviting attention to the King resolution and enclosing a referendum for a vote of its members as to: (1) Whether they endorsed the said resolution and (2) If not, whether they approved action by the Chamber with a view to defeating its passage. The letter and proposed referendum were given wide publicity in both the English and Spanish press with extensive favorable and unfavorable comments thereon. A copy of the letter of the American Chamber of Commerce is attached hereto.

3. Closely following the circulation of the above mentioned questionnaire, one of the Spanish papers published on June 20 a United Press despatch from Washington alleging that the initiative for the Chamber of Commerce referendum lay in the American Ambassador, Havana. The statement was absolutely false. Ambassador Crowder so telegraphed the State Department on June 21 and the acting president of the Chamber of Commerce so telegraphed Senator King on the same date. On the following day, June 22, a further press despatch appeared in the Spanish paper, "Diario de la Marina," purporting to give Senator King's commentary on the telegram of June 20 to the effect that if the American Ambassador desired the referendum carried out among certain elements to ascertain whether or not a senatorial investigation on the conduct of Cuba with respect to certain American citizens who owned property there should be proceeded with, he was over-stepping the authority inherent with his office. The local press gave wide publicity to the foregoing with varied commentary thereon.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2787 Date: June 24, 1926.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

4. On June 22 the Spanish paper "Diario de la Marina" published a statement given out by the Cuban State Department with regard to the accusations of Senator King. A translated copy of this statement is enclosed herewith. A statement has appeared in the local press that Representative Heliodoro Gil introduced a request in the Cuban House of Representatives directed to the State Department for information concerning the King resolution.... this has not as yet been verified by the minutes of the House. I assume that the statement issued by the State Department, above referred to, was intended to give the desired information as well as to publicly announce the attitude of the Cuban Government toward the King resolution. The press discussion of the subject has considerably lessened, apparently to await information as to what action is taken in the United States Senate on said resolution.

5. President Machado has, in confidence, frankly admitted that injustices have been done to American citizens under previous administrations, but feels that the sins of those administrations should not be visited upon his own at a time when he is doing everything possible to regenerate Cuba. As to this he points to the reorganization and moralization of the various departments of government during the first year of his administration, seemingly taking particular pride in the depuration of the Judiciary, which is, in the King resolution, severely criticized. The Cuban public is undoubtedly impressed with the fearless and vigorous methods employed by General Machado. That public confidence has been restored in the administration to a remarkable degree is most apparent. I attach copy of an article appearing in "Heraldo de Cuba" on June 22 on the subject "Depuration of the Judiciary." While the article is extremely laudatory, it is, nevertheless, basically correct. The extent of the Judiciary reform is indicated by the fact that in the case of one of the Americans seeking the congressional investigation, three judges who sat in his various cases in litigation have been dismissed by the Supreme Court for irregularities; one municipal judge, one judge of the Court of First Instance, and the President of the Civil Chamber of the Havana Audiencia.

6. Notwithstanding the undeniable evidences of irregularities, fraud and corruption in the Zayas and previous administrations, it is believed that a large majority of the American residents in Cuba, as well as the Cuban people, are strongly opposed to such an investigation and feel that it would prejudice the good relations of the two countries and would be extremely unjust and politically harmful to the Machado administration without accomplishing any material good.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2787 Date: June 24, 1926.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Military Intelligence Division, G-2

7/6 1926.

From: CHIEF, M.I. 2a.

To:
Executive Officer
Chief, Intelligence Branch
Finance Officer
Chief Clerk
Library
Record

M.I. - 2b, 2c, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Dodson
2657-Q-268

For:
Information and return
Signature
File
Mail

REMARKS: Please file on
2657-Q-268 with report
#2787, 6/24/26, from U.S.A.
Cuba, - on same subject.
(Retain route slips.) AWB

Signature (initials)

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

From: Intelligence Branch, M.I.2

To: A. C. of S., G-2
Executive Officer
M. I. 3
M. I. 4
M. I. 5
M. I. 7
M. I. 9
Latin America ✓
Far East
British Empire
Eastern Europe
Central Europe
Western Europe
Aviation
Translation
Record
Library
Finance Section
Property Room
Chief Clerk

For: Information
Necessary action
Number and return

Remarks:

Thanks very much for bringing this to my attention.

[signature]

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Military Intelligence Division, G-2

7/8 1926.

From: ~~CHIEF~~, M.I. 2a.

To:

2-Executive Officer
1-Chief, Intelligence Branch
Finance Officer
Chief Clerk
Library
Record

M.I. - 2b, 2c, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.

For:

Information and return
Signature
File
Mail

REMARKS: This memorandum gives Major Shutan's reaction to M/A report in re King Resolution to investigation of treatment of Americans in Cuba - of possible interest to Director.

W.H.H.
Signature (initials)

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
In replying refer to

~~Confidential~~

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
WASHINGTON

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
1926 AUG 4
2657-J-265
WAR DEPARTMENT

July 6, 1926.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
By authority letter of Dec. 18, 1963, from TAGO to Archivist.
By
Date 6-13-69

MEMORANDUM FOR THE A. C. OF S., G-2:

I deem it pertinent to add the following information to and comment upon Captain Clark's report, hereto attached.

1. Three of the American citizens mentioned on the last page of the Cuban State Department's statement, namely Betancourt, Barlow, and Smith, have been during my entire period of service in Cuba the greatest source of trouble and irritation to both the American and Cuban Governments. The other claims mentioned in that same statement have little bearing on the case since they are of recent origin and susceptible to adjustment within a reasonable time.

2. Betancourt is a native of Cuba but a naturalized American citizen. Barlow and Smith have both lived in Cuba since the days of American occupation. Betancourt's claims against the Cuban Government were of a very shady nature. Their histories are rather complicated but the main points are that during the boom of 1920, Betancourt was associated with Herman Upmann, President of the Upmann Bank in Havana, in a "bucket-shop", and other business of doubtful character. Because of his close relations with Upmann, the latter placed under Betancourt's name a sand-dredging outfit acquired by the Upmann Bank on a foreclosure. When the Upmann Bank, in common with many other banks in Havana, failed, the Government being cognizant of the fact that Upmann was the real owner of the sand-dredger, seized it, and eventually sold it towards the liquidation of the Upmann Bank. Betancourt contested this procedure on the part of the Government and submitted a claim for more than $1,000,000 against it. The Government, following its legal process, submitted this claim to the Temporary Bank Liquidation Commission, who about one year ago awarded Betancourt about $25,000 but offset that award by a counter-claim against Betancourt and the Upmann Bank for a sum over $1,000,000.

3. The many Barlow cases are much more complicated and they have to do principally with his real estate business. In his various activities in that line, Barlow developed a part of a suburb of Buena Vista near Havana. In the development of this suburb, Barlow put in water mains at expense of his company. After disposing of his interest in this development he made a demand on the Cuban Government for reimbursement for the cost of the installation of this water main and it was several years before it was discovered that shortly after the installation of this water main, the President of the development com-

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

pany by legal and formal document relinquished all claim in favor of the municipality of Marianao, and his claim on this ground was in this case rejected. He continues, however, his efforts to obtain reimbursement from the Cuban Government for the Buena Vista water main. Practically all of Barlow's other claims are of a character as doubtful as this one, if not more so, and in none of them has he exhausted the legal remedies according to Cuban law.

4. Of the three, Smith has the only clear-cut legitimate case. He was the owner of a small piece of land with a house upon it on the beach of Marianao. This land was condemned for public purposes and without going through the formalities of legal acquisition, the municipal authorities of Marianao ruthlessly destroyed his house in order to make room for a public bathing beach. This occurred some six or eight years ago. About two years ago, Smith secured a court decision declaring the condemnation proceedings effecting his property illegal and an order returning it to Smith. In the meantime, the La Playa Company of Marianao developed Smith's and the property adjoining his into a public bathing beach and have at various times offered to compromise with him for a sum ten times as much as the property originally cost Smith. Smith, realizing this strong legal position, first demanded $500,000 and by degrees reduced his figure to $200,000. The main phase of his case is that he is using, or attempting to use, the American State Department in what can well be described as a hold-up game to obtain the excessive sum he demands.

5. During the early part of May, Smith at the instigation of his attorneys and the owners of La Playa, agreed to the arbitration of his case by President Machado and General Crowder, the Ambassador, who determined the sum of $95,000 as equitable and just compensation to Smith for the confiscation of his property and all damages incident thereto. This compensation Smith agreed to accept but before it was consummated he left for Washington where he managed to secure the attention of Senator King of Utah and apparently persuaded him to present to the Senate the Resolution which is the subject of Captain Clark's report.

6. Smith's case is now before the Cuban Courts and was to be called for trial several days before my departure from Havana. The day before the trial was to take place, General Crowder asked me to see President Machado and to ask him to use his good offices in securing a speedy decision in the Smith case strictly on its merits, and to see to it, if possible, that the coming trial be not thrown out of court on technical grounds as was done on a previous occasion. When I conveyed this message to the President he replied that Smith was su-

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ing, not only to regain his property, but to secure the right to institute further proceedings in the municipal court of Marianao for $300,000 damage; that he, the President, had positive information that Smith had made an "arrangement" with the judge of the Marianao court for a decision favorable to him, the result of which would be to further prolong the case in the higher courts of Cuba for an indefinite period; that he, the President, as much as anyone else desired a quick and just decision in the Smith case, but that he would not stand for any crooked deal Smith might attempt to put over. He also expressed disappointment because Smith withdrew from his agreement to settle by arbitration between him, the President, and General Crowder. Smith did not return from Washington in time for the trial to be held on the date scheduled, and the trial was postponed for one month, upon the application of Smith's attorney.

7. A day or two after Senator King's resolution was presented in the Senate, the Cuban Ambassador in Washington received a cable from President Machado suggesting that he make representations against this resolution to the American State Department. I happened to be at the Embassy in Washington shortly after the receipt of the President's cable there, and the Ambassador told me that he was very much embarrassed in discovering a proper way to comply with the President's suggestion, and solicited my advice in the premises. I told the Ambassador that in my opinion it seemed inconsistent for the Cuban Government to take official cognizance of this resolution since a number of precedents exist where resolutions containing matter offensive to the United States have been on a number of occasions introduced in the Cuban Congress. The Ambassador informed me several days later that after he had communicated with President Machado by telephone they had decided to make no official representation against the projected resolution. I noticed recently in one of the Havana's papers that the municipal judge of Marianao has been dismissed from office.

8. I am enclosing herewith a copy of the resolution finally passed by the American Chamber of Commerce in Havana.

W. H. SHUTAN,
Major, Infantry.

1 encl.
ml

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

AUG 5
1926
2657-g-268

(COPY)

The following resolution was adopted by the Board of Directors of the American Chamber of Commerce of Cuba today:

WHEREAS, Senator King presented in the United States Senate on June 9th, last a resolution, under and in accordance with the terms of the Platt amendment, calling for an investigation by the Committee on Foreign Relations of the United States Senate of certain claims of American citizens in Cuba ..... "for the purpose of ascertaining whether said claims so made by American citizens are true, and if found to be true, to recommend such procedure and measures as will secure to said citizens of the United States the protection of life and property," and

WHEREAS: This resolution was evidently prompted by representations made in connection with certain claims arising from acts of former Administrations of the Cuban Republic, and

WHEREAS, The remarks of the Senator introducing said resolution, and as published in the Congressional Record on page 10-938, Volume No. 150, seemingly affirm that a condition now exists in the Republic of Cuba whereby the rights of American citizens in the Republic of Cuba are jeopardized, and

WHEREAS, We believe it to be the opinion of American citizens residing in the Republic of Cuba, that the present Executive Administration of the Republic of Cuba is honorable and upright and is working for a readjustment and reorganization of conditions to place the Cuban Republic on a high plane of morality by overthrowing corrupt political rule, establishing an honest and competent judiciary and is adopting in all governmental affairs the strictest economy with the highest degree of efficiency as well as giving the fullest application to the principles of honesty and integrity, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the American Chamber of Commerce of Cuba is opposed to the "King Resolution," presented in the United States Senate, under No. 245, as being inopportune and detrimental to the existing friendly relations between the Republic of Cuba and the United States of America.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

CONFIDENTIAL

2657-Q-268

G-2 Report 3850-(a)

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
By authority letter of Dec. 18, 1963, from TAGO to Archivist.
By [illegible] Date 12-23-69

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Claims of American citizens in Cuba involving international relations between the United States and Cuba resulting in the introduction of U.S.Senate Resolution No. 245 of June 9, 1926.

RECEIVED W.D. SEP 10 1926 2657-Q-268

1. Supplementing report No. 2787 of this office of June 24, 1926, on the above subject, and in response to the Department's request of July 9, 1926, for comment on the merits of the claims still pending and the attitude of the Cuban Government toward reaching an early and amicable settlement of them, the following report is submitted.

2. The claims filed in the Department of State at Washington by American citizens in Cuba, which said Americans alleged were not vigorously supported by the Department, led to the introduction of the so-called King Resolution in the United States Senate on June 9, 1926. These claims will be separately stated and discussed below.

3. The American citizens having such claims, who have been especially active in endeavoring to obtain congressional investigation are:

a. Joseph E. Barlow
b. Alfredo Betancourt
c. Walter Fletcher Smith
d. Charles Harrah

Doubtless many minor claims of American citizens have been cited by those individuals in support of their propaganda (for such it has become) in an effort to show the need of governmental intervention in support of the rights of property of American citizens in Cuba, and their contention that they are the victims of a denial or miscarriage of justice in the Cuban courts. The cases will be discussed briefly in the order named.

4. Claims of Joseph E. Barlow. The claims of this individual which have been filed with the State Department and have been the subject of diplomatic correspondence between the two governments for several years are:

a. Claim against the municipality of Marianao for reimbursement of the cost of installation of water mains in the Buena Vista subdivision constructed by a Cuban corporation organized by Mr. Barlow.

b. Claim against a Cuban citizen named Fernando Gonzalez y Suarez for violation of contract to combine in a partnership the Havana Advertising Company organized by Barlow and the Tropical Advertising Company organized by Suarez into a new company known as the Havana National Advertising Company.

c. Claim that the titles of Mr. Barlow to property in Havana known as the Manglar de Urrutia estate, comprising some twenty blocks of undeveloped property, have not been respected and that possession thereof is being illegally prevented by a Spanish subject - Pedro Gomez-Mena - who claims title thereto.

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5. Briefly, the facts as to the first case (a), above mentioned, are that about 1907 Mr. Barlow organized the Buena Vista Company for the development of the Buena Vista subdivision, constructed the streets, installed street lights and water mains and, upon completion of the subdivision, it was formally approved and accepted by the municipality of Marianao in 1912. In 1915 Mr. Barlow, who was then president of the company, requested the municipal government to refund to him the amount expended by the company in installing the water mains of the subdivision - approximately $70,000.00 - contending that the mains were installed under an oral agreement with the municipal officials that the cost thereof would be refunded to the company. Payment was refused. Barlow then filed a claim for reimbursement with the debt-paying commission in 1922, which had been appointed by the chief executive under a law of 1921 to legally pass upon all claims outstanding against the central government. The commission denied Barlow's claim on the ground that it was not a legal claim against the government, but against the municipality. The municipality contended that there had been no contract either oral or in writing, that the municipality pay the cost of installing the water mains and found that the record showed that the water system of the subdivision had been taken over by the municipality in 1912 on the written request of the then president of the company in which all claims against the municipality were relinquished.

Mr. Barlow persisted in demanding payment of his claim and filed his complaint with the American Embassy in Havana and the State Department in Washington, urging that his rights be protected and demand for payment of the claim made upon the Cuban Government. Long diplomatic correspondence followed with the result that the Cuban Government, after full investigation, decided that Mr. Barlow had no legal or equitable claim either against the central or the municipal government and asserted that for the several reasons stated the claim, under international law and practice, could not be made the subject of a diplomatic claim by the United States Government. This Embassy concurred in principle with the decision of the Cuban Government. The State Department at Washington subsequently informed Mr. Barlow that it would take no further steps in diplomatically pressing the claim.

As I handled the case in this Embassy, I am fully convinced that the claim was without merit and that the Cuban Government's decision was entirely correct.

6. The second claim (b) of Mr. Barlow relates to his so-called bill-board controversy with Gonzalez Suarez. In 1920 Barlow was conducting an advertising company in Havana by leasing land, constructing bill-boards thereon and displaying the advertising of his clients. Suarez was conducting a similar company. In 1921 Barlow and Suarez entered into a contract to combine their companies by a partnership and conducted business as one company, Barlow turning over his bill-boards, material, trucks, etc., to Suarez, who was to manage the business and divide the profits.

Owing to differences which arose between them, the partnership was never legally formed and Barlow charged Suarez with fraud in the execution of the contract in favor of his personal company instead of the new partnership company, appropriation of the earnings, etc., and followed it up by filing a criminal complaint of fraud against Suarez. Suarez was indicted, tried by the criminal chamber of the Audiencia, and acquitted because of evidence that Barlow had approved and signed all vouchers submitted, and that Barlow's leases on the bill-board sites had expired, etc. Suarez then filed a civil case asking that

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Barlow be required to make an accounting to him for the period covered by the partnership arrangement. The case was decided in favor of Suarez by the trial court and later confirmed by the Appeallate Court and by the Supreme Court of Cuba. The case is now back in the trial court to carry out the accounting order which Barlow is still fighting and has announced that he will again appeal the case to the higher court, contending that Suarez and not himself is required to render an accounting.

Having studied the facts in the case from the beginning, I consider that Barlow's claim of corruption and denial of justice in the courts is without merit and that his difficulties in this case are due to bad business methods and carelessness, and that there is little or no merit in his claim of being entitled to an accounting from Suarez. This case being still pending is before the Embassy and the State Department in Washington.

7. The third case (c) of Barlow relates to a controversy as to title and possession of valuable lands in the heart of Havana, still undeveloped, and known as the Manglar de Urrutia estate. Titles to this estate remain in the various heirs without final adjudication for more than one hundred years, the reason being, seemingly, that the property, until comparatively recently had always been marshy land and periodically flooded by the sea and was considered without comparative value. Due to the growth of the city of Havana, the property became practically surrounded and its value accordingly increased. When this was realized, many persons interested themselves, by various means, in acquiring the rights and titles of various alleged heirs. The titles seemingly descended by two lineal family divisions, such titles as could be obtained being purchased by Barlow's predecessors of one line of descent and by Gomez-Mena, a Spainard, of the other line of descent. Intestacy proceedings to close up the estate by Barlow's predecessors were revived in 1916, who obtained a court decree granting them judicial possession of property described by them as belonging to the estate in 1917.

Gomez-Mena, having purchased the rights and titles of heirs of the opposing line of descent in 1910, 1912 and 1917, recorded his deeds in the property register and took possession of the Manglar property, as the land purchased, and began filling it in. Barlow's predecessors, having acquired the rights of the other alleged heirs and having obtained a judicial order of possession of the so-called Manglar property, immediately instituted criminal action to dispossess Gomez-Mena, in which they were unsuccessful. Gomez-Mena likewise instituted ouster proceedings against alleged squatters on the land and was likewise unsuccessful, the court holding that he had not established good title thereto. Barlow's predecessors in the meantime registered additional land claimed as Manglar property to which they claimed title and again instituted criminal action for dispossession of Gomez-Mena, the suit being again dismissed. The litigation continued until 1919 when Mr. Barlow purchased an interest in the property, but to which he did not obtain title from his predecessors until 1921. He then notified Gomez-Mena of having acquired rights in the property and offered to amicably adjust the differences, stating that if this could not be done he would, as an American citizen, call upon the State Department to protect his rights. It is apparent from the foregoing that at the time of acquiring an interest in the property Barlow was aware of the previous litigation and dispute as to title.

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In fact, he obtained a legal opinion on the sufficiency of his titles from a leading Cuban lawyer prior to his purchasing an interest in the property and was advised that unless he could reach a mutual agreement with Gomez-Mena, it would be necessary by proper action to have the Cuban courts decide which of the parties held good title and to have the registration of the other cancelled. Barlow ignored this advice and in 1921 filed a civil action asking the court to declare his title valid and to order a judicial survey of the property. He obtained a favorable decree in the trial court. Gomez-Mena appealed and the Appellate Court revoked the decision. Barlow appealed to the Supreme Court and that court affirmed the decision of the Appellate Court. Barlow alleged to this Embassy and the State Department that the decisions adverse to him were corruptly obtained and were a denial of justice. His complaint was submitted by the State Department in diplomatic correspondence to the Cuban Government for investigation and report on Barlow's contention of denial of justice and illegal dispossession of property to which he claimed title.

The Cuban Government replied that the controversy is entirely civil in character; that investigation failed to disclose any miscarriage or denial of justice by the Cuban judiciary, and that as the case involves the question of legal title to lands in Cuba disputed by private individuals, the Cuban judiciary is the only forum having jurisdiction; and that a civil suit, if instituted to determine which of the parties holds legal title to the land, will legally and finally determine all rights involved between parties; and that the Cuban Government cannot, through the executive departments, usurp the functions of the judiciary as defined by the constitution and attempt to pass upon the respective rights either of nationals or of foreigners; and resented the repeated charges of inefficiency and corruption of the judiciary unsupported by any tangible or reasonable evidence thereof.

The writer, having personally spent more than three weeks in company with the attorneys of both Barlow and Gomez-Mena in examining their respective titles to this land, reached the conclusion that both parties chain of titles is incomplete and inconclusive and that there is serious doubt as to whether either of the parties, if called upon in court, could establish good and sufficient title to the property. The deeds of both are ancient Spanish deeds, meager in detail and definition of location and contain little or nothing as aid to identifying the particular property. However, as these two men have seemingly acquired all of the alleged titles to the land in question, the one who can obtain a decision of a competent court of last resort affirming the validity of his title will acquire title and registration of a tract of land at present worth perhaps four million dollars. As the stakes are high, each is utilizing every conceivable means to acquire the property. At present a civil suit filed by Gomez-Mena is pending for the determination of the title and for the cancellation of the registration of the losing party.

Barlow has continually insisted that the United States Government demand of the Cuban Government that his titles be respected and that he be put in possession of the property and protected in such possession. This Embassy has uniformly insisted that the case being one of private litigation and involving title to land in Cuba, the Cuban judiciary is the only forum having jurisdiction to finally and legally determine the dispute, and that parties under international law must exhaust their judicial remedy with a resultant denial of justice

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before a diplomatic remedy can properly be sought, and it therefore concurred in the decision of the Cuban Government that the controversy can only be finally determined by the court of last resort.

8. My conclusion of the foregoing stated cases of Mr. Barlow is that they contain little of merit. Mr. Barlow is an American who has resided in Cuba for the past twenty years. He is a typical "promoter" type and has engaged chiefly in real estate. He is a man with a fiery temper and seemingly has not been adverse to adopting methods open to question. He has been constantly in litigation of one kind or another to such an extent that the Cuban Government has stated that he has occupied more of the courts' attention than any other one man in Cuba. He indulges, and seemingly has for many years, in open and harsh criticism of the representatives of the American Government, the Cuban Government, the courts, and, in fact, anyone who disagrees with him. He is at present awaiting trial on criminal libel in one case and a charge of fraud in two or more other cases. For the past three years he has kept this Embassy constantly occupied in the use of its good offices in solving his controversies and presenting his complaints to the Cuban Government.

9. Claim of Alfredo Betancourt and Company. Alfredo Betancourt was born in Cuba of Cuban parents and is an American citizen by naturalization some fifteen years ago. He is a man of about forty-eight years of age and has had a very checkered career. He has only resided for short periods in the United States. According to a confidential report on file in this Embassy prepared by the Cuban secret police in 1923, Betancourt comes of a good family, but, like his three brothers, managed to live without much labor. Each of the three brothers met a foul death, one of them at the hands of another. Alfredo, in his younger years, was a tout about various gambling joints and was at various times charged with swindle. In 1920 he was engaged in conducting a stock brokerage office by bucket-shop methods. After After being charged with swindle by one of his clients, his connections with New York stock brokerage firms were cut off and all further business was refused.

During the world war he was associated in various business deals with the German bank of H. Upmann and Company which failed in the panic of 1921. Betancourt has been twice married, having been divorced by his first wife and sentenced to pay considerable alimony. He then married an American girl, seemingly from a good family from Chicago. Since that time seemingly his father-in-law has rendered him considerable financial assistance. He is a man of rather striking and favorable appearance and speaks English fluently. About 1921 it appears that he purchased on deferred payments from a Cuban firm a sand dredging outfit consisting of two barges with cranes, a tug boat, a truck and some other material, agreeing to pay $180,000 in payments of $10,000 monthly. Having failed to keep up his payments, his sellers demanded the property or a guarantee of $80,0000 remaining unpaid.

Through his connections with H. Upmann and Company, that bank put up the guarantee and took title in the bank's name to the property. When the bank failed the bank liquidating commission, created by law to take over the insolvent banks, found the property listed as assets of the bank of H. Upmann and Company and issued an order that the property be taken into the custody of the bank commission, which was done in 1922. Betancourt and Company, which is a partnership composed

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of Alfredo Betancourt and his wife, Margaret, with interests of 2% and 98% respectively, filed a civil suit against the bank liquidation commission to recover possession of the property. The trial court denied the petition, but on appeal by Betancourt to the Audiencia that court set aside the order of the lower court and ordered that the possession of the property be returned to Betancourt and Company with damages, on the ground that the temporary banking liquidation commission was not empowered to order the confiscation of assets of the bank except when ordered by the courts. The order of the court was complied with by the commission and the property returned to the possession of Betancourt and Company. Whereupon Varona and Primelles, the sellers, filed a civil action for an embargo of the property on the ground that purchase price thereof had not been paid. The court granted the embargo and ordered the repossession of the property be given to a custodian of the court, notifying Betancourt and Company that it could be recovered only upon satisfying the embargo. The liquidating bank commission later compromised the indebtedness to the original sellers, Varona and Primelles, by a payment of $30,000.00. Betancourt and Company then refused to accept the property on the ground that it had depreciated and was worthless. Betancourt and Company, instead of filing a civil action for the recovery of the damages due them as decreed by the Audiencia, filed a complaint with the American Embassy in Havana and the State Department in Washington, claiming miscarriage and denial of justice in the courts of Cuba and inability to collect damages legally due from the bank liquidation commission in the sum of approximately one million dollars.

Betancourt and Company employed originally a Cuban Congressman as attorney, who, while the case was pending in the Appellate Court, took from the secretary of the court all the records in the case and carried them away, refusing to return them until Betancourt and Company should be guaranteed justice. Later Betancourt and Company employed two American lawyers from Washington, D. C., who came to Cuba in an effort to arrive at an amicable and administrative settlement of the claim with the Cuban officials. This Embassy was instructed by the State Department in Washington to use its good offices in endeavoring to further effect settlement. The two attorneys, without seeking the advice of this Embassy, engaged in direct correspondence with the President of Cuba and with the members of the bank liquidation commission concerning the proposed settlement and were informed by those officials that before further consideration could be given to the case, it would be necessary for Betancourt and Company to restore the records illegally taken from the court. This was done.

Upon the invitation of the bank liquidation officials, the two attorneys appeared before that commission and presented their claim, stating that it had the support of the American Government and in order to reach a prompt settlement they were authorized to accept $740,000.00. The bank liquidation commission, upon instructions from the President and Cuban Foreign Office, made a full investigation of the case and concluded that the damages to Betancourt and Company due to loss of use of the equipment covering the period for which the bank liquidation commission was legally liable, should be fixed at $24,000.00, but stated that in view of the fact that Betancourt and Company owed large sums of money to the defunct bank of H. Upmann and Company, and against whom the commission had already obtained judgments aggregating some $300,000.00, that no money should be paid to Betancourt and Company, but that it be given a credit in the amount of the damages found due it, namely, $24,000.00. The bank liquidation commission, by legal proceedings, attached through the court all rights and rights of

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action of Betancourt and Company, and the court ordered the sale by auction of the equipment which was appraised at $40,000.00, and other claims at a total of $104,050.00. The members of the bank liquidation commission informally advised this Embassy that the commission would not oppose the appraisal fixed upon the property or its sale at public auction. The commission took the position that any sum so realized must legally be applied in the reduction of outstanding obligations of Betancourt and Company due the liquidating board of H. Upmann and Company. The American attorneys for Betancourt and Company returned to Washington without having effected any settlement. All diplomatic correspondence with the Cuban Government and a full report by the bank liquidation commission was referred by this Embassy to the State Department at Washington for such further consideration as might be necessary. The case remains in the same status at the present time.

Alfredo Betancourt has pursued similar tactics to those of Joseph E. Barlow (supra), indulging in harsh criticisms of the American Ambassador, Cuban officials and the Cuban judiciary, and is one of the persons who has actively sought the proposed investigation of the United States Senate, doubtless making radical and unsupportable statements as to his abuse and denial of justice by the Cuban officials and the Cuban court. It is the opinion of the writer that while Betancourt and Company were legally entitled to a fair and just amount of damages for the loss of the use of its sand dredging equipment due to the unauthorized interference of the bank liquidation commission, those damages were of no great amount and undoubtedly are far less than the indebtedness of Betancourt and Company, legally found by the Cuban courts as due the liquidating board of the H. Upmann Bank and therefore Betancourt and Company are not legally entitled to the payment of any sum, but a just credit against its larger indebtedness. This is another case where an individual is seeking to exploit his American citizenship in an effort to obtain money to which he is not legally entitled. In fact, the State Department has already ruled that Alfredo Betancourt, by his continued absence from the United States and his failure to maintain registry of his citizenship in the American Consulate at Havana, has forfeited all rights to claim of protection as an American citizen.

10. Claim of Walter Fletcher Smith. In 1916 Walter Fletcher Smith was the only stockholder and owner of the capital stock of the company known as the Compania de la Playa de Marianao. Smith had bought in 1912 three farms comprising approximately 1,000,000 square meters of land for the sum of $130,000.00. Smith put up no cash for the purchase of the property which was arranged by giving a mortgage on the property and the payment of $20,000.00 obtained as a loan by him from the seller of one of the three farms. Smith's intention was to organize the property, develop it and urbanize it as the Marianao beach. Being unable to do so, or to pay the purchase price, he was later forced by his creditors to sell his properties, which he did in 1917 to the company organized in the name of Compañia Urbanizadora del Parque y Playa de Marianao for the sum of $240,000, or $110,000 more than he paid for the property. In addition to the above property, Smith owned in his own name two small lots, with small residences thereon, at Marianao beach, and comprising approximately 4500 square meters. The purchasing company, later referred to as the Playa Company, in order to develop the properties which comprised mainly low, marshy and unsanitary land, induced the municipality of Marianao, through its mayor and municipal council to pass a resolution

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calling for bids for the urbanization, sanitation and development of Marianao beach with the result that a concession by the municipality of Marianao to the above mentioned Playa company for the urbanization of Marianao beach was given with authorization to exercise expropriation proceedings as the work of public utility in acquiring land in the vicinity not owned by the company, the price of expropriation to be determined in accord with law and the decisions of the Cuban courts.

In 1919 the municipality of Marianao, in behalf of the concessionaire - Playa Company - filed expropriation proceedings against Smith's two parcels of land, depositing with the court $9,500 as appraisal price of the land, and the court admitted the proceedings and granted temporary possession to the concessionaire company. Smith, upon receipt of notice of the proceedings, filed his protest with the court. The Playa company on the same day on which it obtained temporary possession of the property sent a gang of workmen, in charge of a congressman who was an officer of the Playa company, and completely wrecked and tore down both the Smith houses. Smith filed three separate civil actions and one criminal complaint in the courts against the Playa company and the persons responsible for the destruction of his houses. Smith was ultimately successful in only one of the three civil actions in which he succeeded on June 7, 1924 in having the Audiencia, as the Appellate Court, render a decision holding that the expropriation proceedings against his property were null and void because the proceedings were prosecuted by the municipality of Marianao instead of by the concessionaire company as required under the concession and the mayor's contract with the company.

The other two civil suits were ultimately dismissed and Smith was never able to get indictments against, or the trial of, the individuals accused in the criminal case, the benefits of the Amnesty Law of 1924 being ultimately applied by the court as a bar to any further prosecution. Smith filed a petition with the trial court asking that immediate return of possession of his property be ordered in accordance with the Appellate Court's decision of June 7, 1924. Action by the lower court was delayed until the Playa company had filed new expropriation proceedings against the land in which it was sought to correct the defects of the expropriation proceedings which were admitted by the lower court on July 15, 1924, and then the court denied Smith's petition for possession on the ground that new proceedings had been filed and possession of the property again given to the Playa company. Clearly the failure of the lower court to order immediate return to Smith of his property as requested was a judicial error and highly prejudicial to Smith. This Embassy had made every effort to induce the Cuban officials to have the property returned to Smith as he was legally entitled to repossession. Its efforts failed, however, with the result that Smith, on the advice of the State Department at Washington, filed civil opposition to the new expropriation proceedings which was denied by the lower court and Smith appealed to the Audiencia where it is now pending and has been for the past year.

Owing to diplomatic pressure through this Embassy and the State Department for a final determination of the case by way of arbitration, mutual agreement between the parties, or an administrative settlement, numerous efforts have been made to bring the parties to an agreement, The Playa Company, the principal stockholder of which is Dr. Céspedes, the present Secretary of Public Works in the Machado cabinet, has offered Smith as much as $85,000.00 cash as a final settlement of his rights and claim of damages for the property. Smith refused and demanded $200,000.00. The Playa Company then offered to arbitrate, each

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of the parties to select one arbitrator and the two to select the third, but insisting that the arbitrators be empowered to determine all questions of law, fact and appraisement values and that each party be bound to accept the arbitrators' award. Smith refused, but proposed that he appoint one arbiter, the Cuban Government appoint the second, and that the Cuban Government and the United States Government select the third. By direction of the State Department, Smith's proposition was submitted to the President of Cuba to ascertain whether it was acceptable. The President of Cuba replied that it was not acceptable as the appointment of an arbitrator by the Cuban Government would imply liability of the Cuban Government for settlement of the claim, which could not be admitted. The President of Cuba then proposed a plan of arbitration by three arbiters, two of whom would be Americans and the third might be, that is, one selected by Smith, one by the Playa Company (which had indicated a willingness to designate an American) and the third by mutual agreement between the United States and the Cuban Government ex-officio.

This proposition was transmitted to the State Department which replied that it would be very expensive and would involve delays in final settlement, detrimental to Smith, whom the Cuban Government had admitted had received unjust treatment. The State Department then announced that it could do no less than insist that the Cuban Government assume responsibility for bringing about a prompt settlement by the immediate return of the property to Smith and payment of $100,000.00 as damages or by retention of the land by the Playa Company and the payment to Smith of $250,000.00 in full settlement of his rights. Upon presentation to the Cuban Government, it again refused to admit liability or to make demands for settlement by the Playa Company on terms undoubtedly dictated by Smith, and offered another proposition of arbitration by three arbiters to be selected by Chief Justice Taft, Justice Holmes, or Justice Brandis of the United States Supreme Court, or by one American arbitrator selected by one of the above named judges, preferably from the federal judiciary.

The present status of the case is that the United States Government is inclined to accept one American arbiter, provided the points for arbitration as set forth by the State Department are accepted and that the Playa Company deposits in advance in a branch of an American bank in Havana the sum of $200,000.00 subject to the order of the Cuban President or the United States Secretary of State, to satisfy whatever judgment the arbitrator may render. As this proposition has, in effect, been indicated as acceptable in principle to the Cuban Government, it is the hope of this Embassy that it will be adopted and prove the means of a final settlement of this long drawn out controversy.

Mr. Smith, in company with the foregoing named claimants, has been the prime advocate before the members of the Foreign Relations Committee for a Senate investigation as to the workings of the Platt Amendment in Cuba. He has been for years insisting that he was the victim of miscarriage and denial of justice in the Cuban courts and by Cuban governmental officials. The records of this Embassy, however, and of the State Department in Washington clearly show that Smith throughout the years of his litigation has repeatedly obstructed the bringing of his cases to hearings in the courts and has attempted to use his American citizenship as a threat for the intervention of his government in upholding his demands for settlement which, I will frankly state, are exhorbitant and greater than they can reasonably be expected by any court of last resort in Cuba or by any American arbitrator who may finally decide his claim. He has grossly criticized

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the American Ambassador, the Cuban officials and the Cuban courts by such methods and in such language as would justify the most severe censure and, but for the underlying justice of his claim, would fully warrant the State Department in refusing to longer exercise its good offices in his behalf. Notwithstanding the above, I consider that Smith's claim for restoration of his property or full compensation for its value and damages is legally correct and must be supported within reasonable limits by the United States Government. I consider this case the only one of the entire number that is legally sound and requires the United States Government to insist upon a fair, just and prompt settlement.

11. Claim of Charles J. Harrah. This claim against the Cuban Government was officially filed before the State Department in the early part of 1926. In June last the State Department transmitted to this Embassy for submission to the Cuban Government claimant's allegations in the case, which were briefly as follows:

In 1908 Harrah obtained a permit from the Cuban Government for the taking of sand from the beach or maritime zone, which is controlled by the government; that in order to furnish transportation of the sand, Harrah constructed twelve kilometers of railway of a fixed and permanent character running along the shore from the point of extraction to connect with the United Railways of Havana, and that Harrah equipped the railway with motive power, rolling stock, extensive terminals and complete switching and interchange facilities with the connecting railway; that the railway was constructed entirely upon public domain, under surveys authorized by the Department of Public Works, with standard materials and solid road bed, permanent bridges, etc., which required the filling in of more than 30,000 square meters of swamp land, and when completed comprising a permanent narrow-gage railroad with all facilities necessary. It is further contended that while the railway was primarily intended for the transportation of sand and stone, it served a public purpose in the transportation of drinking water for the inhabitants of the small towns on its route, for which no charge was made; that the road came into full operation in 1908 and continued in operation until 1917; that in June 1915 a Presidential Decree was issued directing the demolition of the portable railway said to exist on the beach of Marianao by virtue of an alleged temporary one-year permit to two other persons and the destruction ordered by the Secretary of the Treasury be carried out. It is for this alleged unauthorized destruction which Harrah makes claim for compensation against the Cuban Government, which claim had been pending for approximately ten years.

In behalf of Harrah the United States State Department suggested that the claim be referred to a committee of two persons, one to be selected by the Cuban Government and the other by Harrah; in the event that such persons failed to reach an agreement, the third member of the committee to be selected by the other two members, or by agreement between the Secretaries of State of the United States and of Cuba. The reply of the Cuban Government was made on July 13, 1926, stating that from the facts presented to the Cuban Government it was apparent that Harrah had completely misstated the facts and that the Cuban Government courteously declined the offer of arbitration because it was not a case susceptible of diplomatic negotiations and that when the true facts are known, the United States Government will withdraw the claim. The Cuban Government then set forth the facts ascertained by a full investigation which were to the effect that Harrah never obtained any legal permit to construct a narrow-gage railroad for the

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transportation of sand and his several requests therefor were officially denied; that the only railroad constructed in that vicinity was built by Messrs. Victor Gonzalez and José Castillo, who obtained in 1910 provisional authority from the Department of the Treasury to lay a movable railway line along the shore between the beaches of Santa Ana and Marianao and that under said provisional permit they proceeded to construct a fixed and permanent railroad which gave rise later to all the litigation.

Upon complaint in 1912 of the taking of sand by Harrah from the beach because of its destructive effect upon adjacent land, privately owned, an investigation was made and it was then found that Harrah did not have a legal permit for the taking of the sand and the matter of his infringement was reported to the municipal court, but without any definite decision being rendered therein; that Harrah came into active opposition with Gonzalez and Castillo over the control of the railroad which had been built due to the fact that, seemingly, Harrah had advanced money for the construction to the builders and that later Harrah made vigorous efforts to obtain the concession for himself and to legalize the permanent railroad which had been constructed. The controversy finally came before the railroad commission in 1912 which was disposed to approve the railroad, but was vigorously opposed by the Department of Public Works and which resulted in the order of the Treasury Department for the removal or demolition of the railroad which existed without authority of law.

In 1914 the railroad commission decided that it had neither granted nor legalized any railroad concession in favor of Messrs. Gomez and Harrah (Gomez having joined with Harrah in one of the previous petitions) and that on June 23, 1914 had requested the Treasury Department that the demolition of the railroad be ordered. In the same year, 1914, Harrah had difficulties with Messrs. Gomez and Gonzalez with respect to the exploitation of the road with the result that Harrah ordered the destruction of the bridges of the road in order to prevent traffic and any acts of dominion on the said property. In his petition Harrah had claimed that the destruction of the bridges had been made by order of a department of the Cuban Government. This resulted in Gomez filing charges against Harrah before the municipal police in November of 1914. The Foreign Office stated that the police records showed that Harrah had testified in the case that it was true that he had given instructions to demolish the bridges because he was the real owner and that during his absence for two years Gomez had failed to make proper accounting to him.

It appears that Harrah again attempted in 1916 to obtain legalization of a railroad and the construction of docks for the transportation of sand from the beaches and within the maritime zone and filed a petition with the President of Cuba for such concession. Harrah's petition was opposed by Gomez in 1916 with the result that Harrah was not granted such concession. Owing to the vigorous activities of the various interested parties, the order for the demolition of the railroad by the Treasury Department had not been carried into effect. In 1917 Dr. Carlos M. de la Cruz notified the Cuban Treasury Department that the railroad was partially situated on lands of his private ownership and that he therefore had ordered that the railroad line on said land be torn up and the bridges destroyed. Criminal charges were made against de la Cruz by Harrah and the court, upon investigation, decided that de la Cruz had acted within his legal rights, on lands of his private ownership, and that he was not liable for the destruction of the railway. The Cuban Government therefore concluded that:

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a. Harrah was never a concessionaire of any railroad as alleged.
b. That the railroad which was constructed on the beach was constructed in an unlawful manner, being fixed and permanent in character under cover of a provisional authorization of one year for the installation of a portable railway.
c. That such railroad was constructed by Gonzalez and Gomez as admitted under oath by Harrah himself.
d. That the destruction of the road was properly ordered and authorized by both the President of the Republic and the courts of justice.

It then concludes that Harrah has not the slightest legal basis for any indemnity against the government of Cuba and that he had acted throughout in a reprehensible manner and that if he has a just complaint, the courts of Cuba are open to him under the well recognized provisions of law.

This Embassy has never investigated the facts in the Harrah claim. The reply of the Cuban Government, if the facts therein stated be true, reveals amazing audacity on the part of Harrah's attorneys in the statement of facts accompanying Harrah's complaint to the United States Government. Harrah is a man of considerable means who has resided in Cuba in comparative quiet and comfort for many years. It is the belief of the writer that the filing of his claim with the United States Government was the result of solicitation of the claim by certain American attorneys who obtained knowledge thereof while in Cuba in connection with the Betancourt and other claims, and that the statement of facts as transmitted by our government to the Cuban Government was prepared in the main by those attorneys with a view to making the case appear stronger than the actual facts would justify. This is the fourth case which, in the belief of the writer, is being pressed in behalf of an American citizen, and in main reliance thereon, in an effort to make it appear a duty on the part of the United States Government to obtain redress for wrongs made to appear real only by the concealment of material and important facts. I am fully convinced that Harrah has no just claim for damages against the Cuban Government.

12. Each of the foregoing cases, with the possible exception of Smith's, is entirely private in nature and could not, under the accepted rules of international law, be the subject of a diplomatic claim by the United States Government. In none of them, except in the one instance of Captain Smith, has there been shown a denial of justice by the Cuban judiciary which, under the Cuban constitution and the established public law, is the only agency having legal jurisdiction to decide such controversies.

13. The claimants in the foregoing cases, by their active propaganda, obtained the introduction of the so-called King Resolution, with the resultant severe criticisms by the United States Senators of the Cuban Government, its judiciary and public officials. The persistency in pressing these claims through the U. S. Department of State, notwithstanding the repeated declaration of the Cuban Foreign Office that they were private, civil controversies in which the Cuban Government could admit no liability or responsibility unless and until the denial or miscarriage of justice by the Cuban courts be proven, has created a feeling of uneasiness and humiliation in the Cuban public, as well as in the officials of the present administration. It is the general belief in Cuba that the United States Senate, and possibly the State Department, is attempting to interpret the Platt Amendment as a

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right to interfere or intervene in Cuban internal affairs. The Cuban Society of International Law, in closing its ninth annual reunion, recently adopted the following resolution:

"The Cuban Society of International Law pubicly expresses the satisfaction it feels at the policy followed by the present President of the Republic relative to the Permanent Treaty entered into between Cuba and the United States of America on May 23, 1903, which regulates the relations between both nations in the sense that said Treaty does not in the least belittle our conditions of a free, independent and sovereign people, nor can there be found in its clauses any pretext or justification whatever for the interference of the foreign nation in our internal affairs, and that the Cuban governments vested with the necessary moral authority should and can oppose, with the assurance of success as the facts have already proved on several occasions, all interference of this kind; not only because that is the just and upright interpretation of said Treaty sustained constantly and repeatedly by the Cuban Society of International Law but also because the actions of President General Machado in the government reveals a full knowledge of the historical and geographical sense and of the juridical extent of the Treaty as well as the attitude and conduct which in administrative matters and in his policy, internal as well as foreign, must be adopted and followed by Cuba.

"The Cuban Society of International Law hopes that General Machado will be able to convert into a reality the patriotic purposes which he follows, according to his own statements several times categorically repeated of obtaining, when his term of office expires, the transformation of the Permanent Treaty into a Treaty of Alliance between Cuba and the United States of America, because this victory would correspond to the ideals always defined and cherished by the Cuban Society of International Law."

14. As of possible interest to the Department, I attach hereto a translation of an article recently published, prepared by the President of the Cuban Society of International Law, on the policy of President Machado with respect to the Permanent Treaty which exists between the United States of America and Cuba in which he historically reviews the adoption of the Platt Amendment and gives a subsequent interpretation.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2811 Date: August 26, 1926.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: The Platt Amendment.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. SEP 23 1926

1. I am attaching hereto translation of an article published in DIARIO DE LA MARINA, of September 12, 1926, entitled, "The Campaign against the Platt Amendment will be pushed forward with greater intensity, indicating the general attitude of the public press with respect to the Platt Amendment and its modifications.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2822 Date: September 16,1926.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
WAR DEPARTMENT
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TRANSLATION

From DIARIO DE LA MARINA, September 12, 1926.

THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE PLATT AMENDMENT WILL BE PUSHED FORWARD WITH GREATER INTENSITY

Important Resolutions of the League

The League against the Platt Amendment met last night, presided over by Mr. Casamaño de Cárdenas and Messrs. José A. Cruz and Com. Nodarse de Armas acting as secretaries.

The president pointed out to the applause of everybody the work of political and administrative depuration which the government of General Machado, Honorable President of the Republic, is carrying out at present, inasmuch as it tends to show the capacity of the Cuban people to direct their destinies without any tutors or without any restrictions: the restrictions of the Platt Amendment.

After an ample debate, in which Messrs. Abelardo, Nodarse, Navarrete, Palacios, Bombalier, Cruz, Polanco, Almeida, Carbonell, Ruiz, Armas, Castellanos and others took part, the following resolutions were adopted:

To adhere to the campaign initiated by the Association of School Teachers in favor of the industry and products of the nation, preaching with the example the nonconsumption by any of the members of the League of anything which may not have been prepared in the country, and in the same manner to lend their cooperation to the Columna de Defensa Nacional in homage of the prominent Cuban José Antonio Saco, which will be held on the 26th.

To petition from whom it may be proper the substitution in the buildings, parks and public driveways of

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

the symbols of the Spanish monarchy by those of the Republic, contributing thereby to the campaign of Cubanization which it is necessary to carry out.

To commence work immediately in order that at the forthcoming Pan-American Congress there be discussed the Platt Amendment as a treaty imposed against the free will of a people which affects the political and economic independence of a Latin-American State.

To give a series of lectures of propaganda for the abolition of the Platt Amendment at different clubs and theatres.

The question of the office of the Pan-American Union at Washington was brought up and then the session adjourned at a very late hour.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

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8-1 2657-g-268

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Present Status of Claims of American Citizens in Cuba Involving International Relations between the United States and Cuba Resulting in the Introduction of U.S.Senate Resolution 245 of June 9, 1926.

2657-Q-268(3)

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. OCT 15 1926

1. Referring to my confidential despatch No. 2811 of August 26, 1926, giving a brief history of the present status of certain claims of American citizens in Cuba which have long been the subject of diplomatic controversy between the United States Department of State, this Embassy and the Cuban Government, I have now to report that one of said claimants, namely, Joseph E. Barlow, has withdrawn his application for diplomatic assistance in all of his cases. I attach hereto a copy of the letter dated September 30, 1926 addressed to this Embassy by Mr. Barlow giving notice of the withdrawal of his claims for diplomatic aid in settling his controversies.

2. It will be noted that Mr. Barlow in his letter affirms his belief in the constructive and the straight conduct of the present Cuban administration and announces his intention of prosecuting his claims through the appropriate judicial or administrative channels as a proof of his confidence in receiving justice and of his affection and gratitude toward Cuba which he has always found hospitable, courteous and cordial. In this manner Mr. Barlow has voluntarily withdrawn his cases from further diplomatic consideration or from further consideration of the United States Senate Committee should it conduct hearings on the so-called King Resolution.

3. I desire to further advise the Department that the President of Cuba has accepted the offer of arbitration submitted by the United States State Department in the case of another of the American citizens named in my above mentioned confidential despatch, namely, Walter Fletcher Smith. The basis for arbitration as proposed is contained in the three questions which read as follows:

a. According to law, shall the land be restored to Smith?

b. If the land is restored, what amount shall Smith receive as damages in addition to the restoration of the land?

c. If the land is not to be restored, what amount is Smith entitled to receive in complete settlement?

It has been further agreed that the case shall be decided by a single American arbitrator to be named by Chief Justice Taft of the United States Supreme Court from a list of four jurists selected by him.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2833 Date: October 7, 1926.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

COPY

J. E. BARLOW
Real Estate
Bernaza 3
Havana

Havana, Cuba, September 30, 1926.

General Enoch H. Crowder,
Ambassador of the United States,
Havana, Cuba.

Excellency:

A lofty idea of the patriotic duty of every good American citizen, as well as my sentiments of friendship and justice towards the Cuban Republic, which is enjoying the benefits of a wise (of the wisdom) of its Executives and Magistrates, has caused me to address this letter to Your Excellency.

A careful and thorough study of the Cuban situation under General Machado's constructive and straight administration has made me arrive at the conviction that I must expect to find justice in those who are in charge of dispensing it.

Consequently, I am complying with the duty of avoiding my country any friction that might arise by virtue of the endeavors I have been carrying out in defense of my legitimate interests, and therefore beg to advise Your Excellency, as I will advise the State Department, that I am foregoing the diplomatic claim by which I was endeavoring to settle the different cases in which I am the only interested party, and will take up same in Cuba through judicial or administrative proceedings, trusting, as above stated, in the virtues displayed by the Government presided by General Machado, and thereby giving a proof of my affection and gratitude towards this country, which I have always found to be hospitable, courteous and cordial.

Respectfully yours,

J. E. Barlow.

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By AMC NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Claims of American Citizens against the Cuban Government.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 29 1927

1. For the Department's information, I enclose herewith three translations from "HERALDO DE CUBA" under dates of January 20, 21, and 23, also translation from "LA LUCHA" of January 23, all four articles relating to alleged charges filed against Ambassador Crowder in the United States Senate by citizens of the United States who have had long pending claims or so-called claims against the Cuban Government, namely, Barlow, Betancourt, Smith, Harrah, and possibly others, which charges have been given considerable publicity in Cuba in the past few weeks, all similar in character to the attached articles.

2. It will be noted that all of these articles are complimentary to Ambassador Crowder in his attitude of impartiality and fair dealing as the representative of the United States in Cuba. The article from "LA LUCHA" is well written and fairly expresses the attitude of the Cuban press, as well as of the majority of Cubans, and the overwhelming majority of the American residents in Cuba.

3. While there is little, if any, belief here that the above mentioned disgruntled Americans will succeed in their efforts to have Ambassador Crowder removed through their charges or for any other reason, it is the general belief that the continual agitation in the United States and the Cuban press of these particular cases is doing harm and is distinctly prejudicial to the best relationships of the two countries. The new Cuban Ambassador at Washington is strongly of the view that such agitation is deeply harmful and has stated that he hopes to be able to present the Cuban side of these controversies in a way that will be better understood by the American people and better appreciated by the State Department.

4. As heretofore stated in my reports, I consider the Smith case as the only one of the several cases which has real merit and a basis has been adopted and is nearly ready for application by which the case will be settled by arbitration, with former Secretary of War, Jacob M. Dickinson as the arbitrator. It is hoped that the case will be placed in Judge Dickinson's hands within the next few days.

5. These special cases have given this Embassy a great deal of difficulty in an effort to have them disposed of in a way just and equitable to all concerned. They have caused the present Cuban administration, and particularly President Machado, much anxiety and irritation and seemingly he feels that they must be either promptly settled or dismissed from further consideration to prevent more harmful results in the relationship of the two countries. President Machado has been very much embarrassed and considerably irritated by the insistence of our State Department with respect to the bases for settling the Smith claim and has risked his political future and his present administration by accepting an alien

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2881 Date: Jan. 24, 1927.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

arbitrator to decide it. He has done so largely in deference to Ambassador Crowder's earnest efforts to find a solution reasonably satisfactory to both governments and more particularly to his faith in General Crowder's integrity and friendship for Cuba.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2881 Date: Jan. 24, 1927.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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File No. 2657-g-268
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M. A. No. lea 2- 2881

From: RECORD SECTION, G-2.

To:

European Section

Far Eastern Section

Latin American Section

Air Liaisen Officer

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Intelligence Branch, G-2

4/11 1927

From: ~~CHIEF,~~ LATIN AMERICAN SECTION

To:

Lt. Col. Howze

Miss Pielaski
Miss Cartwright
~~Miss Jacobs~~
Mr. McComas
Library
2- Record Section

For:

Preparation of reply
Recommendation
Necessary action
Note and return
Information and use
Circulation
Correction and return
Signature or initial
File

REMARKS: ACB

Please attach to original report (#2981 from M.A. Cuba).

Signature (initials)

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

enclosure 1
DEPT. OF STATE
DIV.
1927 2657-g-268

FROM "HERALDO DE CUBA" - January 23, 1927.

Re: CONSPIRACY TO WITHDRAW GENERAL CROWDER FROM CUBA.

(Cable despatch from Washington)

CONSPIRACY TO WITHDRAW GENERAL CROWDER FROM HIS DIPLOMATIC POST IN CUBA.

Incidents between King and a Cuban. The Mormons act in Washington together with Smith and Betancourt. - Accusations made against Crowder. - Persons who form the group which accuses the Ambassador.

Washington, January 22nd.

The Mormon Senator, William Henry King, jointly with Mr. Barlow, of Habana, intend to overthrow General Crowder from the post of Ambassador which he fills at present in Cuba. In conformity with what HERALDO DE CUBA has exclusively and repeatedly published, there are in Washington at the present time the Cuban naturalized citizen of the United States, Alfred Betancourt; Mr. Hayes, Mr. Harrah, and "Captain" Walter Fletcher Smith, all of whom are holders of different claims against the Cuban Government "for denial of Justice."

All of these persons, and some other Americans among whom there are some residents of the Isle of Pines, are preparing to report before a Special Sub-Committee which will be organized in the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate, concerning the actions of General Crowder as Ambassador in Habana.

MR. KING AND MR. BARLOW.

Mr. King has acted in defense of Mr. Barlow, who has presented him to other claimants, as they belong to "The Church of Jesus Christ of the Last Day Saints" of Salt Lake City, the same as Barlow himself and Senator Reed Smoot, Republican leader, who has been joined in business with these two. In reality, the first money which Barlow possessed in Cuba was furnished to him by the "Provo Commercial and Savings Bank, an institution of which King and Smoot are prominent members. Both of them are partners of Barlow in different enterprises promoted by the latter, practically of them of a character not well fitted to the personality which each one of them has in the Senate of the United States. Besides, when Mr. Barlow came to Cuba for the first time, taking part in certain promoting enterprises, he was accompanied by a son of Senator Smoot.

THE ACCUSATIONS.

The petition of withdrawal of General Crowder from his post in Cuba will be made by Senator King by virtue of the data which he is gathering on the following points:

(1) - The age of Mr. Crowder: seventy years.

(2). -His lack of knowledge of diplomatic procedure, since from 1886 when he entered as a Lieutenant in the Army he has not failed for one moment from appearing

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in the Army until the year 1921 in which he entered the deiplomatic service. Mr. King considers that the time during which General Crowder served as Secretary of Justice in the Cabinet of Charles Magoon, he was in the service of the War Department. The Senator forgets that General Crowder was a Delegate to the Fourth Pan-American Conference.

(3) - The frequency with which he falls into indiscretions in public places, being surrounded at times by persons who diminish the prestige of his position; revealing in their presence, through very special circumstances, secrets of the Embassy.

(4) - His attitude during the cyclone of October 20th. In this case General Crowder and the Cuban authorities are accused of not having attended to the inhabitants of the Isle of Pines, and of not having become acquainted with their situation until two days after the cyclone had devastated the Island.

(5) - The position of General Crowder against Captain Smith, his mortal enemy, refusing to give course to his claims in the Embassy because he understood "that it was not proper to submit a problem to Washington which had not yet been decided by the Cuban Courts."

(6) - The refusal to recognize Mr. Alfred Betancourt as a citizen of the United States, whose documents could not be admitted because they had prescribed.

INVENTION OF THE INTRIGUERS.

All these gentlemen have invented the most outlandish versions to have the State Department believe that the present Ambassador of the United States in Habana does not give attention to the matters submitted to him. Senator King has expressed himself in very harsh terms with regard to the activities of General Crowder, in public circles, without even stopping at slander.

It was lately said at the State Department that General Crowder would probably be relieved from his office, at that it would be filled either by Mr. Joseph E. Davies or by General Wood. It was even said in some circles that General McIntyre, Chief of the Division of Colonial Affairs of the War Department would go to Cuba in the place of General Crowder. These rumors were denied by the State Department.

THE MORMONS.

The State of Utah, of which Messrs. Smoot, Barlow and King are natives, all directly interested in the beet sugar business, is the center of sugar competition against Cuba, and the place from which have been waged the most furious campaigns against the reduction of the Tariff. Although the Republican Party is not very strong in Utah, inasmuch as Smoot is the Chief of the Mormons, "the Great Apostle", President Coolidge has guaranteed his reelection

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through his influence with the leaders of the beet sugar industry. These are the ones that are most strenuously opposed to Crowder, not because of his defense of Cuban interests, but because they consider him opposed to beet sugar and defending the group of Mr. Catlin and other pre-eminent Americans.

A STRANGE INCIDENT.

A Cuban who happened to be in Washington several days ago, had, at a banquet, a serious incident with Mr. King, as was stated in yesterday's press throughout the Union, in making these erroneous affirmations inspired by Mr. Barlow, with regard to the financial situation, social status and culture of the Cuban people. It was affirmed in the course of the conversation, "that at the present time Cuba is trying to raise a large loan in the United States without finding a banker before whom to appear for the same." Later Mr. King expressed himself in a terrible manner with regard to the personality of General Jose Miguel Gomez, making necessary the presence of several persons who forced him to rectify his statements.

In the Senate, Senators Johnston and Shipstead have taken side with General Crowder, it not being known what attitude Mr. Borah, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate, will adopt, and who is at the same time Chairman of the Sub-Committee created to handle these claims.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

DEPT. OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D.C.
1927 2657 g-26

FROM "HERALDO DE CUBA" - January 20, 1927.

Re: - Activities of Hayes, Betancourt, Harrah and Barlow in the American State Department in connection with their claims against Cuba.

(By long distance telephone).

Washington, January 20, 1927.

Hayes, Betancourt, Harrah and Barlow are taking action in the American State Department, in order to have said Department take an interest in favor of their claims against Cuba. - They are mobilizing large sums of money to obtain the transfer of E. Crowder. - All of them believe that bribery, in the present case, will give the results which they should not, and cannot, expect at any moment from their censurable campaign. - A son of Senator Smoot was a partner of Barlow long time ago, and it is due to that that he sought not long ago the cooperation of King to wage the battle against Cuba.- Smith claims $440,000, and Betancourt $1.800,000, without knowing yet the amount of the claims which have been jointly filed by other gentlemen.

Washington, D.C. , January 20th (By long distance telephone). - George Hayes, attorney,; Alfred Betancourt, Charles Harrah, J. Barlow and Captain W. F. Smith are taking active steps in the American State Department for the purpose of having said Department support with its protests certain famouns and discredited "affaires" which are already a matter of claims directed against Cuba under the protection of Senators Smoot and King.

It is said in political and financial circles of this city that the interested parties have at their disposal a common fund which they will use in bribing high officials of the American Foreign Office to obtain the substitution of Ambassador Crowder by some other diplomat susceptible of protecting and becoming participant in the illegitimate claims which the former maintain and of which they want to make the Cuban Administration a victim. This in no way has shown itself disposed to yield to such demands, inasmuch as the same refer to debts originating from frauds dirty business which the aforementioned claimants effected in times when the Cuban public administration was not carried in a plane of purity similar to the present one imposed by General Machado.

FAMILY PLOTS.

A long time ago, a son of Senator Smoot was a partner of Barlow - one of the claimants - and it was due to this circumstance that the above-mentioned Senator sought the cooperation of his colleague, Senator King, to assume an unjustified and improper attitude in the Senate against Cuba, presenting the much commented motion according to which a senatorial commission should go to that Island to investigate in the Cuban territory itself, the character of these claims.

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BARLOW'S CASE.

Mr. Barlow had, for some time past, withdrawn his claims, promising to submit to the decision of the Cuban Courts of Justice, which are the only ones --according to the opinion prevailing among lawyers here --which have any jurisdiction to take cognisence and settle these matters.

But he now considers that the conspiracy plotted is more advantageous, and he is again active in the American State Departmentfin order that his claims be pushed forward anew.

A TRANSCENDENTAL LETTER.

Two days after Ambassadors Crowder and Ferrara held a meeting in Habana, in which it was resolved to resort to the authority of an arbitrator to settle this question, that is to say, on December 27th last, Captain Smith received a letter from the State Department, the terms of which are almost literally quoted below for the informationof the readers of HERALDO DE CUBA: "December 27, 1926. - The Ambassador in Habana, under instructions transmitted by the State Department, presented before the President of Cuba a Note in which it was proposed to come to a definite understanding, in accordance with which your claim would be submitted to arbitration. The Department has not yet been informed of the reply of Cuba due to delay on the part of the same Department in resuming the discussion of the matter before the President of Cuba. It is not believed that this is the propitious moment, as it is not considered that a sufficient time has elapsed since the notice was sent. While this Department does not receive the reply it expects, it will not consider itself in a proper position to insist again. Notwithstanding, the Department of State, in a near future expects to be in a position which will enable it to obtain for you the settlement of some formula and also give you the details relative to the same."

Captain Smith is now in this Capital to know the decision referred to in the letter quoted above.

Senator Smoot is an enemy of Cuba and of the Cubans as evidenced by his campaigns, especially in connection with sugar. The same is true of Senator King, who, together with his above mentioned colleague, raised the question of the appointment of a Senatorial Commission to go to Cuba to investigate the claims, and the improper action of which in that territory was never carried out, thanks to the moral energy of President Machado who boldly stood against it.

Captain Smith claims 5,000 meters of land at $40., which amounts to $200,000; for houses which he affirms were destroyed, he claims $60,000; for furniture, $5,000; and for other sundry items, $175,000; all his claims amounting to the huge sum of $440,000.00.

Betancourt claims $1.800,000.00 for sand which he claims he failed to extract from the Almendares River, by virtue of an attachment effected by the Banking Commission.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

The amount of the claims filed by the other parties is not yet known up to the present time.

BRIBERY OF THE PRESS.

Part of the sum which is said to be ready for distribution for purposes of propaganda, shall be destined for a press campaign which will be carried on in "The Washington Post," a daily paper which they have used before to give publicity to their inspirations under the signature of Mr. Albert Fox, who on a former occasion published a series of articles on the subject.

Also in "The Sun" under the signature of David Lawrence, and in "The Philadelphia Public Ledger", articles of propaganda of the same nature will be published against Cuba.

FSL.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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FROM "HERALDO DE CUBA" - January 21, 1927.

Re: Ambassador Crowder and the attitude of American citizens who have claims filed against Cuba.

C R O W D E R .

"Heraldo de Cuba", a paper truly Cuban, on many occasions has had to express its disagreement with the policy of Ambassador Crowder during the sad days of the interference; but never has it failed to recognise in the distinguished diplomat the high moral attainments which characterize him as a man of the purest honor and exquisite gallantry.

Mr. Enoch Crowder with admirable greatness of spirit has served his country, strengthening it both within and without its national frontiers. Provost of the American army during the World War, he organized and enlisted with prodigious activity two million soldiers, who went to decide the conflict in the Allies' trenches, when the Allies were in imminent danger of succumbing under the overwhelming advances of the Teutonic troops. When his character was put to the test, he became a giant in unbelievable activities, which brought about the just admiration of his countrymen and of all foreigners. His patriotism was as lofty as the events of the times; he demonstrated to all his powerful genius of military organisation.

But is his honesty and his activity are unique, his talents are not limited. Invested with the representation of his country in the international duties which he carries out here, he has proven that he is a finished and exemplary diplomat even as he was, at the opportune moment, an eminent soldier. The personal conduct of Ambassador Crowder makes higher and increases the constant and cordial sympathies for his country.

It was not possible, therefore, for a man of his irreductible moral energies to permit sinful alliances and unconfessable base dealings with a group of conscienceless traffickers, who would convert the American standar into a flag of pirmcy, and use their Ambassador in Cuba as an instrument of pressure to make unjustified demands and to carry on shady transactions.

Mr. Crowder will always be ready to defend the legitimate rights of his fellow citizens, but he will never countenance abuses nor aid in dishonesty.

A group of shylocks who have instituted claims against the Cuban Government, and whose names --forsooth sadly famous-- were published by the "Heraldo de Cuba" in its pertinent article yesterday, could not find in Crowder the element necessary to carry on their projected crusade; and realising that his honor signified an unsurmountable barrier are now trying to bring about his removal, as we have already informed, and are moving influences and bribery in Washington.

We do not believe that any of the officials of the American State Department are susceptible to traffic such as this. Nevertheless, evil often weaves combinations

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that go farther than what has been foreseen, and it may well be that this is one of those lamentable cases.

Consequently, the withdrawal of Mr. Crowder--which we hope will not happen-- would be sufficient proof of the desire to have in charge of the American Embassy in Cuba a diplomat without scruples, who would easily lend himself to assist, with his powerful aid, the demands of his fellow citizens although these may lack legal and moral foundations, and only be engendered by ignominious rapacity.

If this were to happen, "Heraldo de Cuba" would denounce to the people of Latin America the outrage which victimizes our nationality. We are sincere friends of the United States, but only under the basis of mutual respect and reciprocal considerations. The Embassy of the United States should not make common cause with the base negotiations of those citizens of the United States who, under the flag of piracy, would assault the public treasury of small countries sustaining themselves in the law of the strongest, and practicing a selfishness incompatible with the oft repeated doctrine of continental fraternity.

fsl.

DECLASSIFIED
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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

2657-g-265

FROM "LA LUCHA" - January 23, 1927 EDITORIAL.

Re: Campaign against General Crowder.

AGAINST GENERAL CROWDER.

The American Democratic Senator Mr. King has taken up arms against General Crowder. He has request the Congress of his nation, according to cable information, to substitute the Ambassador; he has asked that a very careful investigation be made in regard to the claims brought against the Cuban Government by American citizens residents of this Republic; he has declared that American rights in Cuba are unprotected due to the laxity of General Crowder. All of this has been said by the Senator from Utah. But he has kept silent on the selfish, impure, and insidious interests which have moved him to make these charges; he has kept silent on the scandalous affairs which move the invisible strings of his attitude; he has put a veil, through which the American people might perhaps not see the truth, but through which we with admirable ~~xxxxxxxx~~ exactitude we do see it. Senator King does not defend, like General Crowder has defended, the high, noble, lofty interests of the Americans; Senator King serves the interests for which he has been enlisted; General Crowder, on the other hand, very correct, gentlemanly and most worthy in the high investiture which he holds in Cuba, serves with admirable foresight the principles of chivalry of the American people and Government. This is the difference between the activities of each of them. This is the distance between one and the other man. Crowder is one of the glorious figures, consecrated for many years, of the United States. King. Who is King?

The American Senate has done well in ordering an investigation of the claims which certain American citizens have brought against the Government of Cuba. Because this investigation will speak better than we can, better than any one as to whether those American citizens have desired to work a scandalous blackmail against the Government of Cuba, and whether General Crowder has been able, due to his correction and politeness, and to his high conception of the prestige of the Government he represents, to become the propicious instrument of certain misled citizens who know hang on to the coat tails of Mr. King in trying to assert rights which do not belong to them, a justice which will turn against them, a legality which will kill their evil intentions.

Against General Crowder, is the watch word of those American citizens who despair in view of the failure of their malevolent intentions; against General Crowder, is the shout of those spiteful ones who about certain unjust, evil smelling claims, believe that in Cuba General Crowder can dispose at his will, of the measures which should be taken by our Government holding it subject to the caprice, intrigue and clumsy combinations of citizens of the great American nation who believe that because it is great it should impose its will upon the small nations hurling the force of the boot of Uncle Sam upon all countries, overriding all rights, trampling upon all nationalism, wise and noble which is the shield of justice and truth to triumph over well dressed thugs who now appear

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to have conquered Senator King to take charge of their interests, feeling him with subtleties which can easily be destroyed.

Against General Crowder, has been an eternal shout among us, hurled more by capricious American citizens when their demands are not satisfied, than by the Cuban themselves who have admired the worthy history of General Crowder, and who have in an admirative way weighed the wise handling, worthy of all praise, of all matters which reveal his own prestige and the prestige which General Crowder desires to give to his own people.

And what is the reason which has presided this insidiousness on the part of Americans in Cuba? simply that General Crowder, a man aged in the struggles of right and of honor, does nothing save perform his duty as a soldier, as a gentleman, and as the Ambassador of a powerful nation in a nation which although it owes respect and consideration to its neighbor, desires that its sovereignty be not an empty word written for the gallery, but a tangible reality in harmony with its political condition.

The case is a simple one, and can be set down in a few words: a group of American citizens, for some time residents of Cuba, have presented certain demands against our Government, and these gentlemen, like all those who demand something unjust, wanted to have in General Crowder, not the conception of majesty which is invested in him by the Government of Washington, not the personality that we respect and that the United States does not cease to elevate, that of the honest and reputable man, but they tried to make him the agent of their illicit business, asking him to take the wrong steps and such as would be belittling to his diplomatic representation. That is all. And those elements xxx at outs with the Ambassador Crowder, now ask in the United States, interesting Senators as Mr. King in their business affairs, that Crowder be transferred; they would like to have him substituted by another person adaptable to their demands, who would serve them faithfully, and who would provoke, if possible, a conflict between the United States and Cuba, in order that the claims presented by them may have the success which they expect, drowning all fulfilment of the Law, and wounding the sacred ministry of Justice. The Government of the United States knows perfectly well that nothing evidences more palpably the bad faith of those gentlemen who want to make Cuba the target of their anger and their selfishness than the request made through Senator King of substituting Ambassador Crowder, because it is well known to the White House with eloquent and irrefutable proof, that no matter who is chosen to relieve General Crowder in his functions in Cuba, cannot have the special conditions which are found in him of a firmness of will, a moral without weakness, and a high conception of his diplomatic attributes, and the affection which is professed him by both peoples; the American, because they are aware of his great self-denial and his indomitable ability: and the Cubans, because they are aware of his talents, of his ability and of his extraordinary correction.

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Crowder in Cuba was always the worthy and solicitous overseer of the high interests of his nation. His fellow-citizens have always found in him the loyal adviser and the energetic defender. But he has never used his diplomatic investiture for anything that might result in his dishonor. And we care for him here because alongside of us, rendering incalculable services to his country he has been the subtle professor, the exquisite friend, the adviser of our Government in those things in which his experience had made him a master.

Stop, therefore, you blinded by passion, and dominated by selfishness, who forget that the transfer of General Crowder will perhaps be more damaging to the interests of Americans thanto those of Cuba. And that the investigation which the American Senate wants to make be not delayed so that there be brought to light not only the honor of Cuba, but the prestige of General Crowder, which is far above those campaigns which with manifest discredit dominate worthy elements of the United States without understanding that they are victims of unresponsible men.

FSL.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

3840-a
WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Attacks against Ambassador Crowder.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. FEB 1 1927

1. I am enclosing herewith translations from local Spanish papers with the following subjects:

"EL PAIS" - January 24 - "The Attacks against Ambassador E.E.Crowder Regarded as a Blackmail."

"LA LUCHA" - January 24 - "The Crowder Affair."

"HERALDO DE CUBA" - January 25 - "The Unjust Campaign against General Crowder."

Henry C. Clark
HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2883 Date: Jan. 26, 1927.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

2657-g-268
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"FROM "EL PAIS" - January 24, 1927.

Re: The American Federation of Labor defends Ambassador Crowder against the attacks of the Senatorial group headed by Mr. King.

THE ATTACKS AGAINST AMBASSADOR E. H. CROWDER REGARDED AS A BLACKMAIL.

The American Federation of Labor states that it will not protect the defamers of Cuba. - Some "smart" Congressmen. - They attack the Ambassador, General Crowder, because he did not want to become their accomplice. - - -

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The federated correspondent, residing in Habana, of the American Federation of Labor, the powerful American labor organisation which represents millions of laborers of the United States, has received an extensive letter containing interesting details of what constitutes the present topic of the day in Washington in connection with Cuban affairs.

A group of Senators opposed to the policy of Mr. Coolidge's Government, taking advantage of the moment when the relations of Mexico and the United States have reached their climax, is fighting the State Department and the White House in their trenches, combatting the policy of the Washington Foreign Office toward our country. In order to strengthen their arguments of opposition, it has been said by the senatorial group that between the Ambassador of the United States in Habana, Mr. Crowder, and the Cuban Government, there exists a deliberate complicity to attack the interests of the American citizens residing in Cuba.

Among the Senators who have raised that violent opposition, that fulminating ~~xxxxxxx~~ and demolishing distribe against Crowder, Mr. Kean (King?) can be found, the furious defender of the "shady transactions" and of the fantastic and disturbing claims made by some American traffickers.

The American Federation of Labor, which also has friends among the members of the American Congress, has taken the matter in hand, and has written to its correspondent in Habana in order that the latter may publish in our press the truth of what is back of these attacks.

Mr. Kean (King?) has raised the protest, according to the American Federation of Labor, in order to protect the "blackmailers" who are trying to profiteer in connection with these shady transactions.

The defense made by Mr. Kean (King?) - according to the aforementioned labor organization - of the claims presented against the Cuban Government by the Americans Harrah, Betancourt and Captain Smith, has a pecuniary interest as purpose, and is due to the fact that Ambassador Crowder refused to lend himself to give his consent to questions which had ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ apparently, and very probably also in substance, a motive not very clean.

According to the letter which we have seen, very

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tempting offers were made to General Crowder and to other influential persons in order to obtain their support to such claims, which they refused to do.

Upon learning now that the lands object of the claim, those situated at Playa de Marianao, are about to be sold to American interests, it appears that this has been the cause for having the claimants increase their activities taking advantage of the senatorial influences of Mr. Keen (King?).

The American Federation of Labor, in learning of this matter, has come to the defense of General Crowder, accusing these claimants of being "blackmailers."

PSL.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

enclosure

1927 2657-g-265

FROM "LA LUCHA" - January 24, 1927.

Re: The Crowder Affair. (EDITORIAL)

THE CROWDER AFFAIR.

Yesterday "La Lucha", on its first page, contained an article which was published with the object of making public the enormous injustice which is being committed by a group of spiteful unscrupulous Americans against the Ambassador of the United States in Cuba, General Enoch H. Crowder, cared for in this Republic in a sincere manner and admired for his labor in favor of the good and cordial relations between the two nations. Claimants of damages which have the complete vice of nulity, and which envolve an assault upon our Government which is at this time disposed to not tolerate threats and to not permit any attitudes of bravado, but an inflexible defender of the Law, have gone to their country to form there a perfectly organised scandal which hurts, damages and wounds the honorable conception of a gentleman, a diplomat and a military officer which everyone recognises in General Crowder. An "La Lucha" which lives heedful of all the national movements, cannot prove itself indifferent to those unjust attacks which in the Senate of the great Nation are hurled, intermingled in the group of unscrupupulous Yankees, by Senator King. "La Lucha" has fulfilled its sacred duty of hospitality toward Ambassador Crowder. But it has likewise fulfilled, and in a principal manner, with the orders issued by friendship, with the admiration which we always feel for the old soldier who has identified himself with Cuba in its moments of great pain and has lived, and has been considered and respected because he always knew how to consider and respect Cuba as well as all the Cubans. Let us hope that the American Senate will adopt the final resolution of making the investigation which Senator King demands on the claims of those American citizens, so that Justice will shine forth in favor of Cuba, and so that the inexpugnable moral greatness of General Crowder may be duly proved.

LLG-PSL.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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EDITORIAL 7

FROM "HERALDO DE CUBA" - January 25, 1927.

Re: Campaign against General Crowder.

THE UNJUST CAMPAIGN AGAINST GENERAL CROWDER.

Only due to the special nature of the charges which an American Congressman has directed during the past few days against Ambassador Crowder, is it that we feel obliged to formulated from this column the proper objections in honor of the truth and of an honest cause.

What moves us as an organ of Cuban opinion to punctualise facts and fix responsibilities in a matter in which at first sight a comment might seem indiscrete and strange, is that in the attack it is intended to envolve a distinguished servant of the United States in War and in peace, in the affair of the claims against Cuba. It is the spite due to the failure of certain interests, with which everyone is well acquainted, that heated the minds of the senatorial Committee of Foreign Relations in Washington, obtaining only through surprise that resolution revealing false and exaggerated reports on the right of citizens of America who believed themselves abused in our country and without satisfactority on the part of the Courtsof Justice, that inspires the campaign against Ambassador Crowder.

What does the restless Senator King intend in his unopportune and improper allegation in a case already decided in complete harmony between our Government and the State Department of our neighbor? Barlow, withdrawing his previous demands, considered himself guaranteed by the Cuban laws and authorities; Smith, about to reach a settlement by arbitration through the mediation of our illustrious Ambassador Ferrara; Betancourt, disqualified in his personality as an American citizen, and therefore in a difficult position for establishing demands which are otherwise absurd. What is left of the much inflated claims to which Mr. King has given ear? General Crowder, calm, upright and honorable, as is proved by his long career as a jurist, as a soldier, as an official, and finally as a diplomat, is attacked because he failed to allow his conscience to become twisted forcing him to back up against the Government of Cuba private interest which desired to obtain enormous damages without reasonable grounds therefor. And above all, -- and this is the basis of the displeasure of those who defend the claimants, -- because the Ambassador in Habana did not permit himself to become their docile instrument by sending partial and insincere reports to the State Department in Washington against the Cuban Courts and authorities.

Mr. Crowder has won with his labor on different occasions the frank praise of public opinion. This campaign of the defeated claimants should not worry us because in the United States just as it has among us, it will serve to increase his reputation of a man of integrity.

LLG-FSL.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

3850-a
OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. DIV.

4-1 OCT 1 2657-g-264 1929

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Interests.

WAR DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. SEP 30 1929

1. On September 20, 1929, press dispatches from Washington stated that the Foreign Relations Committee of the United States Senate was considering a resolution calling for an investigation of political and economic conditions in Cuba. The attitude of the Cuban Government as expressed in the subsidized press of Havana has been one of extreme resentment to the putting into effect of any kind of investigation by the United States Government at this time.

2. The general trend of the newspaper comment has been that should an investigation be made at this time, it would be the result of false misrepresentations by certain Americans who have claims now pending against the Cuban Government. Of the above referred to claimants, the name of Joseph E. Barlow appears most prominently in the press and it is generally felt here among the Cubans that should the investigation take place, it will be practically entirely the result of Mr. Barlow's efforts. Typical of the above referred to resentment, there is attached hereto copy of an editorial from "Heraldo de Cuba" on September 21 under the heading, "New and Unjust Attack against Cuba." The press has given this angle of the proposed investigation much prominence, stating in effect that Mr. Barlow has interested the "money interests" in the United States in his claim in order that they (the "money interests") may benefit to the extent of $9,000,000.00 at the expense of the Cuban people.

3. Many of the American organizations in Cuba have sent cablegrams to our State Department, stating, in effect, that an investigation at this time is not warranted and that conditions in Cuba are better now than they have ever been. Among the prominent organizations that have sent telegrams of this nature are The American Chamber of Commerce in Cuba and the American Club of Havana. Enclosed herewith are copies of the cablegrams sent by the two above named organizations.

4. While it is not known if an investigation is contemplated at this time, it is felt that should one be made, it would increase beyond repair the feelings of resentment of the Cubans against the United States, which are already at a very low ebb, due to the proposed changes in the sugar tariff.

5. The interest in this affair has been great for the past few days, but in today's newspapers a decided lack of interest was shown in that none of the newspapers contained any editorial comment on the matter.

6. There are enclosed herewith clippings from the Havana newspapers pertaining to the above subject.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3115. Date: Sept. 24, 1929.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

DEPT. GENERAL STAFF
M.I. DIV.
OCT 5 1929
WAR DEPARTMENT

2657-g-268

2810-b

G-2 Report

CUBA (Population and Social Conditions)

Subject: Foreign Press.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D OCT 5 1929

1. The New York Times of September 20, 1929, carried a long article on conditions in Cuba, under the signature of Richard V. Oulahan, and gave the text of the resolution alleged to be under consideration by the Foreign Relations Committee of the United States Senate. All the regular subscribers to The New York Times received this issue by mail. An effort was made to secure the September 20th edition from various news-stands, which ordinarily have the papers from the United States for sale, but none could be had. The implication is that the government did not allow the above referred to issue of The New York Times to appear on the public news-stands.

2. A group hostile to the present regime secured a copy of The New York Times of this date and translated into Spanish the resolution as given in the above referred to edition of The New York Times and gave it wide circulation.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Confidential.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3118. Date: Sept. 27, 1929.

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By [illegible] NARS, Date 05/04/89

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4-1 OCT 1929

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WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report.

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Interests. Claim of Charles J. Harrah against the Juban Government.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. OCT 15 1929

1. Enclosed herewith is a copy of the agreement between Cuba and the United States of America to submit to arbitration the claim of Charles J. Harrah.

2. This agreement was made after many years of negotiation between the United States Government and the Government of Cuba. A complete history of the Harrah claim was given in despatch No. 2811 dated August 26, 1926.

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3. The Cuban Government was very anxious at this time to enter into this agreement in order to partially nullify the charges recently made against it in the press of the United States, and has given wide publicity to the signing of the enclosed agreement.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3122. Date: October 5, 1929.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. 3110-b

4-1 2657-g-268

OCT 21 1929

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CUBA (Political)

WAR DEPARTMENT

Subject: Present Cabinet. Accord with Executive's Policies.

7

RECEIVED G/2 W.D OCT 19 1929

1. On October 9, 1929, the Cuban Government, through the Acting Secretary of State, Dr. Francisco Maria Fernández, issued its first official answer to the charges that have been recently made against the government to the effect that the "reign of terror" exists in Cuba and that foreign interests are not afforded adequate protection. In this official statement, Dr. Fernández referred to charges against the Cuban Government as "alarmist agitation," attributing these charges to a "small group of malcontents," whose charges "do not worry us in the least."

2. Declaring that the Cuban Government did not wish to enter into a discussion of "interests and passions" in which, perhaps, its words might have been misunderstood, Dr. Fernandez said that invitations made by American newspapers of President Machado and the Cuban State Department to present Cuba's side of the story, were declined until now when all agitation is passed. Continuing, he said: "It is saddening to observe that the work of four years toward consolidation of a brotherhood through reciprocal interests can be at the mercy of the ire or greed of a few individuals." The remainder of the statement was a brief reviewal of the cases of Smith, Harrah, Betancourt and Barlow.

3. In a general summary of the statement, Secretary Fernández said that the American public can form its own opinion of the statements that have been issued to date, and that they must judge for themselves if it is worth while for them to accept the interested expressions of individuals leagued with three or four Cubans, enemies of the present government, or the official opinion of the government as expressed in the above given statement.

4. Very little notice has been given to the statement in the newspapers other than the printing of its text in full. It is generally believed that the "crisis" has been passed and that agitation against the government, resulting from articles printed in periodicals of the United States derogatory to it, will die a natural death.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3127. Date: October 14, 1929.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
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NOV 1929
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CONFIDENTIAL

321.41

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Propaganda of Domestic Origin.
(American Chamber of Commerce in Cuba.)

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 1 - 1929

1. The American Chamber of Commerce in Cuba is composed of the leading American business men in Havana. Most of these men are managers or representatives of American business firms with large interests in Cuba and the vast majority of the directors of this chamber are men who have been in Cuba for many years. While most of these men are not well educated, they have been successful in business, and their continued success will depend upon the operation of their interests in Cuba. It can thus be seen that their loyalty to the present governmental administration is a selfish one, and that as long as the individual members of the chamber are receiving benefits in any form from the present administration, just so long will their loyalty to it continue. By this, I do not mean that the entire chamber is loyal to the present administration. At the time of the sending of the cablegram to Senator Borah and Mr. Stimson, as reported in Report No. 3115 of September 24, 1929, there was considerable dissention within the ranks of the Board of Directors of the Chamber as to whether or not such a cablegram was necessary or voiced the true opinion of the majority of the Board of Directors of the Chamber. Those opposing it believed that such a procedure was entirely unwarranted at that time and felt that the sending of it had established a dangerous precedence.

2. I was present at a luncheon of the Board of Directors immediately following the sending of the above referred to cablegram when the question was raised as to whether or not another cablegram similar, but more forceful than the one already sent, should be sent to Mr. Borah and our Secretary of State. The substance of the proposed cablegram was to be to the effect that not only were American lives safe in Cuba, but that property rights were thoroughly safe-guarded. Considerable opposition was raised on the part of individual members of the Board of Directors to the sending of such a cablegram and as the discussion was becoming very heated, the Chairman summarily stopped all discussion and stated that no such cablegram would be sent at this time.

3. Individual members of the chamber have told me, in confidence, that should another such cablegram be sent, several resignations from the chamber would be submitted.

4. It is generally believed that the Chamber of Commerce has lost prestige with the American colony in Cuba by the sending of the above referred to cablegram. The general feeling is that it acted entirely upon the suggestion of the Cuban officials, thereby winning their temporary approbation, but that, by so doing, it had so placed itself in the eyes of the Cuban officials that they could, at any future time, call upon and expect this chamber to do its bidding.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3139. Date: October 28, 1929.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

5. In brief, the American Chamber of Commerce in Cuba officially is strongly behind the present administration in all its actions, but, unofficially, many of its members have the same feeling that the great majority of the Americans in Cuba have at the present time, which is, briefly, that Cuba today is being ruled solely by President Machado, who is, without question, an absolute dictator. However, in fairness to him and his administration, there is a great question in the minds of most Americans living here as to whether or not such an administration isn't really for the best interests of Cuba.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

Source: Confidential.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3139. Date: October 28, 1929.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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1929
WAR DEPARTMENT
3850-a

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Interests. Claims of Fred A. Morris and H. F. Harper (Americans) against the Cuban Government.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 18 1929

1. I am giving below, in chronological order, the happenings of the case of the claim of Mr. Fred A. Morris against the Cuban Government. This claim appears to be a very sound one and is perhaps the most flagrant case of usurpation of property by the Cuban Government of any that has been previously reported.

2. The case of Mr. J. H. Harper is practically analogous to that of Mr. Morris in that the property seized by the Cuban Government belonging to Mr. Harper was adjoining that of Mr. Morris and the action taken by Mr. Harper was identical to that taken by Mr. Morris. Mr. Morris and Mr. Harper have retained the same lawyer and while they have not put in a joint claim, the events in each case have been practically the same. I am, therefore, giving below the events in the Morris case, only.

3.a. September 24, 1928. The property of Mr. Morris, consisting of 8,874.84 square meters, situated at the corner of Calzada y La Avenida de los Presidentes, was seized by the representatives of the Public Works Department of the Cuban Government and excavation started for the purpose of widening the Avenida de los Presidentes. On the same date Mr. Morris reported this fact to the Embassy and the Embassy sent a very urgent note of protest to the Secretary of State.

b. September 27, 1928. Acknowledgment of note from the Secretary of State to the effect that it had been referred to the Secretary of Public Works for action.

c. January 2, 1929. Another urgent note to the Secretary of State calling attention to the fact that no answer had been received to the Embassy's note of September 21 and urging immediate action on the part of the Cuban authorities.

d. January 5, 1929. An answer from the Secretary of State to the Embassy's note of January 2, stating in effect that the Department of Public Works claimed the right to occupy for street construction the properties under dispute. It further claimed this right to this property on the ground that in 1913 plans were submitted by the owners of the old San Nazano estate, of which Mr. Morris' property is a part, and approved by the Municipality of Havana for transforming this estate into an urban sub-division. The note further stated that for this reason the Cuban Government, in accordance with this law, may, without compensation, take for construction of streets any such lands which were shown as streets in the plan for this sub-division. When informed of this fact, Mr. Morris produced an abstract of title issued by the Registrar of Property of Havana in which no mention was made of the transformation of this estate into a sub-division. At the same time Mr. Morris'

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3155. Date: Nov. 14, 1929.

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lawyer gave to the Embassy a written opinion to the effect that the Department of Public Works had no reason whatever to appropriate the land without compensation to Mr. Morris.

e. March 25, 1929. Personal letter written to President Machado by Ambassador Judah, enclosing with it a memorandum of the events of the Morris case and requesting the President to give this matter his personal attention.

f. April 2, 1929. Acknowledgment by President Machado of the Embassy's letter of March 25th stating that he would comply with the Ambassador's request.

g. April 4, 1929. Ambassador Judah consulted with the Secretary of State, asking him what action had been taken on this case. The Secretary of State replied that the archives of the State Department were being searched to find the plans of the Castillo de Principe, an old Spanish fortress adjoining the land owned by Mr. Morris. He further stated that he believed that the land owned by Mr. Morris was a part of the original fortress and that if this were so, this land was the legal property of the Cuban Government.

h. April 17, 1929. A letter from the Ambassador to the Secretary of State, in which he stated that after an examination of the titles of the land of Mr. Morris, he found a perfect claim for the title from 1872 until the present date. He further stated that the United States Government takes the stand that this seizure was entirely unconstitutional.

i. April 18, 1929. The legal adviser of the Embassy submitted to the Embassy a brief of the case substantiating Mr. Morris' claim, and stating that, in his opinion, Mr. Morris was entirely within his rights.

j. April 19, 1929. Acknowledgment of receipt from the Secretary of State of the Embassy's letter of April 17 with a promise to look into the matter immediately.

k. October 4, 1929. A letter from Mr. Morris to the Embassy informing it that he had instituted proceedings against the Cuban Government to regain possession of his property; that this proceeding was instituted by him merely to conform with the Cuban law, which states, in brief, that any proceedings for the recovery of land must be instituted within a year after the seizure of it. Another letter from Mr. Morris on the same date stated that he had learned from confidential sources that the Cuban officials intended to delay this matter indefinitely.

l. October 14, 1929. The Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy talked with the Secretary of State, requesting early consideration of this claim. The Secretary of State again promised that he would look into the matter at an early date.

m. October 31, 1929. The Embassy was notified by Mr. Morris' lawyer of Mr. Morris' suit to regain possession of his property and protested on the time the Cuban officials were taking to get this matter out of court.

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n. November 2, 1929. The Chargé d'Affaires sent a very sharp note to the Secretary of State, calling his attention to the many delays on the part of the Cuban Government in action on this case and requested immediate reply.

o. November 6, 1929. Answer to the Embassy's note of November 2 by the Secretary of State, in which he stated that he had taken the matter up personally with the President and that the latter had expressed a desire for a rapid solution of this case.

p. November 12, 1929. Mr. Morris' lawyer informed the Embassy that the Secretary of Public Works desired a statement of the amount for which Mr. Morris would sell all his lands lying in the vicinity of the streets which have been cut through. He further stated that the city intends at some future time to make a park out of these lands, but in view of the present financial condition of the government, it would seem unwarrantable to make purchases at this time.

4.a. This entire incident was originated by Sr. Carlos Miguel de Cespedes, Secretary of Public Works, who was also the originator, but as a private citizen, of the claims of Walter Fletcher Smith and Charles J. Harrah. His action in this case appears to be entirely arbitrary and from all appearances, he feels that the Department of Public Works can seize lands and even destroy buildings without previous notice to the owner and without compensation to him.

b. This claim is, to my mind, a very clear cut one against the Cuban Government and in view of the criticism that the administration is receiving from many sources at this time, it is believed that an attempt will be made by the Government to make a settlement for Mr. Morris and Mr. Harper before these cases are given publicity by the press of the United States.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3155. Date: Nov. 14, 1929.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Interests. (Claim of Joseph Barlow (American) against the Cuban Government.)

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 27 1929

1. I am enclosing herewith a brief summary of the Barlow controversy which was prepared by the legal adviser of the Embassy. This enclosure is, in my opinion, an excellent short resumé of this case, which has been the cause of much negotiation between the governments of the United States and Cuba. This case is so complicated and has so many ramifications that up to the present time I have not attempted to submit any reports on it. It has been the cause of many anti-American attacks in the Cuban press.

2. The Ambassador is extremely anxious to bring this case to an early conclusion and has already started negotiations with the President of the Republic in order to arrive at a definite conclusion of this case.

J. T. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No..3166. Date: Nov. 22, 1929.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

NOV 30 1929
WAR DEPARTMENT

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Re: THE BARLOW CONTROVERSY

Shortly after the colonization of Cuba, it became the custom of the Spanish Crown to make land grants to the grandees, barons and other high officials and persons of influence. These grants were made in circular shape (the interlapping space between circles being "realengos" or free land of the realm) or in regular shapes.

In 1743 Bernardo de Urrutia surveyed and staked certain marsh lands and obtained a grant thereto.

This grant which became the Manglar de Urrutia seems to overlap another grant of lands which are today the lands claimed by Gomez Mena. In 1744 Urrutia deeded 29 cordeles (about 11,000 square meters) of this marsh to Alejo Sigler, from whom Barbara Rodriguez de Ortega seems to derive her title.

For years this property remained undisturbed and probably enjoyed by its rightful owners and their heirs, who gradually disappeared.

The land which was originally a swamp and out of the city limits became the geographical center of the growing city as it grew toward the southwest. The sanitary authorities took pains to drain and fill in the swamps and the property became valuable, the city enclosing it on three sides during the early part of the twentieth century. It became the objective of persons who were looking out for easy grabbing of lands, at least three parties being known to have had their eye on the property, viz., Ex-President Alfredo Zayas, Pedro Gomez Mena, and the Villaverdes.

There is no record at hand to show that the Sigler property and consequently the part sold to Barbara Rodriguez was ever more than the original 29 cordeles, but the fact is that today they have become more than 300,000 square meters of land.

In 1916 three Cubans who have devoted much of their time to study of defective titles or unrecorded property and to working out a method whereby to grab the property, discovered their opportunity to seize the Manglar de Urrutia. They sought the supposed heirs and, there being none, got one of their number appointed administrator of the estate. He had the property surveyed by one Lorente, a surveyor, who then started suit against the estate of Barbara Rodriguez de Ortega, for collection of his bill of $4,000 for survey and Appraisal. The property was put up at auction, that is, not the property, because none was described, but the rights and actions appertaining to the estate of Barbara Rodriguez de Ortega. There were no bidders and Lorente bought in all said rights for $2,666.66.

In 1917, Lorente sold his said rights, without any description of property, to Villaverde for $2,740.

Shortly thereafter Villaverde turned over 50% of his interest in said rights and actions to Rodriguez Arango. The two then proceeded to tell the Court that there were certain lands belonging to said estate of Barbara Rodriguez which had been held for said estate for more than 30 years, by one Gonzalez Dominguez, that they wanted to be put in judicial possession of the same, and that they reserved their right to proceed against any persons occupying other portions of said land at a later date. The Court granted their request and the Clerk and bailiff put them in possession of certain land. The Embassy has been unable to ascertain what property they were put in possession of and it appears more than possible that these court officials put them in nominal possession of other property than that described by them in their application to the court.

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In January 1919, Villaverde and Arango made an agreement with Joseph E. Barlow that the latter should lay watermains, sewers, etc. and construct streets and should sell lots, retaining half the price obtained for them in return for his work and services. Barlow, who was a promoter rather than a contractor, made a contract with some contractors to do the work, and he states that he paid them something over $14,000 for the work which they performed. The Embassy has been unable to obtain any information from Barlow, or any other source, to show that he ever spent any other money in connection with this property, except for litigation. The work had hardly been started when Gomez Mena claimed that his property was being trespassed upon and work was stopped. Barlow came promptly to the Embassy, stating that he was the owner of a one-half interest in the property, but a letter in the Embassy files from his lawyer, Mr. Hollingsworth, dated October 30, 1922, states that Mr. Barlow on the previous day had for the first time acquired a one-half interest in the property, indicating clearly that up to that time he had had no proprietary interest.

On two occasions subsequent to this, Barlow and his associates instituted criminal proceedings against the other occupants of the land for trespassing upon his land and asked to have them enjoined, but there was no hearing in the lower court, whose order constituted in effect a temporary restraining order which was vacated when the case was heard by the higher court (the Audiencia). Barlow's allegations, therefore, that he and his associates were three times placed in possession of the property but subsequently unjustly ousted are entirely misleading. In this connection it should be mentioned also that in these suits Barlow and his associates alleged that Barlow's predecessors in title had been placed in possession of the entire property, whereas their application to the court in 1917 was for possession only of the unoccupied portions of the property, and there were sixty-six defendants in the later suits.

Prior to 1917, Gomez Mena had bought from the heirs of the other family to whom a royal grant had been issued a certain part (or all) of the land now claimed by Barlow. It is stated that his title is even poorer than that of Barlow for the reason that he did not succeed in finding all of the heirs and purchased, therefore, only the rights of some of them. On the other hand, he registered his titles earlier than was done by Barlow's associates, which strengthens his position somewhat.

In July 1924, Villaverde and Arango transferred to Barlow title to the second half-interest in this property, receiving in payment thirty bonds of $10,000 each covered by mortgages on the property, all maturing on August 1, 1925. Only in April 1929, however, did they take any steps to foreclose and up to October 1929, the sale of the property had not been pressed to a conclusion.

In 1925 Gomez Mena brought a suit for determination of the ownership which, however, has not been pressed to a decision. A decision by the Supreme Court in this suit would constitute a final determination as to the relative rights of ownership of Barlow (and his associates) and Gomez Mena.

The Embassy has always had the greatest difficulty in getting desired information from Mr. Barlow. Questions have met with partial ~~information from Mr. Barlow questions~~ or evasive answers or inexact replies and requests for copies of documents have nearly always produced only unreliable summaries of them.

November 18, 1929.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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CONFIDENTIAL

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political) 4-1 2657-g-26f

Subject: Foreign Interests. 15

DEC 21 1929
WAR DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 21 1929

1. An interesting reaction of the feelings of Americans in Cuba toward the present Cuban Government is reflected in the recent annual elections of the American Club of Havana. Usually the entire ticket for the club officers as chosen by the Election Committee is voted on by the club members without any opposition. This year, however, there were two distinct tickets, one headed by the present President of the club, Mr. Dayton Hedges, and the other headed by Mr. R. A. Anderson, the present Vice-President. In the natural course of events, the present administration of the club would have been elected for another term of office. Realizing there was considerable feeling over the election, a great deal of interest was shown in it by the members of the American colony. At the election, the regular ticket was elected by an overwhelming majority, the opposition ticket receiving an almost negligible number of votes. On the regular ticket as a candidate for Vice-President was Fred A. Morris, who has a claim against the Cuban Government which was reported in report No. 3155 dated November 14, 1929. The opposition ticket was headed by Mr. R. A. Anderson, the present Vice-President, who was not recommended for re-election by the Election Committee. During the temporary absence of the President of the Club, he sent a telegram to Secretary of State Stimson in the name of the American Club, giving approbation to the present administration in Cuba, as reported in report No. 3155, dated November 14, 1929.

2657-2-26f

2. Although I had known for some time that many members of the American Club greatly resented the sending of the above referred to telegram to the Secretary of State without consulting the club members, no opportunity was afforded them to show their resentment until the recent election. The choosing of Mr. Morris as Vice-President, a man who is not well known around the club and who has expressed himself many times as being opposed to the high-handed methods of the present administration, and the administering a very decisive defeat to Mr. Anderson demonstrate, in my opinion, the real feeling of the American colony in Cuba toward the present administration.

3. From my observations I have learned that the vast majority of the club members feel that the sending of the above referred to telegram to the Secretary of State was unwarranted at the time, and placed the club in the position of being required at any future time to do the bidding of the Cuban Government, should a similar occasion arise.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3186. Date: Dec. 16, 1929.

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4-1 DEC 27 1929 2657-G-26

CUBA (Political) 16

Subject: Foreign Interests - Claim of Fred A. Morris.

WAR DEPARTMENT

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 27 1929

1. With further reference to dispatch No. 3155 of November 14, 1929, on December 6, 1929, the Judge of the Court of First Instance of the Central District of Havana gave a decision favorable to Mr. Morris' complaint of unlawful seizure of his property, ordering the State to refrain from further molestations to him and his property rights and to pay costs and damages for the suit.

2657-R-268/13

2. A further provision of the decision reserved to either party the right to bring suit to determine the ownership of the property. Mr. Morris stated that it was his intention to immediately fence the property and await developments.

J. T. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3188. Date: Dec. 19, 1929.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

3850-a

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. SECTION

4-1 2657-g-26

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CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Interests. (Claim of Joseph Barlow, American)

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. FEB 19 1930

1. There is enclosed herewith copy of the arbitration agreement between Mr. Barlow and the Gomez Mena Land Company. This arbitration has been accepted by the Gomez Mena Land Company. The press reports from the United States indicate that Barlow is unwilling to submit this case to private arbitration. Should this be the case, it is believed that Barlow's case will be greatly weakened, as everyone cognizant with the case feels that the agreement is a very fair one and should arbitration be accomplished as a result of this agreement, it would settle the claim which has been the cause of so much controversy for a long period of time.

2. From the first day of Ambassador Guggenheim's arrival, he has worked arduously for the purpose of obtaining the consent of the Cuban Government and the Gomez Mena Land Company to submit this case to private arbitration. After many conferences with President Machado and representatives of Gomez Mena, the enclosed arbitration agreement was entered into by Gomez Mena's representatives.

3. Considerable difficulty had to be overcome by the Ambassador in obtaining the consent of the bond holders of the Gomez Mena Land Company. However, one of the bond holders who was present at the meeting and signed the agreement was Villaverde, one of Barlow's predecessors in title and his attorney here. Considerable importance is given to his acceptance as an offset to any possible claim by Barlow that the agreement is unfair, since Villaverde's interests are apparently identical with Barlow's in this connection. The press comment on this arbitration agreement has been most favorable, especially to the American Ambassador. There is enclosed herewith an article from THE HAVANA POST of February 11th which is typical of those which have appeared in the English and Spanish press of Havana.

4. CONFIDENTIAL: The Ambassador feels, and rightly so, that he has done everything possible for Barlow in this matter and that if Barlow does not care to accept this agreement, which is the fruit of his labors, he is ready to completely wash his hands of the matter unless ordered to do otherwise by our State Department.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3226. Date: Feb. 14, 1930.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT

ARBITRATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN MR. BARLOW and the GOMEZ MENA LAND COMPANY.

1. The respective rights of Joseph E. Barlow and the Gomez Mean Land Company to the ownership and possession of said property shall be determined in conformity with the conditions set forth in this agreement, by two amicable compounders, and by a third to be appointed by the two amicable compounders designated by the parties in the event that the first two named shall not be able to reach an agreement on the matters submitted to their decision.

2. The two amicable compounders shall be designated in the following manner:

a. One to be chosen by Mr. Joseph E. Barlow from the following list of names: Juan Gutierrez Quiros; Jose Topia; Miguel Figueroa; Cosmo de la Torriente; Enrique Hernandez Cartaya.

b. The other to be chosen by the Gomez Mena Land Company from a list of three names to be submitted by Mr. John W. Davis of New York City, former ambassador of the United States to Great Britain, which list is to be submitted by Mr. Davis to the Gomez Mena Land Company, Llinas y Marques Gonzalez streets, Habana, within fifteen days from the signing of this agreement, Mr. Davis shall at the same time notify Mr. Barlow of the submission of this list to the Gomez Mena Land Company.

It is agreed that the designation of the respective amicable compounders shall be made by the respective parties hereto within fifteen days from the submission of the list of names by Mr. Davis to the Gomez Mena Land Company. If either or both of the amicable compounders so designated be prevented from serving by death or other causes, beyond the control of the parties to this agreement, a substitute or substitutes shall be chosen from the above list or lists in the same manner as provided for the original selection.

In the event that the two amicable compounders designated in the preceding paragraphs should fail to reach an agreement to make a decision, a third shall be chosen by both and in the event that they should fail to reach an agreement on this point, the third shall be designated by the president of the permanent court of international justice at The Hague. This third amicable compounder, whether designated by the other two amicable compounders or by the president of the permanent court of international justice at The Hague, shall be a citizen neither of Cuba nor of the United States of America, and shall be a jurist familiar with the general legal principles upon which are based the laws in force in Cuba for the determination of rights in and to immovable property.

3. The amicable compounders designated by the two principal parties shall promptly notify to both of those parties their acceptance of their designation to act as such. Once such acceptance has been notified to those parties, this agreement shall be considered as effective and all parties shall be bound by all the terms and stipulations hereof.

4. It shall be the duty of the amicable compounders to determine, in accordance with the laws of the country in which the property is located that are applicable to the case, the rights of the respective parties to the ownership and possession of the land in dispute, or any part thereof, and give their decision accordingly.

5. It is mutually agreed that each of the two principal parties, viz.: Mr. Joseph E. Barlow and the Gomez Mena Land Company, shall defray all the expenses incurred by it by reason of the arbitration of the matters herein referred to, and specifically Joseph E. Barlow shall pay the honorarium of that amicable compounder who is a citizen of the United

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States and the Gomez Mena Land Company shall pay the honorarium of that amicable compounder who is a citizen of Cuba.

It is mutually agreed as an essential condition of this agreement that each of the two principal parties shall deposit upon the signing of this deed and within five days of the signing thereof, in the branch of the National City Bank of the City of Habana, the sum of $10,000 each, to guarantee the honorarium and expenses of the third amicable compounder should his designation be necessary. Together with this deposit each party shall deliver to the said bank a copy of this arbitration agreement. The notary who draws up this arbitration agreement and whose fees shall be paid in equal shares by the two principal parties, shall certify to the said bank the resignation of the third amicable compounder, if one should be selected in accordance with the other articles of this agreement. After such certification the said bank shall pay to such third amicable compounder upon receipt from him of formal vouchers therefor, such amounts as may be necessary to defray his expenses and to pay his honorarium. If no such third amicable compounder should be appointed, the said bank shall, upon the termination of the proceedings described herein, return the above deposits to the two parties who have made the same.

6. The amicable compounders shall meet in the city of Habana within thirty days after their acceptance of their designation, and shall hold such sessions as they may consider necessary to start proceedings. It is understood that once the proceedings have commenced, the North American jurist acting as amicable compounder may by consent of both, retire to the United States where he shall continue to study the case until his presence is again required in Habana for the taking of evidence or for any step in the procedure fixed by them as shall be provided in the rules of procedure to be adopted as provided herein below.

7. The amicable compounders may fix rules of procedure subject to the following provisions:

a. The parties may designate one or more counsel to represent them before the amicable compounders and to present to them orally and in writing all arguments and evidence which they may consider pertinent.

b. Both parties shall complete the representation of such arguments and evidence within four months of the date of the first session.

c. All proceedings shall be in the Spanish and in the English languages as determined by the amicable compounders, it being understood, however, that the documentary evidence may be submitted only in the language in which originally written unless a translation be required by either of the amicable compounders, in which case the amicable compounders shall have authority to appoint translators for the purpose.

8. The amicable compounders shall render their decision within six months of the first session, unless prevented from doing so by unforeseen circumstances beyond their control.

9. If the decision shall be given in favor of the Gomez Mena Land Company, the amicable compounders shall order therein the discharge and cancellation from the registry of property of the inscriptions in favor of Mr. Barlow. If it be in favor of Mr. Barlow, the discharge and cancelation shall be made only of the inscriptions in favor of the Gomez Mena Land Company.

10. In the event that the amicable compounders shall fail to reach an agreement with regard to the deterioration of the property in dispute and the matters submitted to their decision, they shall each set forth in writing their opinions, stating the reasons and bases for the same and within a period of five days they shall proceed to appoint a third amicable compounder who shall study the proceedings and decide in the final instance, as herein provided in clauses 1 and 2 of this agreement.

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Should the amicable compounders not reach an agreement with regard to the designation of a third within the period of time above mentioned, they shall address a communication to the president of the permanent court of international justice at The Hague in order that he shall proceed to designate the third amicable compounder, whose designation he shall set forth in a public instrument, shall transmit the instrument containing the designation to the amicable compounders in Cuba.

The third amicable compounder designated by agreement of the two named herein or by the president of the permanent court of international justice at The Hague, shall communicate his acceptance to the parties within a period of thirty days.

If the third amicable compounder so designated should not accept or should fail to communicate his acceptance within the period of time above mentioned, any of the amicable compounders herein appointed at the request of either of the parties, shall so communicate to the president of the permanent court of international justice at The Hague in order that he shall make a new designation until acceptance has been given by one so designated.

Should a year and six months elapse from the date of the holding of the first session by the amicable compounders without a final decision having been rendered in the same, the annotation in the registry of property of the commencement of the proceedings shall become ineffective and the parties may request the cancellation thereof from their respective inscriptions in the registry of property.

11. The parties agree to accept the decision of the amicable compounders as final, conclusive and unappealable and they agree to make no effort through the Cuban courts or otherwise to impair in any manner the effect on such decision which they will consider as finally determining their respective rights, titles and interests to the property in question.

12. It is an essential condition of this agreement that the status of the lots and blocks mentioned under (a) and (b) on the registry of Property, shall not have changed from the way such status appeared on December 29, 1929, and this agreement shall become null and void if any right shall have been inscribed or annotated in the registry of property at any time after the date above mentioned and shall still remain so inscribed or annotated on the date on which the commencement of the proceedings of the amicable concession in department's instructions referred to in this agreement shall have been noted in the registry of property, unless prior thereto or within thirty days thereafter the person or persons in whose favor such inscription or annotation shall have been made by public deed inscribed in the registry of property shall agree with either of the principal parties to this agreement, to accept the same and to become bound by all its provisions, and shall specifically agree that such inscriptions or annotation shall be subject to the inscription of the commencement of these proceedings as if made thereto. It is mutually agreed by the parties that they will not make nor cause to be made any such inscriptions or annotation between the dates mentioned.

It is mutually agreed by the parties that in accordance with what is provided in the law of _____, 1930, which has amended Section 2, Title V of Book Second of the Law of Civil Procedure, there be entered in the registry of property, in the inscriptions of the blocks and parcels above described, the beginning of these proceedings in order that the amicable compounders may issue the proper certificate for registration, and, that they may in their decision, order the cancellation of the inscriptions in the registry in the name of the party against whom the decision is handed down, it being understood that the annotation of the beginning of these proceedings shall operate as an effective lien on such properties until the same has been cancelled as herein provided.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Two Men of Action

Feb. 11 1-1 2257-g-264 12

For twelve years the public relations of Cuba and the United States have been irritated by the propaganda surrounding the now famous Barlow case.

Whatever the merits of the Barlow claim may be, two facts have long been clear. First: that the Government of the United States clearly recognized that Barlow's claim was not against the Cuban Government but against a private individual. Second: that both Governments must have recognized that the methods pursued by Barlow's lawyers were calculated to create international mistrust and misunderstanding.

On November 28, 1929, in an editorial entitled "TWO MEN," the writer said of President Machado and Ambassador Guggenheim that "To heal these misunderstandings and to put an end to these possible mistrusts is the public duty and the governmental obligation of these two men"

Yesterday's announcement by the State Department shows that in less than three months these two men have arrived at an adequate solution of a cause "celebre" which all their predecessors had failed to solve in twelve long years.

If Mr. Barlow agrees to the arbitration proposed, it is a matter of no concern to either government as to which of the claimants is successful.

If Mr. Barlow declines to submit his case to an arbitration so eminently fair then it will be evident to all the world that Mr. Barlow mistrusts his own government even more than he mistrusts the Government of Cuba; or that he mistrusts the merits of his own claim more than he mistrusts governments.

In any event, this is the end of a case that has been used to create more misunderstandings than all of the legitimate business operations arising from the investment of twelve hundred million dollars of American capital in Cuba.

Americans and Cubans, alike, will welcome surcease from the clamor and propaganda which has promoted a sixteen hundred and twenty-five dollar investment into a nine million dollar international claim.

Both President Gerardo Machado and Ambassador Harry F. Guggenheim are to be congratulated. There can be no question that both of these men recognized that no international question was involved in this case.

Nevertheless, it is a tribute to their clear thinking and farsightedness that they did recognize that a fair solution would go far towards promoting better relations between Cuba and the United States. They have proven at the very beginning of their relations that every problem that may arise can be solved by these two men.

The Havana Post feels a just pride in having forecast their splendid work in these words: "May all the contracts of these two men be illumined by the memories of a comradeship in which blood and treasure were poured out in a common cause. May they build upon the foundation of our international friendship such gleaming spires and lofty domes that future generations looking back upon their work may say 'These two were men'."—CARL BYOIR.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

130

G-2 Report

5830-6

MAY 10 1930

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18

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Protection of rights of nationals in foreign countries.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 16 1930

1. The news of the termination of the State Department's interest in the Barlow case was received most favorably in Cuba. On the day of the announcement, May 8, 1930, all the papers, both Spanish and English, carried the complete story of the case as given out by our State Department. Since that time editorials have been appearing daily in all the newspapers praising the action of our State Department and especially praising the American Ambassador for his efforts in bringing this case to a close.

2. The opinion of everybody whom I have come in contact with, American and Cubans alike, is universally the same, i.e., Barlow had no real claim and the termination of this case removes the only obstacle in the way of the excellent relations that must always exist between the two countries.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3302. Date: May 13, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

2657-g-268
19
3850-a
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Interests (Claim of Charles J. Harrah against the Cuban Government).

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUL 16 1930

1. The claim of Charles J. Harrah against the Cuban Government was finally settled on July 5, 1930, when the Cuban Government transmitted to the Embassy a check for $350,000 in full payment for this claim which has long been a thorn in the side of good relationships between the two countries.

2. Great credit for the termination of this claim should be given to the American Ambassador, Honorable Harry F. Guggenheim, for it was he, after the arbitrators had failed to agree on a fixed sum, who, by informal conversations with President Machado, brought about this settlement. Had it not been made at this time, a third arbitrator would have had to be appointed under the terms of the Arbitration Agreement, and the solution of this problem would have been delayed for a considerable time. The sum paid is the minimum that the American representative on the Arbitration Board recommended that he considered Harrah entitled to, the Cuban delegate fixing the maximum sum at $15,000.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. ~~2.~~ 3342 Date: July 11, 1930.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

3850-a

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
MAY 10
2657-9-26
20
WAR DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 10 1932

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Interests.

1. Mr. Joseph E. Barlow, whose several claims against the Government of Cuba have engaged the attention of the American Government and the Embassy during the past ten years, died in Havana on April 21, 1932.

J. J. O'Hare,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From M. A., Havana No. 3759 Date: May 5, 1932

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
SEP 24 1926
2657-G-269
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Treaties.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. SEP 23 1926

1. There are attached hereto copies of an extract taken from the Embassy's General Conditions Report for August under the subject "Political Relations with other Countries," from which will be seen the present status of:

Trade Treaty with Spain
Cuba-Guatemala Parcel Post Treaty
Cuba-Chile Commercial Treaty

Henry C Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2821 Date: Sept. 16, 1926.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Recd 1 SEP 24 1926
WAR DEPARTMENT

COPY

41 2657-g-269

7

General Conditions Report - August, 1926.
Despatch No. 1608-G.

II. POLITICAL RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES.

Trade Treaty with Spain.

While it is an open secret that the negotiations initiated last year by the Cuban Government for a commercial treaty with Spain have failed, due to the latter's relyctance to make sufficiently substantial tariff reductions in favor of Cuban products, especially sugar and tobacco, the mercantile elements of the Island have not lost hope and are renewing their campaign in favor of such a treaty. The results of this campaign cannot be foreseen, but it is being conducted under the auspices of the Association of Representatives of Foreign Firms, whose representations will in all probability be seriously considered by both Governments.

It has been stated that plans are being perfected for the conclusion of a money order convention with Spain. In speaking of this proposed convention the HAVANA POST states that the number of drafts handled between Cuba and Spain by banks in this country during the past year amounted to some $37,000,000.

Cuba-GUATEMALA Parcel Post Treaty.

The Department will recall that in my confidential despatch No. 1564 of August 12, 1926, I reported upon the present status of the proposed parcel post agreement between the governments of Cuba and Guatemala. To the Embassy's knowledge there have been no changes in the situation relative to this convention since the date of the despatch referred to.

Cuba-Chile Commercial Treaty.

In reference to the gestures which have been made looking toward the negotiation of a treaty of commerce between the Republics of Cuba and Chile, the Embassy understands that these negotiations are still in a primary stage. (See Embassy's despatch No. 1578 of August 21, 1926).

The DIARIO DE LA MARINA states that a question was put to the British Prime Minister in the House of Commons asking whether it was true that Great Britain planned to negotiate a commercial treaty with Cuba, in view of the fact that this Republic was attempting to complete such a treaty with Spain. This newspaper states that Sir Phillip Cunliffe answered in the name of the British Government, stating that Great Britain would gladly negotiate a commercial treaty with Cuba, but that up to the present time numerous obstacles had made it impossible, notwithstanding the benefits which both nations would derive from such a pact.

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By ... F NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE COPIES
WAR DEPARTMENT

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

4-1 1926 2657-g-269 2 OCT 1926

September 22, 1926.

No. 2824

To: The A. C. of S., G-2

Subject: Treaties - Commercial and Extradition.

RECEIVED G-2 W.D. SEP 30 1926

1. Referring to the report of this office of September 15, 1926, No. 2820, paragraph one (d) --P. 1676 - Treaties--, relating to the evident desire of the Cuban Government to widen the market for Cuban products, this Embassy has learned that the Cuban Government is gradually increasing the number of its Commercial Attachés abroad, all of whom operate under direct instructions from the Department of State. The latest addition is the appointment of a Commercial Attaché to the post at London, with Belgium and Germany coming within his field of jurisdiction. Other Commercial Attachés are now stationed at Washington, Paris, Madrid, Buenos Aires, and, temporarily, at Rome.

2. It is also understood that in addition to the regular Commercial Attachés, the Cuban Government is studying the feasibility of creating Special Representatives - at least two in number - to travel abroad with exhibits of Cuban goods, particularly in those countries where a market for Cuban products has not been developed.

3. It is assumed that the expansion of the Cuban service of Commercial Attachés and Special Agents is closely allied with a desire, heretofore cited, of the Cuban Government to effect commercial treaties and adopt such other means as may lead to an aggressive development of its foreign trade.

4. Treaty of Extradition with Mexico:- With respect to the extradition treaty between Cuba and Mexico, inquiry at the Foreign Office reveals that the treaty has been signed by representatives of both countries, but to date has not been ratified by either. The treaty, therefore, is not in effect at the present time.

5. Treaty of Extradition with France:- This treaty has been ratified by Cuba, but has not been ratified by France. The treaty, therefore, is not in effect at the present time.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

6. The Foreign Office further states that an extradition treaty with Panama was drafted and agreed upon but that recently some modifications have been proposed upon which agreement has not as yet been reached. Therefore it has not been signed by the two countries.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

4-1 1926 2657-B-270

CUBA (Political)

WAR DEPARTMENT 7

Subject: Suspension of Military Supervisors.

RECEIVED G/2 WAR/ SEP 30 1926

1. On September 20, 1926, the military supervisor for the district of Viñales, Province of Pinar del Rio, was shot and killed, it is reported, by four men belonging to the Conservative faction of politics, presumably the result of enmity engendered by intervention of conflicting political elements. On the facts as reported it was clearly a political murder and had been prearranged. This is the first casualty of any importance as the result of political fervor preceding the November by-elections.

2. As a result of the growing and frequent complaints of the partiality being shown by the military supervisors, all of whom have been appointed or retained in office by the Liberal administration, President Machado yesterday - September 21 - issued an order suspending all military supervision in the municipal districts of Cuba, leaving the local police and the rural guards to maintain order during the electoral period. At the time of suspension there were some thirty military supervisors over a like number of districts which include sixty-four cities and towns. The President's action is stated as having been taken for the purpose of preventing the accusation being made that the administration is using the army to carry the elections by the Liberal Party and to prevent the opposition parties from voting. Prior to the killing of Lieutenant García on the 20th, there had been several other assaults made upon the military supervisors in other districts.

3. The suspension of the military supervisors causes my apprehension that the bad elements of the various political factions will become even more active and that serious clashes of those factions will result from time to time which the local authorities may not be able to cope with. Should the political fervor increase, it is not improbable that it will again be necessary for the President to use contingencies of the army at various points to maintain order. I think it quite possible that the better elements in the various districts will intervene and request the President to lift the suspension of the military supervisors in order that life and property may be better and more systematically protected. The President is quite firm in his intention to have the elections conducted fairly and openly without domination by any political factions. He is hopeful that the by-elections of November can be conducted as satisfactorily and honestly as the last general election, which was admittedly the most satisfactory and more free from corruption than any general election ever before held in Cuba.

4. Cuba has never been able to dispense with military supervisors during electoral periods. It is a form of martial law which takes the enforcement of law and order out of the hands of the local municipal authorities and vests it in the military arm. It will be recalled that the proven domination of the army, through the various

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2823 Date: Sept. 22, 1926.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

military supervisors, was the cause of the Cuban Supreme Court declaring illegal many thousands of votes in the 1920 electoral crisis. Naturally, those supervisors are under the domination, directly or indirectly, of the political party in power at the time the elections are held. It may be possible, under the present improved conditions, to conduct by-elections without army supervision, but the time has not yet come when presidential elections could be so conducted for the reason that local municipal authorities are always intensely partisan and many do not hesitate to utilize every advantage for the success of their party to which they are adherents. The restraint of the military arm is therefore necessary, but likewise encourages the danger that it in turn will manifest administrative domination.

Henry C Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2823 Date: Sept. 22, 1926.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

2657-Q-270
4-1 3610-b
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Presidential Decree Cancelling Appointments of Military Supervisors.

OCT 5 - 1926 2657-Q-270

1. Referring to my dispatch No. 2823, of September 22, 1926, I enclose herewith translation of Presidential Decree No. 1500, dated September 21, 1926, cancelling the appointments of military supervisors in the districts throughout Cuba.

2. It will be observed that the said decree sets forth the reasons for the withdrawal of the supervisors as being based upon the ability of the local communities to enforce the laws and maintain law and order without special supervision of governmental agencies. The real reason, however, for the withdrawal of the supervisors is stated in my above mentioned dispatch of September 22, 1926.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2826 Date: September 28,1926.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

2657-Q-270
4-1 3610-b

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Presidential Decree Cancelling Appointments of Military Supervisors.

OCT 5 - 1926 2657-Q-270

1. Referring to my dispatch No. 2823, of September 22, 1926, I enclose herewith translation of Presidential Decree No. 1500, dated September 21, 1926, cancelling the appointments of military supervisors in the districts throughout Cuba.

2. It will be observed that the said decree sets forth the reasons for the withdrawal of the supervisors as being based upon the ability of the local communities to enforce the laws and maintain law and order without special supervision of governmental agencies. The real reason, however, for the withdrawal of the supervisors is stated in my above mentioned dispatch of September 22, 1926.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2826 Date: September 28,1926.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

4-1 1926 2657-F-270 OCT 6

COPY

"OFFICIAL GAZETTE" No. 72 - Year XXIV, of September 22, 1926.

Re: CANCELLING THE APPOINTMENTS OF MILITARY SUPERVISORS.

DECREE No. 1,500

WHEREAS: This Government, in order to attend to the prosecution of crimes against public morality, illicit games and the sale of narcotic drugs, and to the maintenance of public order, appointed Military Delegates of the Department of the Interior in different Municipal Districts of the Republic, who have been carrying on the functions entrusted to them with extraordinary success.

WHEREAS: The campaign of moralization undertaken by the Government in certain towns of the interior has been crowned by definite success, because the guilty and disgraceful manifestations of prostitution have been suppressed; the vice of gambling, which impoverished the humble classes has been fought with persistent and victorious efforts, and the criminal traffic of narcotic drugs has been extinguished.

WHEREAS: The electoral period which commenced on May 5th pursuant to the provisions of the Law has developed in an environment of order, of respect and of obeisance of the legitimate rights of all citizens, all the parties feeling fully protected and guaranteed in their activities and in their pre-electoral efforts, inasmuch as the entire country is fully conscious of the fact that the norm of conduct of the Government, in the face of the electoral journey, shall be to maintain a strict and unabated impartiality, it being impossible to consider harmony, cordiality and the patriotic grandeur of the electoral period weakened or disturbed by insignificant isolated outbursts, instantaneously silenced and appeased, without their having any material significance against the cordiality among the Cubans which characterizes and defines the present electoral period.

WHEREAS: In the face of this beautiful national reality, the Government considers that it is its very high duty to give this final proof of the capacity of the Cuban people for the exercise of all their political functions; expecting, in just reciprocity, that the political parties and their affiliates, whether they be national, provincial or municipal organizations, shall pay due honor to this proof of confidence given to them by the Central Power and the measure which the Government adopts at the present moment, in full electoral period, multiplying their patriotic efforts, paying more obeisance to the law, inspiring all their decisions in the highest spirit of order, of respectful liberty, of supreme justice, contributing with that noble solidarity to the work which the Government is accomplishing; and the Government suggests to the Political Chiefs, within the scope of this work, the convenience that in case any discrepancy arises, they appoint arbitration commissions composed of members of all the political parties, in order that, they all united, with a high spirit of cordiality and of patriotism, they may decide upon whatever petty differences which may present themselves.

THEREFORE: In the use of the powers conferred upon me by the Constitution and the Laws, and at the proposal of the Secretary of the Interior:

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

I RESOLVE:

FIRST: To cancel the appointments of Delegates of the Department of the Interior in the Municipal Districts of Pinar del Rio, Consolacion del Sur, Guane, San Luis, Mantua, Consolacion del Norte, Viñales, Mariel, Cabañas, Candelaria, Los Palacios, San Cristobal, Artemisa, Guanajay, Caimito del Guayabal, Santiago de las Vegas, Quivican, San Antonio de las Vegas, Nueva Paz, Jovellanos, Colon, San Antonio de Cabezas, Cárdenas, Santa Clara, Placetas, Ranchuelo, Vueltas, San Juan de las Yeras, Cienfuegos, Cruces, Abreus, Calabazar de Sagua, Cifuentes, Encrucijada, Esperanza, Remedios, Caibarien, Yaguajay, Camajuani, Zulueta, Sagua la Grande, Corralillo, Santa Isabel de las Lajas, Quemado de Güines, Santo Domingo, Moron, Ciego de Avila, Manzanillo, Niquero, Jiguani, Campechuela, Puerto Padre, Gibara, Sagua de Tanamo, Alto Songo, and in the towns of Zaza del Medio, Taguasco, Cabaiguan and Guayos ..

SECOND: The Secretary of the Interior is entrusted with the fulfilment of the present Decree.

Given at the Presidential Palace, in Habana, this 21st day of September, 1926.

GERARDO MACHADO,
President.

ROGERIO ZAYAS BAZAN,
Secretary of the Interior.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

3610-b

4-1 1926 2657-g-270

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Maintenance of Public Order by the Rural Guard.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. OCT 19 1926

2657-G-270

1. Referring to my despatch No. 2826 of September 28, relating to the suspension of military supervisors in Cuba, you are advised that on October 9 the General Staff of the Cuban Army issued orders, presumably with the agreement of the administration, that the Rural Guard take charge of the maintenance of public order in twenty-one towns and cities throughout the Republic due to breaches of the peace growing out of political differences of the opposing parties. The following towns are covered by the order:

Cabañas
Los Palacios
Santo Domingo
Encrucijada
Zulueta
Cabaiguan
Sancti Spiritus
Coralillo
Sagua la Grande
San Juan de los Yeras
San Diego del Valle
Cifuentes
Calabazar de Sagua
Aguada de Pasajeros
Manzanillo
Caney
Campechuela
Puerto Padre
Moron
Ciego de Avila
Santa Maria del Rosario

2. The difference between the service rendered by the Rural Guard under this order and that rendered by the Military Supervisors recently removed consists in that while the Military Supervisors with their respective commands worked under instructions of the Department of the Interior, the present arrangements place supervision entirely in the hands of the War Department.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2835. Date: October 11, 1926.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

3610-a

WAR DEPARTMENT
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
1926 2657-Q-271
OCT 10

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Cuban By-Election, November 1, 1926.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. NOV 10 1926

1. The by-election of November first was carried out throughout Cuba in a very creditable and orderly manner so far as early reports show. There was a good deal of surprise furnished by the election of some of the candidates, chiefly, that of Miguel Mariano Gomez, Popular Party candidate for mayor of Havana, who defeated the present Liberal Party mayor, Cuesta, who had the support of the political Liberal organization, but not the moral support of President Machado or better Cuban citizens. President Machado had confidentially stated that if Cuesta should be elected, he would suspend him from office in order to remove his bad influence over the municipal government. Gomez is a young man, son of former President Gomez, and is referred to generally as a model citizen and a gentleman. It is reported that the Popular Party obtained three seats in the Congress, one provincial councilman and several aldermen.

2. According to tabulations being made of the electoral boards, it appears that five Liberal and one Conservative governors were elected, as follows:

Pinar del Rio - Ramon Fernandez; conservative; brother of Senator Wilfredo Fernandez.

Havana - - - - Antonio Ruiz Alvarez; liberal; reelected.

Matanzas - - - Dr. Juan Gronlier; liberal; reelected.

Santa Clara - - Dr. Juan Antonio Vasquez Bello; liberal; former sub-secretary of the Interior and brother of Speaker of the Senate.

Camaguey - - - Jose I. Villena; liberal; reelected; became Governor when Zayas Bazan was appointed to Machado cabinet.

Oriente - - - - Jose R. Barcelo; liberal; reelected.

The official figures are arriving slowly and it will be several days before the provincial and municipal electoral boards will be fully tabulated, as the voters do not vote the straight party tickets, but select individual candidates whom they desire to support. From the definite early returns it was indicated that of the municipal mayors elected throughout the Island, six were Conservatives, one Popular (Havana) and forty-one Liberals. However, these returns are not entirely complete.

Henry C Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2845 Date: Nov. 3, 1926.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

CONFIDENTIAL 4-1 2657-95-271

G-2 Report 3600-a

CUBA (Political)

Subject: President Machado's address to the Presidents and Secretaries of the Liberal Committees in Havana, November 11, 1926.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 19 1926

1. I attach hereto translation from EL MUNDO of November 12 of the address delivered by President Machado on November 11 to the Presidents and Secretaries of the Liberal Committees of the city of Havana with respect to the results of the recent election. It will be noted that President Machado gave due warning that, while he supported the Liberal ticket, he was in sympathy only with those candidates and office holders who fulfilled their duty and were honest, whether Liberal or Conservative; and that he will continue to carry out the policies announced at the beginning of his administration, irrespective of whether he has the support of the Congress.

2. CONFIDENTIAL - The statements made by the President indicate his determination to relieve himself of those political alliances and politicians which he had to recognize at the beginning of his administration but which have since proved embarrassing. He has made known to General Crowder, in strictest confidence, certain cabinet and diplomatic changes which he intends to make in the near future. Those changes will be made with a view to strengthening and carrying out his own policies of administration which he has pledged for the betterment of Cuba by the establishment of an honest government.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2848 Date: Nov. 12, 1926.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

From "EL MUNDO" - November 12, 1926.

Address delivered by President Machado to the Presidents and Secretaries of the Liberal Committees of all the wards of the City of Habana on November 11, 1926.

"Mr. Mayor,
Mr. Senator,
Messrs. Presidents and Secretaries of the Primary Assemblies of the Liberal Party of the Municipality of Habana.

Gentlemen:

A few words, because perhaps the work realized by me today from 3:00 A.M. this morning up to the present moment in which I am with you, my good friends of all times, does not allow me to tell you everything that I would like you and all those Liberals who have sacrificed themselves at all times for their party to know.

But these few words will suffice to have you take along with you from here the conviction of what we Liberals have been and will continue to be in power.

These brief words which I am to speak will be to tell you in the first place that a nation owes an eternal debt of gratitude to those, who like Marti, sacrificed everything to make a revolution which would bring the independence and those who went to the field of the revolution and fell there forever; that is why those who struggled and survive and all other citizens should think only of a nation as that which was dreamed of by those men who fell in the gigantic task of constructing independence and giving us freedom, and we cannot pass by any efforts on our part to have that nation consolidated and strengthened.

That is why, due to that sacred debt, the Liberal Party now in power, I and all of you, who have one single ideal in all our actions of government or as citizens to consolidate the Cuban nation.

I have tried to hold the most honest elections that had ever been held in Cuba; I have tried through all means to have a great respect for all our adversaries, and I have not been able to reap the full harvest of my intentions because not everyone has known how to interpret me and follow me: at times the Conservatives have deceived me and at others the Liberals themselves.

But there are many who did not deceive me, those who know how to be alongside of me, Liberals or Conservatives, and they will continue to be at my side to carry to reality what is my only intention and my only desire: the consolidation of the Republic.

My Government hopes to continue having as at the present time the decided cooperation of Congress; but if it does not have it, for the benefit of the Nation, with its flag and constitution as the supreme guide, I alone will suffice to see that the efforts of almost two years are not lost like the seed sown among stones, sterile and ungrateful. My law is the law of patriotism and of honor; the future of Cuba depends upon it, and this law which is the law of all good patriots, shall be fulfilled, and there cannot be any obstacles to interrupt its progress.

I know that these statements of mine will be considered by those who are listening to me as anti-constitutional; and that someone might believe that there is in me a hidden partisan of dictatorship; but if dictatorship should be necessary to keep alive the memory of those who fell in the heroic battlefields, I alone and with those of you who care to follow me, will suffice to achieve this purpose.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

You have heard this, and this declaration can be taken by the Press here present; those who do not think in this manner may not be with me, but I will be against them.

The line of conduct which I have traced was necessary for all of the nations to respect us and for the return of internal order and this civic, unbroken and unbreakable line of conduct will continue to be maintained while General Gerardo Machado is President of the Republic.

Strong, those statements are very strong; but you Liberals can rest assured that those who legitimately hold a post and the Law protects them, whether Liberals or Conservatives, I do not care which, shall be respected if they fulfill their duty, and if they work and are honest.

In so far as I am concerned, I have done my duty. I worked alongside the Liberal Party and voted its official ticket. Some criticise me saying that that was against my policy. It is a grave error: my policy, dear friends and colleagues, is always to do my duty, and my duty in this case was to vote for the candidate of the Liberal Party, as I did.

The Liberal Party has not won; but the Government held honest elections in order that every one who desired to vote might do so. There was a great deal of selection, and perhaps many Liberals who were not at their post will some day regret having deserted, when I, personally, marked the place of duty and honor.

Deserter: here is a word which shall never be attached to my name because I know how to do my duty, even the duty of not winning elections by force, as I could have done, if it were not the supreme law of my conscience the need of being a Cuban even before being a good Liberal.

I desired liberty for every one at the time of voting in order to join all Cubans in a brotherly embrace, protected, at last, by a great respect for liberty and justice. I have not achieved all of this, but much has been done. The Liberal Party has not needed to make an effort to win five provinces, and the Conservatives have lost them because they did not have the majority, not because the incomplete realization of my wishes prevented the free issue of the popular will. The great picture is not marred thereby, and once again, it has been proven that my Government is not a partisan one, but a Government of honesty, justice and democracy."

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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6-1

2657-Q-27
8116-b
3830-a

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Changes in Cabinet and Diplomatic Personnel.

2657-Q-271(2)

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 26 1926

1. Referring to my report No. 2848, of November 12, 1926, confidential, relating to the anticipated changes in the Cuban cabinet, I now have to report that on November 8 President Machado confidentially informed this Embassy that he desired to name, if acceptable to the United States, Dr. Orestes Ferrara as Cuban Ambassador to Washington to succeed Dr. Sanchez Abalif. This information was cabled to the State Department which replied that Dr. Ferrara was acceptable to the United States Government. President Machado has accordingly cabled Dr. Ferrara who is now on a special mission to Brazil as Special Envoy with rank of Ambassador to represent Cuba at the installation ceremonies of President-elect, Dr. Washington Luis, of Brazil.

2. Politically, Ferrara has been an enthusiastic follower of General José Miguel Gómez, with whom he was associated during the Cuban revolutions of 1906 and 1917. Although at times he spoke critically against American governmental policies, he later was Speaker of the Cuban Camara, visited Washington and addressed, by invitation, the lower house of Congress. Recently he was appointed Judge of the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague. He was also a member of the Cuban delegation to the League of Nations. During and since the Zayas administration, Ferrara's attitude has been helpful in Cuban administrative affairs and friendly toward this Embassy. Dr. Ferrara is a recognized jurist, speaks several languages, is highly educated and possesses outstanding ability and energy. Admittedly, however, he is quite nationalistic in his principles and to a certain extent anti-American. However, General Crowder recommended his approval as he believed that he would work well under the administrative policies of General Machado.

3. On November 16 the Embassy was confidentially advised by President Machado that Dr. Rafael Martinez Ortiz, Cuban Minister to France, had been offered and had accepted appointment as Secretary of State of Cuba; that Dr. Carlos Manuel de Céspedes, present incumbent, had been duly notified that circumstances had compelled the President to make this change and urged in terms which could hardly be disregarded that Céspedes remain in Paris as Cuban Minister to France; that Dr. Antonio Bustamante, Sr., had accepted appointment as Legal Adviser to the Cuban State Department, and that for the present Dr. Zayas Bazan would continue in the cabinet as Secretary of the Interior.

4. It is my understanding that Dr. Ortiz, who will become Secretary of State, is a man of reputed ability; was originally an autonomist; was affiliated with the Liberal Party until Menocal's administration and has since been affiliated with the same party.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2850 Nov. 18, 1926.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

He has been in Cuba for several months as head of the Special Tariff Commission drawing up the new Cuban protective tariffs soon to be placed in effect. From such information as is available, it appears that he has a very friendly attitude towards the United States. He is considered an expert on economic questions and would probably be influential in the contemplated Cuban commercial expansion being undertaken to obtain various trade treaties for Cuban sugar, tobacco, alcohol and other Cuban products abroad. He has been in the diplomatic service abroad for many years. Public announcement of these changes with respect to Messrs. Ortiz and Céspedes appears in the Havana Post under date of the 18th.

5. The appointment of Dr. Antonio Bustamante, Sr., the noted Cuban jurist and Judge on the Permanent Court of International Justice at the Hague, as Special Counsel for the State Department is undoubtedly made with a view to strengthening Cuba's foreign relations and taking an active and aggressive part in the coming Pan American Congress to be held in Havana in 1928. It will be recalled that Dr. Bustamante drafted the Code of Private International Law as published on or about September 10, 1926, announcing that a codification of international law, public and private, had been completed for the official consideration of the twenty-one American republics. This code will come before a meeting of the International Commission of Jurists at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1927, and in the form finally approved by them is to be taken up in treaty form by the twenty-one republics of the Western Hemisphere at the Sixth International Conference of American States at Havana in 1928. It will thus be seen that Dr. Bustamante is, and has been for several years, one of the leading jurists who has worked industriously to provide a satisfactory code of international law for the American republics and will necessarily be a leading figure in the conference in Havana in 1928. If the Department is interested in the announcement of the completion of the above mentioned work and Dr. Bustamante's connection therewith, it was published in the United States Daily of Friday, September 10, 1926. The Pan American Union likewise has full data on the forthcoming conventions of 1927-28.

6. I am convinced that these international conferences and the work to be undertaken and probably accomplished at them will profoundly affect the relations of the United States with Cuba, as well as all the other American republics and that it should be given careful study and be closely followed by the War Department and, particularly, the M.I.D., although ordinarily such matters might be considered as not coming within its sphere. From experience I have seen, however, how closely and how interwoven military and civil questions of great importance become in the discussion and consideration of international law and international affairs between nations. I intend to give the subject all the attention and study possible here and will report any developments that may seem to be of interest to the Department. I think my contact here will be helpful in that respect.

Henry C. Clark
HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff, Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2850 Date: Nov. 18, 1926.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
2657-Q-271
3110-b
4
WAR DEPARTMENT
DEC 31 1926

G-2 Report

1 4-1

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Changes in Cabinet.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. DEC 29 1926

1. Confirmatory of persistent rumors of changes in the present cabinet of President Machado, you are advised that on December third the Secretary of Public Instruction, Dr. Guillermo Fernández Mascaró, submitted his resignation to the President, which was subsequently accepted by the President. It is understood that Dr. Mascaró voluntarily took this step to relieve President Machado of possible embarrassment and to permit him to rearrange his cabinet to meet the needs of the political situation.

2. The President then appointed the Cuban Minister to Mexico, General José Alemín y Urquía, who assumed the duties as Secretary of Public Instruction on December 15, 1926. General Urquía, generally known as "Aleman," was born March 25, 1864. He was appointed Minister to Mexico on July 2, 1925. Prior to that time he served as a General of a division in the Army of Liberation; as a member of the Constitutional Assembly; as Governor of the Province of Santa Clara; as a Senator and as Inspector-General of the Army of Liberation.

3. Dr. Mascaró has since been named by the President as Cuban Minister to Mexico to replace Aleman.

4. So far as now known, the exchange of the above officials in their positions has no direct political significance. However, General Aleman has been for some time reporting direct to President Machado by letter twice a month on the Mexican situation and undoubtedly is fully informed on all subjects which would affect the interests of Cuba with Mexico. I am inclined to believe that President Machado feels some uneasiness in the attitude of Mexico toward certain of the Central and South American countries and of her apparent socialistic or bolshevistic tendencies. As reported in my despatches #2854 of November 30 and #2859 of December 4, the Cuban press has been giving wide circulation to newspaper reports emanating in Mexico of anti-American character and, at the request of Ambassador Crowder, President Machado immediately suppressed further publication of this propaganda in the Cuban press. He is determined to prevent, if possible, the further development of socialistic or bolshevistic activity in Cuba and probably desires General Aleman as close adviser in dealing with these problems promptly as they arise.

2657-Q-272

5. I do not know General Aleman's personal sentiments toward the United States or its policies, but consider that Dr. Mascaró is inclined to be anti-American.

6. General Aleman is reported as having made a close study of the Mexican educational system and to have stated that he believes that system more suited to the Cuban needs than the present system based on American educational ideas.

Henry C. Clark
HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff, Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2863 Date: December 17, 1926.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ROUTING SLIP

Date 12-30-26

File No. 2657-Q-291
4

M. I. No. Ua 2-2863

From: RECORD SECTION, G-2.

To:

Chief, Latin-American (2 a)

Chief, Far Eastern (2 b)

Chief, European (2 c)

Chief, Aviation

Chief, Training

Chief, M. I._____

File ✓

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ROUTING SLIP

Date 3/24/47

File No. 2657-g-271 (5)

M. A. No. 442-2906

From: RECORD SECTION, G-2.

To:

Chief, Latin-American (2 a)

Chief, Far Eastern (2 b)

Chief, European (2 c)

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

MILITARY INTEL. DIV. 2610-a
4-1 1927 2657-g-271
WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Cuban By-Election, November, 1926.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. MAR 23 1927

1. It has not been possible, and still is not possible, to submit a final report on the result of the Cuban by-elections of last November since the official returns have not yet been compiled due to the protests filed in many municipalities. While it was apparent immediately following the elections that with the exception of the Province of Pinar del Rio, which went Conservative, the Liberals gained a decisive victory in all the provinces, the Liberal candidate for Mayor of Havana - Cuesta - was defeated for re-election by Gomez, son of the late President Gomez, who ran on the Popular, Republican and Democratic tickets. The majority of the protests which have been filed, according to the findings of various courts, appear to be founded on political obstructions rather than serious irregularities at the polls.

2. Up to the present the greater portion of the contests considered have been rejected, only a few having been sustained by the courts. In the latter category the civil chamber of the Supreme Court has declared that new elections must be held in the municipal districts of Jatibonico and Moron and in two colleges of the district of Diego de Avila, all in the Province of Camaguey. The Supreme Court has ruled that new elections must be held in the municipality of Jovellanos, Province of Matanzas, because of failure of the municipal electoral board to publish the location of the colleges. New elections have been held at Jovellanos, as well as special elections in one college of the district of Consolación del Sur, Pinar del Rio Province, which had failed to hold the election on the appropriate day in November. There still remains to be passed upon protests against elections in various municipalities in the Province of Oriente, Santa Clara and Havana. The result of the balloting in the City of Havana has been contested. Although the latter protest is said to be merely a political move and not to be well founded on fact, pending a decision of the courts, Mayor-elect Gomez of Havana has had to be seated provisionally by a Presidential Decree. Similar provisional measures have been adopted by the order of the President in the other municipalities where, at the time of the assumption of office of the respective mayors, settlement of electoral contentions have not been made.

3. It appears that the Liberal victory in the November elections, with the exception of Pinar del Rio, is not threatened except in the Province of Camaguey. In that province the new elections ordered to be held are of sufficient scope to make their effect felt should a reversal of sufficient strength transpire, even as far as the incumbency of the governor.

4. As soon as the last contests have been settled, the pertinent special elections celebrated and the final results published, report will be transmitted to the Department in detail concerning the new political alignment.

Henry C. Clark
HENRY C. CLARK,
Capt., General Staff, Military Attaché.

From: M. A., Havana. Report No. 2906 Date: March 15, 1927.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Enc 2

2657-2-272

FROM "EL SOL" - November 26, 1926.

Re: NICARAGUA.

(United Press Despatch)

Washington, November 26th.

American prestige to the South of the Rio Grande and in Europe may suffer considerably due to the unexpected change of policy of Secretary of State, Mr. Kellogg with respect to the Nicaraguan question. This is the opinion expressed by Mr. Santiago Iglesias, Secretary of the Pan-American Federation of Labor, in a statement given out today.

"The General of the Nicaraguan Army, Emiliano Chamorro seized the Government over a year and half ago establishing a de facto regime. On petition of the unions of Nicaragua and other nations, Mr. Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, protested before Secretary Kellogg of this proceeding against the constitutional methods and against the recognition of the usurper. Secretary Kellogg replied that the United States had not recognized, and would not recognise the regime of General Chamorro. From that time Chamorro placed himself at the head of the Army of Nicaragua and placed Adolfo Diaz in the presidential chair. The new President, who it is said is the brain of Chamorro, has been recognized by Secretary Kellogg.

"In a letter to Kellogg, Mr. T. S. Vaca, personal representative of Dr. J. B. Sacassa, the legal and constitutional President of Nicaragua, accuses Diaz of being the agent of certain New York bankers.

"It is very significant that Adolfo Diaz has been a moral accomplice of Chamorro and his followers in the development of a conspiracy which defeated the Government of order and public decency, carrying the spectre of foreign intervention to the threshold of that unfortunate country.

"The recognition of Diaz by the United States is considered in Nicaragua as an attack upon constitutional methods and greatly affects the Washington pact suggested by Secretary Hughes and signed by the Central-American Governments with the approval of the United States."

Cables received from Managua report that President Diaz is considering the appointment of Chamorro as Minister to the United Stetes.

"According to the Washington Pact" --the statement continues-- "the United States agreed not to recognize a government as that established in Nicaragua by unconstitutional methods. Anyone who is acquainted with the character of Latin America will appreciate the very great and damaging effect which the recent change of attitude of Mr. Kellogg will bring about in the Central-American nations. All the brainy diplomats and newspapers of Europe are also acquainted with the unexpected and unexplainable change of policy of the American Government with respect to the Washington Pact which was drafted based upon the goodwill of the nations and in support of constitutional methods."

LG:FSL.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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2657-G-272

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Attitude of the local press toward the policy of the United States in Latin America.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 10 1926

2657-G-272 (1)

1. Referring to despatch #2854 of November 30, 1926, enclosing translations and clippings from the Havana press, English and Spanish, there are attached hereto similar translations from papers between November 29 and December 3 on the subjects of:

Mexico and the United States
Ex-President Zayas' forthcoming memoirs, re: Crowder's memoranda
American policy in South America
Relations between the United States and Mexico (translation from "Heraldo de Cuba" of article appearing in New York World)
League against the Platt Amendment
Resignation of the Cuban Secretary of Public Instruction

2. The Ambassador held an interview with the President of Cuba on Friday morning, December 3, regarding what appeared to be widespread propaganda with respect to the Mexican and Nicaraguan situation, widely appearing in the Cuban press, and asked the President if he would not take the necessary steps to stop the printing of such articles derogatory to the United States in the Cuban press as it could not help but prejudice the good relations between the two countries and could serve no useful purpose.

3. The President showed a great knowledge of what was going on, particularly with respect to Mexico and stated that he was being kept informed by reports direct to him from the Cuban Minister in Mexico and that so far as he knew the Mexican Legation here was not distributing the propaganda; that he had always been opposed to propaganda of such a character and had been doing everything he could to prevent the growth of socialistic or bolshevistic tendencies in Cuba, and ended by stating that he would stop the propaganda as requested by the Ambassador, but that he hoped if in so doing the impression should be given in the United States that he was exercising dictatorial powers, that the State Department in Washington would furnish him support in a similar manner to that given about a month ago in Secretary Kellogg's statement to the effect that he had complete confidence in the administration of President Machado and his efforts to conduct the government of Cuba in a just and proper way.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2859 Date: Dec. 4, 1926.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

DATE 12/11/26

File No. 2657-G-272
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M. A. No. MA 2-2859

From: RECORD SECTION, G-2.

To:

European Section

Far Eastern Section

Latin American Section

Air Liaison Officer

Communication Section

File ✓

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Attitude of the local press toward the policy of the U.S. in Nicaragua and Mexico; "League against the Platt Amendment."

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 6- 1926

1. There are enclosed herewith for the Department's information translations of articles appearing in the Havana Spanish and English newspapers of November 26, 27, 28 and 29, being criticisms of a more or less virulent nature of the United States in connection with the recognition of Diaz as President of Nicaragua and American policy in Nicaragua, and also the relations between the United States and Mexico and the activity of an association in Cuba known as the "League against the Platt Amendment."

2. At a recent meeting the National Council of the League against the Platt Amendment announced its determination to work for the striking from the Cuban Constitution of the Platt Amendment and for the legislation of the Congress for the purpose of preventing the ownership of real-estate in Cuba by foreigners and the forfeiture of all property rights of Cubans who may become citizens of another country. The last mentioned article, which is taken from HERALDO DE CUBA of November 26, gives the names of a number of the members who attended said meeting. The activity of this league, which has been in existence seemingly for the past two or three years, has not heretofore come to general notice. So far as can be ascertained at present, it has only a small membership and none of the persons named has any prominence in Cuba, either politically, socially or financially. Further information regarding the membership and ramifications of this league will be sought and particularly as to whether it has any political support by either of the existing parties.

3. With respect to the articles appearing in the local press referring to our relations with Mexico, it appears that they have all come through A.P. and United Press channels with the exception of one which is credited to the Interocean Press. So far as I can ascertain, the Mexican Legation has taken no part in the dissemination of this propaganda. In view of the seemingly organized campaign for disseminating such hostile propaganda in Cuba, the Ambassador has sought an interview with the Cuban President to take place as early as possible with a view to securing his cooperation in quieting the newspaper campaign which cannot but be detrimental to the relations of the two countries.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2854 Nov. 30, 1926.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

WAR DEPARTMENT
MIL. INTEL. DIV.

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Propaganda against the United States --
Anti-Imperialistic League.

2657-g-272

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. MAR 5 1927

1. Supplementary to my report No. 2854 of November 30, 1926, there is attached hereto translation of an article appearing in the newspaper LA DISCUSION under date of February 11 as a news item. This is the first mention of the Anti-Imperialistic League which purports to be a proclamation of that league couched, as may be observed, in incendiary language.

2. Inquiry of LA DISCUSION elicits the information that the proclamation was reprinted from the issue of a Spanish paper of Ibor City (Tampa, Florida), dated February first. The editor of said paper is J. A. Gregory, residing at 1726-1/2 Seventh Avenue in that city, with postal address given as Box 5418, Tampa, Florida.

3. So far as can be ascertained, this so-called league has no following or membership in Cuba and is believed to be one of the many of similar type of various names brought to light from time to time in the United States as well as abroad. The article is transmitted merely for the Department's information.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2904 Date: Feb. 28, 1927.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

From: "LA DISCUSION" - February 11, 1927.

Translation of a Proclamation of the Anti-Imperialistic League of America, said to have been published in the English language:

"From Cuba to the Philippine Islands liberty is being strangled for the purposes of obtaining profits in benefit of Wall Street.

The great Empire of robbery and profit of American Capitalists rises through oppression and subjugation over the colonial and semi-colonial countries of the earth.

The imperialism of the United States extends its claws over the entire world, endeavoring, even in Europe, to wring the working classes to the limit, But it is especially in Latin America and in the colonies of the Pacific where the imperialism of Wall Street and of Washington has deeper roots.

Its mottoes are: "Pan-Americanism" and the "Monroe Doctrine." Super-profit in the investments made and monopoly of raw material are the objectives sought by it.

Its method is the brutal exploitation of weak countries.

The American dollar, backed by marines and soldiers of the United States, is extending its dominion over the greater part of Latin-America.

The "independence" of the Caribbean and Central American republics has been reduced to its minimum expression, and almost to mockery, by the latest outrages carried out against Panama and Nicaragua.

At the present time all South America is directly threatened, as is indicated and shown by the recent episode of Tacna and Arica.

In the very territory of the United States the working class is enslaved and oppressed by the imperialistic system. It is not only imperialism and the system of monopoly which gives strength and power to the great "trusts" in their constant struggle against the working classes, but the central machinery of militarism is directly used against the laborers whenever they go on strike.

As a further proof, the international conflicts of American imperialism with other powers equally imperialistic place the working classes before the grave danger of bloody and unnecessary wars.

The countries oppressed by the boot of American imperialism are now fighting for their liberty.

In Cuba, Porto Rico, Haiti, Santo Domingo and the Philippines, the sentiment against imperialistic domination is gradually acquiring strength year after year.

In some of these countries, powerful nationalistic movements exist. Mexico has made a herbic resistance against the numberless aggressions of Wall Street.

Throughout all South American the banner of resistance proudly floats on high.

The purpose of the All America Anti-Imperialistic League is to struggle for the solidarity of the oppressed or threatened by American imperialism. Left to their own isolation, such nations as Panama, Porto Rico and Cuba are entirely too weak to struggle against the immense power of Wall Street.

Joined in a movement which takes in the whole of Latin America, the colonies of the extreme East, and the masses of oppressed laborers of the United States, together will be able to give irresistible blows on the head of the imperialistic monster. We should join our forces. We should give cohesion and direction to our international efforts in the struggle against the common enemy.

The All America Anti-Imperialist League now has ten national sections in Latin-America, and a section in the United States.

We desire all the nationalist organizations and the Anti-Imperialistic societies to join these sections which the League has established in their respective countries or organize sections wherever these do not exist.

All the organizations will form part of the strugglers against the imperialism, and all those which sustain these principles will be eligible, including political parties, student groups, unions of laborers, farmers' associations, etc. There can be no real liberty while the struggle and defeat of imperialism is not achieved.

Our League publishes a monthly organ in the Spanish language entitled "El Libertador." Said publication being edited in Mexico City. The famous Mexican artist Diego Rivera is the Editor of said publication.

Here is the program or platform of the League:

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Withdrawal of all troops of the United States which are in Latin-American territories or in the colonies of the Pacific; withdrawal of warships of the United States from Chinese waters.

Complete and immediate independence for Porto Rico and the Philippines; and political liberty for all the colonies of the United States.

Complete abandonment on the part of the United States of their policy of intervention in Haiti, Santo Domingo and Nicaragua.

Abolition of the Platt Amendment in Cuba; derogation of the special treaties forced upon China and the Republic of Panama which convert these nations into a protectorate of Wall Street.

A policy of abstention in Mexico.

Abolition of the Custom House control or supervision of finances in countries on the Caribbean, Central America, Educador, Bolivia, etc., by reason whereof whole nations are the slaves of Wall Street under the pretext of securing indebtedness, etc.

Abolition of all the special privileges obtained by the United States and other imperialistic powers in Asia, Africa, etc.

Abolition of all the special privileges in Latin-America.

Internationalization of the Panama Canal and the Canal Zone.

Unification of the five republics of Central America in accordance with the sentiments clearly expressed by the masses of these nations, which sentiments have been misled on account of the maneuvres of American imperialism.

Abrogation of all authority on the part of President Coolidge or the Government of the United States to interfere in the Tacna-Arica question; investigation and arbitration by a Latin-America committee appointed in accordance with the recommendations of the Latin-American ~~Peace~~ Union, the Federation of Labor of Uruguay, the Spanish-American Council of Intellectuals and the Anti-Imperialistic League of America.

Struggle to death against all the traitors of the freedom of Latin-America, such as Leguia in Peru; Machado in Cuba; Gomez in Venezuela, and Chieri in Panama; who have passed over to imperialism and are acting as instruments of Wall Street in Latin-America.

Opposition to all the concessions which represent monopolies granted to foreign capital for the explbitation of the natural resources of Latin-America, as well as of the Far East.

Restrictive action in Latin-America against the tendencies toward imperialistic monopoly of such firms as the National City Bank; Kuhn and Company; J.P.Morgan & Co.; Standard Oil Company; United Fruit Company; International Harvester Company; the Beef Trust; the Guggenheim-Rockefeller interests; the Firestone Rubber Company, etc.

Nationalization of the basic industries of Latin-America and the Philippine Islands, such as copper, petroleum, nitrate, railroads, etc., as a means of protecting the national wealth against monopoly and exploitation of foreign imperialism.

A division of the lands among the farmer to avoid its falling into the hand of foreigners.

Refusal to transport troops or munitions to be used against Latin-American countries or the colonies of the Far East; refusal to transport strike-breakers to assist the imperialism of the United States in its struggle against labor, even in its own territory.

Repudiation of the Monroe Doctrine.

Organized opposition to the so-called Pan-American Union and to all "Pan-American" inventions of the American imperialism.

Exposition of the imperialistic policy of the Pan-American Federation of Labor, and to try to join all the labor forces against imperialism.

Federation of the Latin-American States.

Complete abolition of political, economic and social differences existing against negroes in the United States.

Solidarity with all the oppressed countries of the earth, such as China, India, Syria, Egypt, etc.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

1 4-1 2657-g-223

G-2 Report 3210-b

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Congressional Immunity.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 11 1927

1. Attached hereto is Embassy's translation from DIARIO DE LA MARINA of January 2, 1927, of a statement made by President Machado at the New Year's reception to the members of his Cabinet and the Army and Navy officers at the Palace.

2. The significance of this statement is found in the expression of the President that congressional immunity is not authorized and should not be tolerated; that the Judiciary, an agency of the government like Congress, has no immunity, and that members of the Judiciary who transgress are expelled, and inquires why it is that Congress does not expell those who fail to comply with their duty; points out that members of the Army and Navy, likewise agencies of the government, are punished when they violate the laws and concludes by urging that all persons indicted or subject to indictment should be given no immunity, and that members of Congress, should they be indicted, should not be protected by immunity, as the Executive and officials of other departments do not have it, all of whom should answer for their acts before the courts of justice. The President names two members of Congress, Heliodoro Gil and Marcelino Garriga, who recently insulted the Secretary of the Treasury and likewise the Executive, and insists that the Congress should not permit such members to sit in those bodies. The President insisted that he desired to be in accord with Congress, but considered that the Executive and Congress should be either in perfect agreement or in perfect disagreement.

3. This statement is looked upon as another notice to Congress that the President is not satisfied with the way the Congress is functioning and that he looks upon the long tolerated congressional immunity as one of the sources of evil by which the legislative power is corrupted and individual members are protected from the consequences of their illegal conduct. The President's statement will probably cause a good deal of political and press comment on the subject of congressional immunity which has always been recognized by the better elements as a vicious practice under which political graft flourishes.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2869 Date: Jan. 4, 1927.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

4-1 1927 2657-g-274 Navy
3850-b-12
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Anti-American Press Articles, re: Intervention in Nicaragua.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. JAN 21 1927

1. There are attached hereto for the Department's information two recent articles from the Havana Press, one being translation from "EL SOL" of January 14, 1927, of an article entitled "Proclamation of Intellectual Cubans Protesting against the Intervention of the United States in Nicaragua," and signed by some seventy-five Cubans, only a few of whom are either politically or socially prominent. The first two names heading the list are men of prominence in Cuban affairs, Varona being former Vice-President under Menocal's first term, and Ortiz being a prominent lawyer and author of the New Cuban Penal Code recently drafted by the Codification Commission. Dr. Ortiz, however, has since written the Ambassador a letter stating that he had no part in preparing the attached article and had directed the newspaper to correct its statements accordingly.

2. The second article attached is taken from "THE EVENING NEWS" of January 15th and is a translation of a pamphlet recently circulated in Havana by a Mexican who was arrested while distributing it. The article is very radical as will be noted.

3. In a recent interview with the American Ambassador, President Machado referred to those recent anti-American publications, but stated that he feared to take more drastic steps for their suppression than he has taken lest it result in more publicity in the form of radical protests and hand distributed pamphlets.

4. The State Department has just cabled to this Embassy the recent speech of Senator Gillette defending the Department in its policy toward Nicaragua and has directed that it be given publicity here as deemed most appropriate.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M. A., Havana. Report No. 2877 Date: Jan. 17, 1927.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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4-1 2657-g-275

G-2 Report

3790

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Attitude of Political Parties in re:
Candidate for next President of Cuba.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. FEB 8 1927

1. Attached hereto is clipping from THE EVENING NEWS of January 31, 1927 reporting a political conference held at the country home of President Machado, which was attended by President Machado, Vice-President Carlos de la Rosa, the Secretary of the Interior, Governor Barcelo of Oriente Province, and Senator Clemente Vasquez Bello, President of the Liberal Party.

2. It will be noted from the quotation of statement made by Senator Bello that it was agreed to announce the purpose of the Liberal Party to reelect General Machado as President with the probable selection of Vice-President de la Rosa for reelection. According to the statement, it is the purpose of the political leaders to continue the fusion of the Liberal and Popular Parties, and to recognize the entity of the Populars in a reorganization law to be passed. This is the first direct indication that President Machado will be a candidate for reelection, although it has been rumored, and generally conceded, that such would be the result.

3. It will be recalled that President Machado during his campaign for election announced that he would not be a candidate for reelection. If the present popularity of the President continues, there seems little doubt that if he is a candidate for reelection, he will be elected by probably a large majority. At the present time there is no probable opposition candidate of prominence who would have even a chance for election over President Machado.

Henry C Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2889 Date: Feb. 1, 1927.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

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4-1 1927 2657-g-225

CUBA (Political)

Subject: President's Proclamation - re: Second Term.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAR 26 1927

1. I attach hereto for the Department's information translation from the newspaper "DIARIO DE LA MARINA" of March 17, 1927, of a proclamation issued by President Gerardo Machado. It is assumed that the proclamation is authentic and as issued, but no official copy thereof is yet obtainable.

2. The substance of the proclamation is that President Machado announces his willingness to serve another term as president either by extension of his term of office or by re-election, but subject to the popular will. The proclamation is undoubtedly the result of consultation and accord between the various political elements favorable to Machado. Its tone indicates apprehension of considerable political opposition and is rather abrupt in denominating such opposition as based upon ulterior and unpatriotic motives. Undoubtedly President Machado is willing, in fact anxious, to be continued in office for another term, but the best indications are that it is the belief that he can thus best serve Cuba and bring to a more complete realization within that time the benefits of good government and an intelligent and honest administration with the extensive projects initiated by his present administration. Undoubtedly President Machado hopes to see the gigantic public works improvement brought to a completion under his administration and to eradicate the elements of corrupt government and immorality which he found upon taking office and which he feels he will be strong enough if given more time to completely exterminate and prevent recurrence by a moral regeneration of the Cuban people through the extended administration of good government. There can be no question but that President Machado is now, and will continue, if retained in power, administering his office with a firm hand, at times amounting to the exercise of a dictatorship, but, unlike previous presidents, with the possible exception of President Palma, working disinterestedly for the public good. Personally, he is honest and to the extent within his official power he has and is eradicating graft and corrupt political methods. He is guarding the public funds, practising economy in government expenditures, and personally directing the various departments of the government in economy and efficiency of administration. His re-election or his continuation in office, should such procedure be adopted, would undoubtedly be for the best interests of the Cuban people, assuming, of course, that he would continue such an administration along the lines he has adopted and practised during his two years of incumbency.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2909 Date: March 18, 1927.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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From: "DIARIO DE LA MARINA" - March 17, 1927.

PROCLAMATION TO THE NATION ISSUED BY GENERAL GERARDO MACHADO.

- - - - -

In very recent declarations, I stated to the Nation in full the problems which were arising upon the approach of the time in which the people of Cuba had to decide upon the future presidential renewal. Clear, simple, without trickery, with the sincerity of a thought that does not need to be hidden from my fellow citizens; with the integrity and honesty with which a chief of state should speak to his people, I then fixed what would be my attitude; and those words left well defined my lack of ambition in so far as regards the request for a new term of office; my inflexible resolution of accepting the same if the needs of the Republic and the majority of the votes imposed their mandate upon me once again. When for the first time I presented my candidature, I never hid my legitimate aspiration under the fiction of modesty. I went day after day, as is done in a democracy, after the support of my fellow citizens; I asked for their aid; I visited the remotest corners of Cuba and approached every one, large and small, powerful and humble, confessing to them the illusion of seeing whether Providence or Destiny would permit me to realize, or even undertake, from this position, the patriotic dreams which I felt latent in my spirit in favor of a Nation morally and materially worthy of the sacrifices which its foundation cost. Whether I have made of the Presidency a place of ambition or a place of patriotism; whether I have tried to uplift the name of Cuba or have besmirched it; whether I am moved by petty ambitions or am encouraged by a sincere love for the glory of the Republic, I should not say. Neither should this be said by the few persons who have become my systematic enemies. This belongs today to the judgment of the national conscience; tomorrow, to History. I submit myself quietly to the opinion of the two. With the same naturalness with which I sought the Government yesterday, I would again seek it today if I desired. I have done nothing from the post I hold which prohibits me from addressing my people formulating an aspiration guaranteed by a constitutional provision and encouraged by overwhelming movements of all the forces of the country. On the contrary, I could today seek it with the right of a greater experience and with the record of a task accomplished, in which my heart of a Cuban, tells me that if the love for independence and for the Republic was great in the fields of the Revolution, I have felt it to be as great and as strong in this post, a thing of glory always; of sacrifice at times, when we see that the purest sentiment and the loftiest patriotic intention finds ingratitude and slander as its reward.

However, having realized that effort; having already conquered the honor of this magistracy, and finished my term of office, my spontaneous inclination would be to return to my private activities. But I must repeat what I have already stated. This is not my problem. It is a problem of the Nation. If it had indicated to me the way toward my withdrawal, my obedience would have been absolute; because there is nothing so praiseworthy for a governing authority as the submission to the will of its fellow citizens. And for this very reason, there is nothing so illegitimate as to disregard it in response to the vanity of not feeling oneself discussed or on the fear of compromising one's name in impassioned struggles and in the dangers of public life. It is evident that the parties, in a beautiful union of forces, Congress, organizations, the laborers, the most illustrious leaders of tendencies opposed to the Government, the Veterans, the intellectual, and scientific corporations, publish and affirm that they consider my continuation in power necessary, convenient and safeguarding. If these statements were deceiving the Nation could not blame me for believing in the honesty of its own words. To believe this would be to accept a discouraging stigma upon our collective virtues. I cannot make this affront to the very people I preside, and, on the contrary, I have faith in the reality of a state of national conscience before which I should subordinate myself. This last is what I consider my duty.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

The parties and the Congress, in the exercise of their free determination, will decide with respect to the form. The only thing that I should say is that after the natural and careful reflection, which are proper in him who adopts attitudes of importance, and seeks, without personal stimulation, the good for his Nation, that between the agitations of an exiguous minority, perhaps on the way to methods of disturbance, and the enthusiastic and visible consent of nearly the totality of the people, there is no other path open to me than that of the acceptance of a new presidential term of office.

The whole of Cuba knows that this Government practices the most rigid standards of administrative morality. At the present time no one disposes of official resources with which at times the conscience of a nation is corrupted. Neither the press, nor congressmen, nor politicians, nor any of the classes which guide and direct us are inclined to do so through the means of the Public Treasury, as has been unjustly alleged. The people are not dragged today neither by pardons, nor by vices, nor by sinecures. Those who aid me in my task do so for sentimental reasons; at times suffering privations which make one think with emotion on the old idealism of our people. Those who deny this do so because they stain the generous impulse of the very collectivity among which they live, and, incredulous or spiteful, do not consider it capable of any patriotic effort.

The Government, in the face of the supreme interests of the State, has adopted certain energetic resolutions. Those who call this dictatorship do so because they are unaware, forget or deny the heroic sacrifices which for the right all of us Cubans have made in all times.

Perhaps there are no facilities for attacking the virtue, for slandering those of us who represent the decorum of the Republic, nor for making a system of libel and slander; but the Congress and the Press are open to all the attacks and to all the fiscalization of a reasonable, energetic and useful opposition, as is befitting a civilized nation, of quiet constitutional life.

In these very chambers of the Palace I have known how to listen with serenity to the voice of great representative men in expressing to me their advice, their attacks and their censures. Every time somebody approaches me, I always ask him to forget that I am an authority, in order to tell his opinion, good or bad, to a fellow citizen. The truth without ire, before a magistrate ready to correct an error or an injustice, is a tribute to the Republic. I solicit it and appreciate it. Slander and even under-cover rumors made abroad constitute an inconceivable abdication in persons of prestige. Odium preached to the people constitutes an underhanded policy which has given forth painful moments in our brief national existence, and which would be produced again, unfortunately, if it were not for my firm and unbreakable decision of preventing it.

Responsible for solemn oaths, I am fulfilling them all without excluding that of my loyalty to the anti-reelectionist principle, because what is being launched is not the historical reelection with its unforgetable lessons. What I am doing through the only method at my disposal, the most constitutional and the most democratic, is to submit myself to the serene and final judgment of public opinion. In this process, those who combat me will not find the violence of authority; but the violence of habitual and organized agitators will not coerce the people who defend me. The Government will have a limit; the Law. The propaganda against it will have another intangible limit: my honesty as a ruler, the environment of greater culture in which our political struggles take place today, without commotion and without hatred, and the moral and material peace, which above all I declare to be sacred.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

The Nation is well aware of my determination. I will abide by its decision if in normal elections made without the pressure of campaigns, nor than political, seditious and revolutionary, it refuses me its confidence. I will continue governing, on the other hand, if with the verdict of the vote and the guarantees provided by Law, it extends my term of office or elects me again.

In acting in this manner, it suffices for me to know that I am doing it in response to the highest inspirations. No one can be the arbiter of my patriotism. When others believe that they serve Cuba by trying to eliminate my Government, I have the right to believe that I am serving it, sustaining it and seeing that its constructive and nationalistic task is extended and takes root. Let even those most exalted of my opponents recognize that if I should retire in view of their attacks, I would throw upon my task a reproach incompatible with the conscience that I have of having consecrated myself fully, during the past few years, to the good of Cuba.

I am not discussing the power which some attribute of deciding only themselves, almighty and alone, upon my history; but against their attitude I want, as usual, to submit myself to the people, and have them, in free elections, say whether they want me or whether they repudiate me; whether they sanction or whether they reject my administration.

While others conspire to interrupt this period of order and of peaceful development of public life, I will work to continue the same, trying, if possible, to have them abandon their opposition and incorporate themselves into my sincere desires for cordiality, even with regard to those who are ready to combat me.

While others believe that the generous and fruitful union of the parties in Congress and in the Nation represents an ignominy, I believe that it is a fortunate proof of high political capacity, of a real improvement in customs, and I take up, as one of the most enviable praises for a Chief of State, the fact that this fortunate event for the national institutions, has taken place about my name.

While others seek arms in order to bring rancour and violence, I will appeal with serenity, but with energy, to the means which the Power grants me to guarantee the first good of Cuba, to wit: respect for the Constitution, honesty in Government, order in the Republic, and peace among its sons.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

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CUBA (Political)

Subject: Principal Foreign Policies.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. FEB 14 1927

1. The underlying foreign policy of Cuba under the present administration is political and economic independence and expansion throughout the world, and more favorable relations commercially for Cuba. The reins of power for furthering this policy are in the hands of the President. The President has been empowered by special legislation to fix tariff rates for three years by presidential decree, having for his guidance the findings of a tariff commission working for the past several months on the revision of import duties. He has been empowered by special legislation to control the sugar industry of the island, and by presidential decree a complete machinery for executive management of the whole organization of sugar production has been set up, intended to restrict the output and stabalize the price of sugar, which is the one industry upon which the prosperity of Cuba depends. The President is in direct control of the gigantic plan of public improvements authorized by law in 1925 and of the financing of said projects. The Cuban President is virtually a dictator of both internal and external policies adopted. The present executive is a forceful man, admittedly honest and determined to enhance in every way possible Cuba's political and economic relations abroad and to establish an honest and efficient government at home. President Machado in his campaign for election pledged that he would diminish and avoid foreign loans, and that he would work for the abrogation of the Platt Amendment as part of the Permanent Treaty with the United States and part of the Cuban constitution. The reference to Cuba as a "vassal" is frequent in political references. Sly digs frequently come from other Latin Americans; it is used as fireworks in political campaigns, and the Cubans are very sensitive on the subject. Cuba's enthusiasm in making herself as prominent as possible in the League of Nations has been for the purpose of trying to escape the stigma of "vassalage."

2. However, President Machado knows how necessary the favor of the United States is to Cuba. He seeks an "alliance" political and economic. He has asked the United States for a conference looking to an amendment of the Reciprocity Treaty, his purpose being to attempt to persuade the United States to make the tariff "preferential" on Cuban sugar 40% instead of 20%. In various ways it has been suggested that if the United States would do that, they could have almost anything they wanted in extension of our preferentials in the new Cuban tariff. About the time the above mentioned overtures were made, Cuba was conceding to the United States all we asked in treaty arrangements to stop rum running across the gulf and the smuggling of aliens into the south. Cuba has asked the repeal of a law of the United States which forbids small shipments of tobacco, cigars and cigarettes into the United States, thus making parcels post shipments unlawful. He further stated that unless the above concession is made, Cuba will terminate the present parcels post convention in June of this year.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2895 Date: Feb. 9, 1927.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

3. Cuba is adopting a policy of stimulation of her manufacturing industry having the new tariff as the nucleus. The tariff commission which has worked out the tariffs was headed by the present Secretary of State, Dr. Ortiz, who is an outspoken advocate of high protective tariff, even to the point of exclusion. The appointment of Dr. Ferrara, the new Cuban Ambassador to Washington, was with a view to promoting Cuban relations. Dr. Ferrara is an able jurist, orator and former newspaper editor, with a forceful personality and speaks English well.

4. The President has just accepted an invitation of President Coolidge to visit the United States and make an address before the Gridiron banquet on February 26th. He will be given a luncheon by President Coolidge and a banquet by the Cuban Ambassador. He intends to invite President Coolidge and the Secretary of State to attend the Pan American Conference to be held in Havana in 1928. His visit is intended as a political courtesy and bid for closer and more mutually advantageous relationship. The Cuban President will probably spend a week in the United States. It is possible that the American Ambassador, General Crowder, will accompany him.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2895 Date: Feb. 9, 1927.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Cuban diplomatic and consular service - Protection of rights of nations in foreign countries.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. FEB 16 1927

1. In the absence of special diplomatic and consular treaties, Cuba, like most of the other countries of the world, relies upon the rules of international law and recognized customs of nations for the protection of the rights of her nationals abroad. In this respect she has for the past several years taken an active part, through her distinguished jurist, Dr. Bustamente, in the formulation of codes of American international public and private law. These codes will be the subject of study at the convention of International Jurists at Rio de Janeiro within a few months.

2. In the past year Cuba has signed and proclaimed a consular treaty with the United States covering a broad scope of subjects relating to the duties, rights, privileges and immunities of consular officers and the protection of their countrymen in the enjoyment of their rights accruing by treaty or otherwise, and a failure of such protection may justify recourse to the diplomatic channel. This convention was signed at Havana on April 22, 1926, and proclaimed December 2, 1926, published by Government Printing Office, Washington, as Treaty Series No. 750. The above mentioned plan of codification of American International Law is being sponsored and supported by the Pan American Union and literature thereon distributed.

Henry C Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2892 Date: Feb. 5, 1927.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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3830-b

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Diplomatic and Consular Service -
Current activities in foreign countries.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. FEB 16 1927

1. In furtherance of Cuba's desire to enhance her prestige abroad, politically, in keeping with her economic development and her important geographical development, special effort has been made during the present administration to cultivate close, friendly relations with other countries, both politically and commercially. This is largely her motive in maintaining her membership and active participation in the League of Nations. She was successful in having Dr. Cosme de la Torriente, the Cuban delegate to the League, chosen as President of the League Assembly which convened in September, 1923. Dr. Antonio Bustamente, Sr., the leading Latin-American jurist and authority in International Law, is a member of the World Court at The Hague, and was recently appointed legal adviser of the Cuban Foreign Office. He will be the Cuban delegate at the conference of International Jurists at Rio de Janeiro in 1927 to consider adoption of a Code of International Law, and, likewise, at the Sixth Pan American Conference to be held at Havana in 1928. The restriction of the Platt Amendment to the free exercise of Cuban political independence is the source of much embarrassment to Cuba in her relationship with other Latin-American Republics and the frequent criticisms and comments from those sources deeply wound the sensibilities of the Cubans. The recent failure of the Cuban minister to Uruguay to promptly report a Uruguayan press criticism by a Uruguayan delegate to the League of Nations concerning Cuba's domination by the United States resulted in the minister's dismissal from the diplomatic service. Cuba is gaining support throughout Latin America in her desire for complete independence and the elimination of the Platt Amendment.

2. The elevation of the Cuban and Spanish Legations to the rank of Embassies came about the past year as the result of the mutual desire of the two countries to improve their relationship and to put them on a diplomatic equality with the United States. The present negotiations for a commercial treaty, which has been long pending between Cuba and Spain, are with a view to enlarging and bettering their commercial intercourse. It is a settled policy of the present Cuban administration to press negotiations for commercial treaties with the leading countries, in the hope of bettering Cuban trade. It is understood that negotiations were recently begun with Canada for a commercial treaty as well as with several European and Latin American countries.

3. I am of the view that special efforts will be made by Cuba at the forthcoming Pan American Conference in Havana to enhance her political and commercial prestige abroad, and especially with Latin America. Within the past few months the Cuban Minister to France was recalled and made Secretary of Foreign Affairs, the post of minister being filled by the former Secretary of State; likewise, the minister to Mexico was recalled and placed in the Cabinet as Secretary of Education, the former Secretary being sent as Minister to Mexico. It is understood that Dr.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2891a Date: Feb. 5, 1927.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Ortiz, the new Secretary of State, is specially charged with negotiating several treaties desired by Cuba with countries abroad, including the United States. Dr. Ortiz is an experienced, capable and astute lawyer and diplomat, and considered especially capable for the special work desired.

4. There are no outstanding personalities in the Cuban diplomats abroad with the exception of Dr. Ferrara, the new Cuban Ambassador to Washington who has announced his purpose to seek a new reciprocity treaty and obtain advantages for Cuba with the United States.

5. For the past several years Cuba has had a special and extensive course at the National University in Havana for training diplomatic and consular officers and this course has been much improved and broadened during the present administration. Students are required to pass satisfactory examinations, whereupon they become eligible for appointment to the diplomatic and consular service. Several leading Cuban diplomats and jurists are instructors in this school.

6. In 1924 the Cuban diplomatic corps was composed of 33 diplomatic agencies, comprising one embassy, 23 legations, 9 missions, and the consular corps was composed of two consul-general inspectors, 15 consular generals, 74 consulates of the first, second and third classes, 65 honorary consular agencies, distributed in thirty-five countries, with a total of 282 paid officials and 65 honorary officials of different classes.

In the year 1925 the above representation was increased in the following manner: one embassy, 7 legations, 2 consulate generals, 10 consulates of the first, second and third class, and two honorary consular agencies. The Congress has been asked to create 58 additional honorary consular agencies abroad.

7. In the year 1914 there were accredited to Cuba 20 diplomatic agencies; in 1924, ten years later, there were 19 diplomatic agencies and 119 consular agencies representing the different countries. At the present time there are 30 diplomatic agencies accredited to Cuba and 115 consular agencies distributed throughout the island. The rapid extension of foreign diplomatic and consular representation in Cuba constitutes conclusive evidence of the increasing consideration and respect which Cuba is receiving internationally. Out of 52 independent countries of the world, 39 have representation accredited to Cuba, and, in turn, Cuba is represented in 35 of those countries.

Henry C. Clark
HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2891 Date: Feb. 5, 1927.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: "Ferrara and Imperialism;"
"Pan American Politics."

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. MAR 1 1927

1. For the Department's information there is enclosed herewith clipping from the English newspaper of Havana "THE EVENING NEWS," of February 16, 1927, containing two articles:

"Ferrara and Imperialism," being a commentary on the address given by the Cuban Ambassador to Washington at the Maine memorial services held at Arlington with respect to the relations of Cuba and the United States.

The second article under the heading of "Pan American Politics," containing certain rather pertinent observations relating to the Pan American Union and the Pan American Conference to be held in Cuba in 1928.

Henry C. Clark
HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M. A., Havana. Report No. 2901 Date: February 18, 1927.

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FERRARA AND IMPERIALISM

Col. Orestes Ferrara, Cuban Ambassador to Washington, has that faculty of appearing in a role least expected, and he always plays the part so well that there is no doubt left about his interpretation. The political utterances of Colonel Ferrara for the past twenty years or more would make interesting study in the psychology of a mind that is always traeling just a little in advance of the ordinary herd.

They do say, although we do not know how much truth there is in the statement, that when Col. Ferrara left his native land, Italy, he was a pronounced anarchist. He might have been. Possibly political policies in Italy at that time promoted that sort of feeling. He came to Cuba and became prominent in the revolution, attaining the rank of colonel. He was appointed once to an international conference in Europe by the then provisional governor of Cuba, Charles E. Magoon, and when a newspaper correspondent gave it out that Ferrara had the reputation of being an anarchist the Washington government ordered Magoon to recall him after he had started on his way.

Then Col. Ferrara was elected to Congress, and he was such an accomplished debater, so well versed in parliamentary law that he became speaker of the house of representatives. Fearless in his debates, he was always able to smother his adversaries in almost any arguments that were brought forth against him.

Being of foreign birth, there was no other position of a political nature to which Col. Ferrara aspired. As an attorney he secured a most lucrative practice, and his success in this profession paid him well. He refused to accept further election to Congress six years ago, and has been living ever since, accepting diplomatic missions to various countries as a sort of a recreation.

In accepting the diplomatic mission to Washington, really the highest position in the Cuban government to which he could attain, there was misgivings felt by some, for there have been times that Ferrara has spoken and written some vitriolic things about Americanisms, political, financial, diplomatic, and otherwise. These expressions have never been hidden under a nom de plume.

Rhe expressions made by Colonel Ferrara, at the ceremonies of the Maine anniversary at Arlington Cemetery on Tuesday will have its effect upon all of the Latin American countries. His declaration that Cuban liberty is an exemplification of the class of imperialism that is practiced by the United States. That the United States voluntarily declared at the Paris peace conference that Cuba would be freed, and that a stable government would be established. Other governments of the world did not believe it. They saw what other Latin American republics had amounted to, especially those of the West Indies and Central America. They expected an epidemic focus, revolution and a poverty stricken nation would be the result of making Cuba free.

There have been delegates of other Latin American countries that have thrown slurs at Cuba because of the existence of the Platt Amendment, but none of these could place their fingers upon one single instance where that treaty had infringed upon sovereign rights of the Cuban Republic. It may have presented unwise acts because of its existence, but Ambassador Ferrara, who knows what he is talking about stated publicly, practicaly officially, that the sovereignty of Cuba, its absolute independence, free from any imperialistic control of any kind on the part of the United States, is complete denial of any such charge, and that if all the Pan-American republics have no more complaint of American imperialism than has Cuba, there will certainly be peace, prosperity, and a better national feeling in all of their relations. In the words of a member of Congress, if the attitude of the United States spells imperialism, then let the world make the most of it.

PAN-AMERICAN POLITICS

While there is considerable chaos in the present Pan-American political situation, it can be seen that the Washington government is paying much more attention to thiis matter

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much more attention to this matter After the Spanish-American war was over, and after the United States had apparently carried out its promises made to the world regarding the establishment of the Cuban Republic, with the string of the Platt Amendment tied on, the United States apparently forgot there was a Latin America, and especially a Cuba. The attention of Washington was taken up entirely with European affairs, and that attention was held there, until Uncle Sam awoke to the fact that he was being made the goat. His fingers were burned, his toes were trampled upon, he was reviled and insulted and stoned from ambush, until he saw a hole in the fence where he could slip through, and he got out of it.

Apparently Uncle Sam is now hunting up his own and his real crowd, and is trying to get them together. This old crowd is formed by the Latin American countries, known as the Pan-American Union.

The Washington government had fogotten it had made a whole lot of promises following the Spanish-American war. The fact was overlooked that there must be some sort of co-operation in order to hold the trade that had come to the United States during the World War for the sole reason that the Latin American countries could not buy anywhere else.

It has been finally discovered in Washintgon that a well organized campaign has been going on for some time for the purpose of cutting off practically all of this Latin American trade from the Angle Saxon nations. A campaign to get the permanent treaty repealed, cutting off American influence in Latin Amtrica, which would mean putting a crimp in American business in that territory.

The charges of imperialism, made by these influences working against American commercial influence, have been made by those influences which set about the campaign of depriving the United States of its standing in the Pan-American Union. The capture of the delegations to be sent from the various members republiecs of the Pan-American Union, could be brought about in some cases by revolution, and in other countries by political intrigue, including the agitation of the idea of imperialisb.

Secretary of State Kellogg seems to have acquired an understanding of this plan, where former State Department officials seemed to be blind to what was going on. Sponsor for the Pan-American Union, upholder of the principles of the Monroe Doctrine, it was planned to emasculate the United States of its power by facing a strong opposition majority at the next Pan-American Conference. Half dozen of the Latin American republics, whose opposition to the United States is generally known could have, if the plan had not been checked, included in their voting ranks all six of the Central American republics, leaving the United States perhaps no more than three or four supporting delegations.

The treaty with Panama, the support of the Nicaraguan government, with the alliance of Santo Domingo, Haiti along with these other Central American republics. It is pretty reasonable to suppose that Cuba will also fall in line with the international relations going along as they bedisappointed in its hopes this year, with the international policy of are at present. Mexico was absent from the last conference, but it will Secretary Kellogg carried out in the preparations for the confeernce, and the plans laid a few years ago to cut off American prestige, American trade and American influence in the Americas, the latter not being imperialistic as charged, but with the principle of co-operation and trade interchange, the well laid plans of those who were out to kill the Monroe Doctrine, as well as the Platt Amendment, will surely falil.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
52657-g-279

3210-b

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Composition of the Thirteenth Legislative Period.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. APR 9 1927

1. The Thirteenth Legislative Period which is scheduled to open its first session (the first of four sessions into which it is divided) will be composed of 128 representatives, due to increases contained in the Law of December 15, 1925, one-half of which number has been renewed for this new period.

2. The regular quorum will be composed of 85 members and the two-thirds by 85. As a result of the past elections without taking into consideration the appeals established and the rejection which might be made of certificates of election, the make-up of the House should be as follows:

Liberals	66
Conservatives	53
Populars	9

3. It is said the President of the House will be Rafael Guas Inclan, Liberal member from Habana. The Vice-Presidents will be Quintin George and Oscar del Pino, the Secretary, Juan Manuel Alfonso. Santiago Rey will continue to be the Conservative Leader and Carmelo Urquiaga the Popular Leader.

4. The certificates of election of the new members of Congress from Camaguey, Oriente and Habana have not yet been delivered to them due to pending appeals and electoral claims; therefore these new members will not be able to take their seats on the session of April 4th if the House has on that day the necessary number to constitute the two-thirds for opening its session.

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 2915 Date: April 2, 1927.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

MILITARY INTEL. DIV. WAR DEPARTMENT

1

4-1 1927 2657-g-250

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Commentary on President Coolidge's speech in New York.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 6 - 1927

1. There is attached hereto translation of an editorial appearing in LA LUCHA of April 27, being a commentary on President Coolidge's speech recently made in New York.

Henry C. Clark
HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

Please send in translation in ref to 8117

From: M/A, Havana. Report No. 2924 Date: April 29, 1927.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

MIL. INTEL. DIV.

1927 2657-g-250

FROM "LA LUCHA" - April 27. 1927. -- E D I T O R I A L .

Re: President Coolidge's recent speech in New York.

Not many days ago we commented in this same column the serene and timely declarations of President Machado in the United States, made as the result of his voyage. At this time in which a campaign of libel and slander is being waged against the United States, the voyage of our President has constituted a solution of continuity to a passing state of opinion fabricated upon the false foundation of a cheap and interested propaganda. Cuba is undoubtedly the best evidence of American good faith in its relations with a neighboring country. In spite of all the defamation, the work of the United States in our nation is undestructible. The solid foundation which holds the republican building is the task of the best of American public men of their time. In making it, they thought more of glory and posterity than of selfish motives. Certain hysterical outbursts, the product of the morbosity of the times, can never break down the final judgment of history.

Immediately following the declarations of General Machado, the austere Chief Magistrate of the American Nation, Mr. Coolidge has spoken, and his words have a value of double significance; because the speaker is the chief of one of the most powerful and influential nations of the world, and because of the doctrine set down in its relations with the peoples of Spanish-America. The United States has stepped forward to the first line of the great nationalities. This is due first to its virtue; to work, to its anxiety for progress, to the great laboriousness of its citizens, to the supreme intelligence of its statesmen. In its immense prosperity and in its power rests the secret of the envy with which the United States is looked upon by its rivals, and the cause of all th se agitations and campaigns of which it is a victim at the present time. Mr. Coolidge himself in one of the paragraphs of his speech points to what he calls "curious circumstance." Those who have been the strongest advocates of American penetration in the Far East, he says, are those who with greatest vehemence criticise our intervention to protect the life and property of our citizens. Mr. Coolidge might add the same with respect to the Spanish-American nations. The very ones who fall on their knees at the White House to ask that it decide in favor of their aspirations, are the ones who shout in protest when not afforded what they ask for.

Mr. Coolidge denies military or imperialistic intentions in his policy of intervention especially as now manifested in Nicaragua, Mexico and China. The Americans are going to those places merely to guarantee the property and life of their fellow-citizens. This impulse is one of the secrets of the greatness of England. It has been said that wherever there is an Englishman, England with all its power is there. And the very singular phenomenon occurs in the international world that this is accepted

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

without any discussion, and on the other hand, the right to do this by other nations is discussed. Before the Great War, the Europeans powers developed the same policy in America which they now develop and carry on in Africa and Asia. The tacit acceptance of the Monroe doctrine removed from our Continent the possibility of any armed European intervention, leaving the United States with a free hand to defend the foreign interests and to maintain the sovereignty of the independent nations.

The declarations of President Coolidge, therefore, clear up the vitiated atmosphere of anti-American propaganda and serve as an example to our nations. Because it does not suffice to know that the United States will always defend the rights of its citizens; it is necessary that the Spanish-American nations also learn to defend the right of theirs.

LLG/PSL.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

3
4-1 2657-g-281

G-2 Report 3600-a

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Amnesties.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 10 1927

1. I attach hereto, for the Department's information, translation of an Amnesty Bill introduced in the Cuban House of Representatives on April 28, 1927, by Representative Gustavo Gonzalez Beauville. The bill would grant amnesty for all crimes and misdemeanors committed by civil officials or public employees of the Cuban central government, the provinces and the municipalities in the exercise of their offices up to February 24 of the present year.

2. While the project is a general whitewash measure, it is commonly understood that it is designed to prevent criminal prosecution of the former employees of the Liberal administration of Havana under the leadership of former Mayor Cuesta. Seven former municipal employees have to date been indicted for alleged frauds against the city treasury.

3. Attention is invited to the humor contained in the fourth and fifth paragraphs of the preamble to the effect that guilty officials should not be too harshly dealt with since at the time of the commission of their offenses they could not have realized the extent to which the reform wave would go and that as May 20 will be the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Republic of Cuba, joy should reign supreme in every Cuban home.

4. In the light of President Machado's attitude of opposition heretofore to all measures designed to grant general amnesty, there seems to be little apprehension that he would approve the bill even in the unlikely contingency that it should pass both houses of Congress. Nevertheless, a serious effort may be made by the Liberals of the House to push the bill through that chamber since it is rumored that the measure is not so much designed as a shield for those under charges as for the politicians of the Liberal Party. In fact, one impartial journalist has voiced the opinion rather widely expressed that the administration dare not prosecute the municipal employees in view of the circumstance that court hearings on such charges would surely involve in a serious scandal many more and higher Liberal politicians than those thus far exposed. Color is lent to this opinion by the fact that, if correctly reported, ex-Mayor Cuesta has in the last few days been permitted to slip out of the country.

Henry C. Clark

HENRY C. CLARK,
Captain, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M/A, Havana. Report No. 2928 Date: May 3, 1927.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2/2657-T-282

2657-8-282
MAR 26 1928
WAR DEPARTMENT

March 21, 1928

Miss Margaret L. Stuart,
300 E. North Avenue,
N. S. Pittsburgh, Pa.

My dear Madam:

Replying to your letter of March 20th, it is regretted that we have no information for general distribution regarding the conference recently held in Cuba, that has not already appeared in the daily press and in current periodical literature.

Very truly yours,

VAUGHN W. COOPER,
Lieut. Colonel, General Staff,
Executive Officer, G-2.

ml

MAILED G/2 W. D. MAR 22 1928
P M

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

MAR 1922

500 E. Brooks St.
Norman, Okla.
Mar. 20, 1922

Intelligent Dept.
Washington, D.C.
Dear Sir:

Do you have any information on the confunce held in Cuba either in paper, pamphlet or book form?

If you do will you please send the same to the above address.

If there is any charge I will gladly pay for it.

Thank you,
Margaret L. Stuart

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report 3020-b

CUBA (Political) 4-1 1928 2657-g-283

Subject : Trend of recent and current events

1. There seems to be developing in the economic and political departments of the life of the Island, a certain spirit of unrest. In my opinion, this may be attributed to two factors:

2. ECONOMIC : RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 2 1928

(a) Sugar : Stated in brief, the economic factors may be listed as follows : First in importance is the result of the sugar limitation. This limitation has the effect of leaving standing in the field, one third of the sugar crop of Cuba. As sugar represents over 80% of all Cuban products, it is very readily seen that this is indeed a severe blow, affecting people in all walks of life, from the farmer to the banker.

Last year, as a result of restriction, many of the sugar centrales had to actually ration many of their permanent laborers. I have been told that this will have to be put into effect again this year. Business men of prominence, who have been on the Island anywhere from 15 to 20 years, tell me that there will be great hardship and suffering, especially in the later months of the summer, August, September and October, and this resulting hardship may be reflected in actual political unrest.

(b) Public Expenditures : There seems to be much dissension in the outlying districts of the Island over the fact that their system of taxation and expenditures are such that, for example, the money collected by the Government in Camagüey Province, will be spent in the beautification and glorification of the City of Havana. The public works of Havana simply represent one item of the tremendous overhead that this small Island country carries in its capitol city and bears through the maintenance of an extensive foreign service.

3. POLITICAL :

(a) Election : It is rumored that the election held on March 5th, 1928, for the purpose of selecting delegates for the National Constitutional Convention, now in session, was greatly camouflaged and the opposition largely controlled by "hush" money and that the election does not represent the concensus of opinion of the voters.

(b) Prorogue : The present incumbent of the office of President, General Machado, went into office on a platform of opposition to reelection, but things have now changed. They proposed to modify the constitution so as to permit of the extension of the term of office of General Machado for two years. This extension was also to include most of the Secretaries and other prominent politicians. This seemed to be so easy of accomplishment, that the ambitious President decided thathe would have this extension of office apply to the other officials, but that he would get himself nominated for reelection for a term of six years and it seems that he will be able to accomplish this.

There appears in this morning's paper, an article to the effect that there is a movement on foot to have the extension of office apply to all government officials, including the governors of the provinces, city aldermen and what not. There is much opposition to this steam roller process of perpetuating the present government. Evidence of this opposition is treated briefly in report bearing date of April 26, No. 2958 (3110-b).

2657-g-283/2

4. I conclude from this brief survey that the Island, especially the poor people, will suffer almost to the point of starvation and that this lends a very favorable situation from which may arise political unrest.

James C R Schwenck
JAMES C.R.SCHWENCK
Major, GS., M/A.

From: M/A., Havana No. 2957 April 26,1928.

cc Embassy

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

DATE 5/2/48.

File No. 2652-g-2831/1

L. A. No. Lax - 2957

From: RECORD SECTION, G-2

To:

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Far Eastern Section

Latin American Section

Air Liaison Officer

Communication Section

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

3110-b
41 1928 2657-9-253
2

CUBA (Political)

Subject : Cabinet changes in Cuba

1. As an introduction to this report, see report 3020-b, which should be read prior to this report.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 2 1928

2. The unrest and dissatisfaction with the present administration has been evidenced by certain cabinet unrest and resignations.

(a) ZAYAS BAZAN, Secretary of Gobernacion, or, Interior.

On April 15th, when I was in Camaguey, I heard from what I considered to be a most reliable source, that Zayas Bazán had resigned his portfolio as Sec'y of Gobernacion and that he was on his way to Camagüey. The secret service agents of General Machado shadowed him throughout his stay in Camagüey . This shadowing was initiated by a personal telephone call from the President at 3:30 in the morning.

Zayas Bazán is an energetic man, popular with the masses, especially in his native province of Camagüey, is said to be honest, but a firebrand, and ambitious to obtain for himself the Presidency. His resignation is attributed to his dissatisfaction with the proposed change in the constitution, whereby the President will either have a long extension or term or be reelected for a term of six years.

I have been informed from a reliable source, that whereas the resignation of Bazán has not been accepted, or the acceptance has not been announced, my informer tells me that he saw the letter of resignation submitted and that it will be accepted. He also informs me that he does not think that Bazán has a sufficient following to cause any material trouble.

(b) DR. RAFAEL ITURRALDE, Secretary of War and Navy :

Another presidential aspirant trying to capitalize the unrest in the country, chiefly due to economic conditions, as I have pointed out, is Dr. Iturralde, Sec'y of War and Navy.

I received this story from a reliable source: Sometime ago, Dr. Iturralde conceived this plan to prevent the reelection of General Machado and to improve his chances for election. He made a secret contract with a German, name unknown to me, for the consideration of $50,000 - the German's part of the contract was that he was to proceed to some of the larger cities in the United States and through newspapers and such comic periodicals as " Life", he was to boost Dr. Iturralde for President and ridicule and expose the present administration as represented by the personality of General Machado.

He furthers informs me that when Zayas Bazán's resignation was first rumored and Iturralde mentioned as replacing Bazán, Iturralde informed his Agent that they had better not act at this time, inasmuch as Iturralde's prestige would be increased when he became Secretary of Interior and he would wait for that appointment before he started his propaganda.

There then occurred between Iturralde and his Agent, some dissatisfaction over advance payments. In some way, a Captain of the Cuban Army got wind that this German was engaged in some intrigue and shooting in the dark, so to speak, he told this man that he would be"bumped off" if he did not stop. General Herrera, Chief of Staff, asked the Secret Service Agents to arrest the German and confine him for deportation. The German Agent became afraid and went to the Judicial Police, i.e., Secret Service, for protection. He made affidavits in regard to the whole scheme and substantiates his story by showing authentic correspondence between the parties concerned. This matter was then taken up directly with General Machado and Iturralde's resignation demanded and received.

He has been replaced by GENERAL CARLOS ROJAS - a newspaper biographical sketch of whom is given herewith:

(c) CARLOS M. de ROJAS y CRUZAT, born March 14,1862, C'ardenas, Matanzas.

Joined Revolutionary Army, January 26,1896, under General Lacret y Morlot.

Appointed Major, February 26,1896, by General Maceo, approved by General Lacret and assumed command of CARDENAS Regiment of the Matanzas Division, on March 2nd.

From : M/A., Havana Report 2958 April 26,1928

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Appointed Lt. Colonel, April 20, 1896
Appointed Colonel, September 11, 1896 : both promotion by General Lacret.
Appointed Brig. General, July 1, 1897, and when war ended was Chief of
1st Brigade of the 1st Division of the 5th Corps.
After the war, he was Mayor of Cárdenas.
Appointed Colonel of the Rural Guards on April 11, 1903, by Decree of President Palma.
Appointed Chief of Artillery, June 26h, 1905, by Presidential Decree.
Transferred to Infantry April 9, 1909, during the administration of President Gomez and named Commander of the 2nd Regiment.
Assumed Command of the Army October 24, 1910, by Presidential decree.
This assignment terminated on November 9, 1910, and he was appointed Chief of Infantry Brigade.
Appointed Inspector General of the Armed Forces on Dec. 13, 1910.
Appointed to Temporary Command of the Army November 16, 1912, until February 7, 1913.
Retired from the Army July 24, 1913.
Recently elected delegate to the Constitutional Convention, which office he will now resign.

At first, it seemed that General Herrera, Chief of Staff, was involved with Dr. Iturralde in his scheme. However, General Herrera was able to explain his connection with the matter satisfactorily to the President and there is now, as I understand it, no question as to his honesty and loyalty in this regard. None of this has appeared in the newspapers and should be treated as confidential.

(d) DR. RAFAEL MARTÍNEZ ORTIZ, Secretary of State.

There has been a persistent rumor for some time that Dr. Ortiz is going to resign his portfolio. It is now known that Dr. Ortiz will proceed to Europe for a six months vacation and on account of his age, French extraction and his love for France, I personally doubt very much if he will return to this country. (Opinion).

The following clipping appeared in the EVENING NEWS, April 24th, which is written in a comic vein:

"Plenty more resignation rumors today. The Zayas Bazán rumor, of course, is still floating around in some eddies and two or three more have been dug up. This time it is Sanchez Aballi who will leave the Department of Communications; Dr. Barraque will retire from the Department of Justice, and Dr. Iturralde will get out of the Department of War and Marine. First thing we know, some one will get out a report that Dr. Cespedes will leave the Department of Public Works. Other resignations that have been sent in by the "resigning circles" are Dr. Martinez Ortiz from the State Department, Dr. Ferrera from the Washington Ambassadorship and Garcia Kohly from the Cuban Embassy at Madrid. Don't anyone stand on their heads until these things come to pass".

3. Due to the factors, economic and political, treated in this report and 2957-a-243
Report No. 2957 (3020-b), I am of the opinion that almost anything may happen in Cuba within a short while. However, at present, the administration has an efficient Secret Service; I believe that they have a loyal Army and Police Force, and since this policy is to act quickly and effectively against any opposition to the Government and its policies, and that this administration will be able to maintain itself and to perpetuate itself for a term of six years, even though there may be opposition.

James C R Schwenck
JAMES C.R.SCHWENCK
MAJOR GS M/A.

From : M/A., Havana. No. 2958 April 26, 1928

cc Embassy

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

41
3020-b
4-1 19280 2457-g-283
MAY 18

G-2 Report

CUBA (POLITICAL)

Subject : Trend of recent and current events

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. MAY 19 1928

1. When ex-Secretary of Gobernacion, Zayas Bazán, put in his resignation, I know it was a fact that he was shadowed by Secret Service men, the Government evidently thinking that he might cause trouble. There was much speculation as to the reaction that this resignation would have, not only in the Federal Government, but in the provincial government circles of Camagüey.

2. In the meantime, one of Bazán's daughters was married at a fashionable ceremony in one of the Havana churches, at which event President Machado was present. He was received with applause. A week later, Bazán was in personal conference with the President. The opposition seems to have been smoothed out and Sunday's HAVANA POST, May 13th, carried an article to the effect that Zayas Bazán is going to stump for the extension of the term of President Machado. This is a complete reversal of policy on the part of Bazán and my conclusion is that he is being well paid for this change of attitude.

3. Colonel Mendieta, who occupies the position of Chief of Police, Havana, is known to be a powerful and dangerous man politically. He has been on official leave, with full pay, for months, and another man, Colonel Perdomo, who, I understand, is very amenable to the policies of President Machado, is functioning in the office of Chief of Police. It is also rumored that Mendieta is going to advocate publically the extension of President Machado's present term.

4. I am of the opinion that the present Government is going to pass over the election period and either reelect or prorogue its President and other officials and this will be accomplished at a tremenduous expense to the public treasury. In other words, this Government will maintain itself through "graft". This fact is spoken of on all sides, but there seems very little resentment on the part of any class of people and I can only account for this by using the word "costumbre".

James C.R. Schwenck
JAMES C.R. SCHWENCK
Major, GS. M/A.

From ; M/A. Habana. No. 2961 May 14, 1928.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

3110-b
4-1 1928 2657-g-253
MAY 10

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

SUBJECT: Cabinet Changes in Cuba.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 10 1928 2657-g-253(2)

1. With further reference to our Report 2958 of April 26th covering the above subject.

2. ZAYAS BAZÁN : The resignation of Bazán was finally accepted at a cabinet meeting held on the 9th inst. President Machado made a very fine eulogy of Bazán, of his loyalty and industry, mentioned that Bazán was one of his staunch campaigners in the last election and recommended to the Cabinet that they go on record as stating that they appreciate his fine qualities and that with regret they see him retire. Bazán, it is stated, will return to Camagüey to devote himself to his private affairs, remaining, as always a true Liberal and will work for the reelection of President Machado.

One of the reasons given for the retirement of Bazán is that he objected to the so-called coalition method of insuring the reelection of the President, that Bazán preferred to see the Liberal party work out its own destiny without help from the other parties.

3. GENERAL MANUEL DELGADO has succeeded Bazán as Secretary of Gobernacion, coming from the Secretariat of Agriculture, Commerce and Labor. (See our Report No. 2682 of August 29, 1925, giving an outline of General Delgado's career. 2657-g-253/7

4. The post of Secretary of Agriculture, Commerce and Labor, left vacant by the transfer of General Delgado to Gobernacion, has been filled by the appointment of GENERAL EUGENIO MOLINET :

Born : Guáimaro, Camaguey, March 20, 1865.
Studied medicine and pharmacy in Havana, graduated and established practice in Havana.
Soon after the War of 1895 began, he joined the Military Sanitary Corps and rose to be General. At the end of the war, he was Chief of that Corps.
In 1900, when ex President Menocal left the position of Chief of Police, Havana, to develop Central CHAPARRA, Molinet was one of his most active assistants. Molinet then became Administrator of Central DELICIAS and when Menocal, in 1913, became President, Molinet took over the administration of both CHAPARRA and DELICIAS.
When the Sugar Defense Commission was organized last year, President Machado appointed Molinet as the head thereof.
Has been the leading sugar man of Cuba for years and all Presidents have sought his advice on the affairs of that industry.

5. As previously advised, Dr. Ortiz has been considering a vacation in Europe for some time. He left here a few days ago enroute to Europe via the United States. During his absence, DR. FRANCISCO MARÍA FERNANDEZ, Secretary of Health and Charities, will take over the Secretariat of State as well. (See our Report 2782, June 9, 1926, for sketch of Dr. Fernandez). It is understood that Dr. Fernandez will perform only at official functions, leaving the routine work of the State Department in the hands of Sub-Secretary Dr. Miguel A. de la Campa. It is the intention at the present time to have Dr. Fernandez retain the Secretariat of Health and Charities as well.

2271-g-17

James C R Schwenck
JAMES C.R.SCHWENCK
Major, GS, M/A.

From: M/A., Havana No. 2962 May 14, 1928.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Date 5/19/42 6

File No. 2657-9-2814

M.A. No. 4a2-2962

From: RECORD SECTION, G-2

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OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
OCT 31 1929
WAR DEPT.

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3110-b
7

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Return of Secretary of State.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. OCT 30 1929

1. Dr. Rafael Martínez Ortiz, Secretary of State, returned October 24, 1929, from a visit to Europe. He has been absent for approximately four months and was an official representative of the Cuban Government at the opening ceremonies of the Sevilla and Barcelona expositions in Spain, after which he toured throughout several European countries.

2. During his absence Dr. Francisco Maria Fernández, Secretary of Sanitation, has been Acting Secretary of State.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3138. Date: October 25, 1929.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

262 DEPT OF STATE
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
JUN 29

G-2 Report

CUBA (Population and Social conditions)
(DOMESTIC PRESS) 4-1 1928 2657-9-284

SUBJECT : Domestic Press

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. JUN 22 1928

1. Another newspaper has entered the already well supplied field in Havana - EL EXCELSIOR. It is an afternoon newspaper. The Board of Directors is composed of :

Director General	:	Wilfredo Fernandez
Director		Manuel Aznar
Administrator		Jose Sobrino

2. Señor Fernandez is the leader of the Conservative party and a Senator. Señor Aznar was formerly Director of EL PAIS. The paper is very friendly to General Machado and in it has appeared exclusively articles signed by the President. Senator Fernandez is favoring the idea of a single candidate for the three parties. There is nothing to especially distinguish this paper from many of the others operating in Havana.

3. EL MUNDO : The Editor-in-Chief for El Mundo for the past six years has been Antonio Gonzalez Mora. He resigned on April 15th, the reason given being ill health, but differences with the Govin family is generally considered as being the real reason. He has persisted in running the paper according to his own ideas and did not take kindly to suggestions from the owners. His place has been taken by DR. RICARDO R. LANCIS.

Dr. Lancis has had a very distinguished career and is very friendly to the U.S. He is a lawyer by profession, is extremely friendly with the President of Cuba and has acted on many occasions as an advisor for the present administration. He has spent some years in the U.S. and has a fine knowledge of the English language. Formerly, he was Assistant Dist. Attorney of Audiencia, Habana; President of the Audiencia of Santiago, Matanzas and Habana; Fiscal of the Supreme Court; in 1922, was Secretary of Interior in the so called "honest cabinet" of President Zayas. Since that time he has devoted his talents exclusively to the law.

4. EL HERALDO DE CUBA : It has been rumored, but not confirmed, that a controlling interest in this paper has passed from Ambassador Ferrara to the above mentioned Señor Mora, formerly of the MUNDO. The Cuban Ambassador in Washington holds a controlling interest in the HERALDO, but lately has not figured in its administration to any great extent; at least, outwardly. The report states that the policy of the new management will be to continue the HERALDO as an aggressive liberal organ.

James C.R. Schwenck.
JAMES C.R.SCHWENCK
Major, GS M/A.

Office of M/A, HAVANA #2976

June 15,1928.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Population and Social Conditions)

SUBJECT: Domestic Press : Sale of EL PAIS

RECEIVED G-2 W. D. DEC 8 1928

1. EL PAIS, an afternoon newspaper of Habana, formerly operated by Mr. Alfredo Hornedo, a member of the House of Representatives, has been acquired by a Cuban Company known as LA EMPRESA CUBANA de PUBLICIDAD.

2. The actual purchasers are not known at this time, but it is suspected that the firm of MESTRE y MACHADO is well represented in the deal. President Machado was formerly a member of the above mentioned firm. Senator Wilfredo Fernandez has been mentioned as the new Editor. He has been heretofore connected with the EXCELSIOR, also an afternoon paper which is the mouthpiece of the Administration.

3. As both the EXCELSIOR and the EL PAIS are now presumably under the same management, it is likely that the pAIS will be issued at another time of the day, rather than compete with the EXCELSIOR for the late afternoon field.

4. Sefior Hornedo also owned the UNION MARKET, which constituted a monopoly in the City of Habana, and the newspaper and the market supplemented one another financially. The MARKET has also passed into the hands of the company buying the newspaper, altho it will lose its monopolistic character evidently, due to the fact that a decree has recently been issued looking forward to the establishment of free markets at least three times a week.

5. In connection with the previous ownership of the PAIS, it will be recalled that they had acquired some planes for the early delivery of their paper in Santa Clara, which service was interrupted by a War Department order prohibiting the flying of private planes over Habana after 3 p.m. The PAIS did not object very strenuously to this order and retired their planes, so it is probably true, as rumored, that the reason behind the above mentioned order, was the fact that the planes were expensive and as they were in bad condition, rather than repair influence was brought to bear to secure said order so as to save the prestige of the PAIS.

James C R Schwenck
JAMES C.R.SCHWENCK
MAJOR GS MA.

M/A Report No.3038 November 24,1928.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
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G-2 Report

CUBA (Population and Social Conditions)

Subject: Domestic Press.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. SEP 13 1929

1. On August 22, 1929, LA SEMANA, a weekly publication, printed two editorials, translations of which are enclosed. On August 23, 1929, the newspaper, DIARIO DE LA MARINA, reported the seizure by the police of all those copies of LA SEMANA which were destined for Santiago de Cuba. The issue has not been confiscated in Havana, but, according to unconfirmed reports, the local police in Marianao and smaller towns have confiscated the copies received there. In spite of the fact that LA SEMANA has at various times contained anti-Government editorials, this is the first time, so far as can be ascertained, that it has been molested in any way. The enclosed editorials appear to be little, if any, stronger than most of the editorials which have appeared in previous issues of the same paper. It is probable that they have been found more offensive on account of the Government desiring the nation to present a united front against any increase in the tariff on sugar.

2. The two subsequent numbers of LA SEMANA were permitted to circulate freely throughout the island but neither of these issues contained comment in any way calculated to arouse the ire of the administration.

3. On the date of publication of the offending editorials, the President issued a decree ordering the expulsion from Cuba of Salomón Ferrufino, a Honduran, and the principal cartoonist in the employ of LA SEMANA, on the ground that he was an undesirable alien. It is understood that the management of LA SEMANA protested against the deportation of its most popular artist and a delegation was sent by the Reporters' Association to the Secretary of the Interior to intercede on his behalf. The Government has lent a deaf ear to these protestations.

4. About a week ago the Director of LA SEMANA, Mr. Sergio Carbó, left suddenly for the United States. From sources believed to be reliable, information has been received that Mr. Carbó was given a "friendly" warning that it would be well for him to leave the country within forty-eight hours. He is said to have embarked on a special airplane in the early hours of the morning, which circumstance would indicate that the journey was not undertaken voluntarily.

5. As LA SEMANA was the only remaining periodical to speak plainly about Cuban political and economic conditions, it would appear that the Government has taken steps to stifle all adverse comment originating in opposition circles. Mention might also be made that the local press reported this morning that the Department of the Interior has requested the District Attorney to take action against another weekly, BILLIKEN, on the ground that it "contains pictures offensive to good morals and an editorial strongly criticizing the Government."

Sources: Embassy and Confidential.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, Gen.Staff, M.A.

From: M.A. Havana. Report No. 3104 Date: September 6, 1929.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
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Translation

FACTS AND FAIRY TALES

According to the brilliant report rendered by the Chief of the Coinage Section to the talented and genial Secretary of Finance, Dr. Gutierrez de Celis - who himself indulged in scandalous self-advertisement in the prologue of a report sent to the honorable and energetic President of the Republic - there are $178,000,000 in circulation in Cuba, of which, according to the statistics, $48.47 corresponds to each citizen. This most brilliant report is prepared at the request of the League of Nations.

And look at the coincidence! We read in the NEW YORK TIMES of August 11 that in the United States, the country where workmen are paid $10 and $12 a day, where the most potent business concerns of the Universe are located, where there are 25 million automobiles traveling the streets, the money in circulation is only $39.34 per citizen. . . This report was prepared by the American officials - who use no adjectives - also at the request of the League of Nations.

All of which shows, according to our most competent Chief of the Section of Coinage, in his report to the young and illustrious Secretary of Finance, Dr. Gutierrez de Celis, that, according to the money in circulation, we are much richer than the Americans.

Get out your headlines in the largest type, dear colleagues! Those who complain of bad conditions, of national ruin, are shameless members of the opposition who delay the triumphal march of this providential Government, so thoroughly identified with the martyrs who patriotically shed their blood, etc., etc.!

CUBA IS THE RICHEST COUNTRY OF THE WORLD!

We are unfortunates, reader. We live on words. What with luminous reports and eloquent speeches, our time passes miserably. We die sadly in misery, reading newspaper headlines which say that we are great, fortunate and powerful. If it is true that there exists a God who sees all things, will He some day take pity upon us, giving us a modest, laborious and quiet Government which will begin by recognizing that everything is still to be done in Cuba, from liberty to industry, from civic education to a concept of true democratic cooperation?

A government which speaks little, which does not love glory so immoderately, which is not so illustrious, so brilliant, so energetic, so wise. . . but which solves problems little by little as is done in small nations like ours where the past - in spite of unsheathed machetes and patriots who offered their blood, etc. - is insignificant by comparison with the gigantic work which we must tackle in order not to disappear.

And as to unsheathed machetes: we must not talk too much about our history because all excess is ridiculous. Our epic lies in the future. The day when an approximate statistical paper is prepared of the men born in Cuba who were of military age and took arms in defense of our liberty, and when we compare those with the overwhelming numbers of Cubans who fought under the Spanish flag or who remained neutral, a new generation will doubt our capacity for self-government. We are not a war-like nation nor a liberating one, nor is this the road for us. In '95 - well did Maximo Gomez know it, and well do some surviving veterans know it - the majority of the creole population was indifferent, and there was a legion of "guerrillas." The triumphal attack was made by a very few. This talk of "our great love of liberty" is a figure of speech. It is now that we should begin to struggle for our real liberty. It is now that we should form the character of the Cuban, without looking backwards too much, because we might have to blush. It is the bitter truth, but it is necessary to tell it in these times of conventional lies!

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT

Translation

GLORY TO THE FOREIGNERS

After so much coming and going, so much allusion to the foresight and intelligence of "our great and good friends of North America," after so much invisible and subterranean work on the part of our Executive, in whose supreme ability we have been made to trust; after so many mysterious errands in Washington and so much bragging in the Foreign Office, a Yankee Senatorial Committee has just thrown at our heads a sugar tariff of 2.20, absolutely ruinous for the future of our boasted prime industry, "ours" in spite of the fact that practically all of it is in foreign hands. We have glittered. Notwithstanding the headlines in the newspapers and the stories about machete and blood which has been shed, we have to admit this scandalous defeat of the endeavors of the Government which sought, as usual, to make head without anyone's help against this very serious situation, trusting, doubtless in the brilliant intelligence and the Jovian energy which have made it famous. Public opinion was scorned. Congress, the press - what a Congress and what a press! - gave the expected vote of confidence to General Machado, the ineffable arbiter of our destinies, the omniscient and all powerful champion of our defense. Only LA SEMANA raised its ardent voice and demanded an immediate and stentorian protest such as should be made in every country threatened with death. Diplomatic pounding was nevertheless preferred undoubtedly in order to make us smoke like a great power and so that it might be affirmed in a future speech that "Cuba is the most influential nation of the world" . . . The result of all this has been a round cipher bruising and deadly like a revolver bullet: 2.20.

If it were not that we are Cubans and feel as Cubans and are just as patriotic as General Machado, although we don't harp upon it every day, everywhere and every hour, we would say that this slap in the face was properly administered to us. There is a shameful and unqualifiable fact which surely the greater part of the public does not know and which it is well to denounce so as not to commit the injustice of placing all the blame for the catastrophe on the Senate of the United States! AMONG THE 38 GOVERNMENTS WHICH HAVE PROTESTED AGAINST THE PROPOSED AMERICAN TARIFFS ACCORDING TO A NOTE ISSUED TO THE PRESS BY SENATOR SMOOT, THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA DOES NOT APPEAR. And Cuba is the nation which will be the most harmed by the new tariff, to such a degree that its adoption would result in the annihilation of our stricken Republic!

Is this not indeed monstrous? LA SEMANA in one of its articles recommended concretely an official declaration, vibrant opposition, which should be made publicly by the President in the name of all the citizens, as has been done in all the countries which resented in any way the new tariff steps which are being discussed at this time. In the concert of nations Cuba has played the part of a country which accepts without protest the terrible halter, which all the other exporting nations have repudiated not only by the pens of its journalists but also by the mouths of its governors. What right have we now to complain of an aggression which we tacitly accept in a moment of inexplicable international cowardliness?

If anything is recovered in the painful days to come; if anything better than what the Washington Parliamentary Committees recommend is obtained in the end when the new tariff bill reaches the hemicycle of the Capitol, we should thank on our knees the Governments of the thirty-eight nations who indirectly defended us when we didn't dare do it ourselves.

Glory to the strong men who, in defense of millions of citizens dared to face the administration of the great imperialist people with a demand for justice and rectification, because on the stout action of those thirty-eight foreign Governments depends the salvation of our defenseless country!

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Population and Social Conditions)

Subject: Domestic Press.

RECEIVED G-2 W.D. SEP 17 1929

1. Supplementing despatch No. 3104 of September 6, 1929, subject as above, the entire publication of LA SEMANA, which was to have appeared on September 11, 1929, was confiscated by the Havana police in accordance with orders from General Manuel Delgado, Secretary of the Interior. The reason given for the confiscation of the publication was that the editor had failed to comply with regulations prohibiting the publication of obscene articles and pictures.

2. The complete suppression of LA SEMANA leaves the newspaper and periodical field in Havana without any publication in opposition to the government.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3107. Date: Sept. 12, 1929.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

2657-g-284/1

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Domestic Press.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 27 1929

1. LA SEMANA, whose suppression was reported in report No. 3107, dated September 12, 1929, has renewed its publication with an edition dated today under the management of its former editor, Sergio Carbó. It appears that Carbó has settled his difficulties with President Machado.

2. Carbó returned from the United States a few weeks ago and it is generally believed his return signifies that he has made satisfactory arrangements with the government for his personal safety.

3. In this edition the paper resembles the earlier issues, although the announced policy of the editor is that it will devote less space to comic and satirical matters and more space to stories and serious articles.

4. Its attitude toward the present administration is given in the paper as follows:

> "I am an adversary of General Machado's government in so far as that government is blameworthy. That is what I am and what I continue to be by virtue of my patriot's conscience, which no one has bent and which no one will bend. But I am opposed to my government entirely within the perimeter of the national coasts. In order to upset the government, if at any time such action be considered necessary, I believe that the Cubans have the right -- the supreme right of all peoples -- to accomplish it with weapons in their hands, facing the governmental bullets and dying with faces toward the sun under Cuban fire on the bloody and afflicted Cuban land, in execrable and fratricidal strife. But these, who, prostituting the idea of liberty, commit the crime of calling upon the North Americans to intervene as avengers in our national discords ought to be judged as abominable traitors."

5. It is generally believed that LA SEMANA will continue to criticize the present administration in a somewhat milder form than it did prior to its suppression. From reliable sources I have learned that the concession on the part of the government for the continuance of the publication is that any criticisms that they make be confined solely to the official acts of the administration and that criticism of a purely personal nature will not be tolerated.

6. A copy of LA SEMANA is enclosed herewith.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3167. Date: Nov. 20, 1929.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

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OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
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WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Subsidy of the Press.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 17 1930

1. As frequently reported, the press of Cuba under the present administration has not been able to give true expression of thought or make statements derogatory in any way to the present administration for fear of molestation on the part of the government. However, during the past two months some relaxation in this respect has been witnessed and statements have appeared which would indicate that the President is taking a more liberal point of view toward the press.

2657-Q-304(2)

2. As reported in my report No. 3179 of December 10, 1929 (index No. 3700-b), the President announced his intention of bringing about a complete reorganization of political parties after the elections of November of this year. This announcement precipitated the discussion of the need of such reorganization in practically all of the publications and has engaged the attention of the editors since that time. Judging from the volume of the comment in the papers and the eagerness with which they welcomed this question, it would seem to show that the President's announcement was interpreted as releasing the editors from any previously imposed obligation to keep silent on this subject.

3. All the newspapers seem to be in unison on the subject that the reorganization of political parties is a vital necessity for the friendly development of the country's political life, their divergence of views being confined solely to the date when it should take effect. Most of the papers have expressed opinions in favor of immediate reorganization. One of the most prominent of these newspapers which, until now, strongly adhered to the desires of the present organization, took issue to the President's idea of postponing the reorganization until next November. In its edition of January 5, this paper - The Diario de la Marina - said in part, "It is impossible to govern with skeletons and much less possible to accomplish any lasting work. And what are the political parties today if not skeletons of those from which the popular flesh has been detached?

"Cuba requires above all else that it be able to manifest itself freely by means of its parties and that its faculty to create as many others as it may consider necessary should not be abridged. All the pettifogging sophistries susceptible of employment against this pristine right on which rest and repose the life and order of modern societies constitute offenses against the proper development of institutions for which the country in which they are perpetrated is accustomed to pay heavily.

"Cuba has no reason to suffer the abnormality of fictional politics in which mere shadows, than which the political parties today are nothing else, arrogate to themselves the representation of the country and present the sad spectacle of so-called "finger" candidacies, with which "finger" it is not possible to touch the sun. Do the few persons who act as representatives of the national will believe by chance that it is either just, logical or plausible that the people be pushed aside at the moment of ascertaining if it is or is not willing that they should continue acting as its mandataries?

"In view of such a gigantic fraud why does not the President use his influence to the end that steps be taken for the immediate reorganization of the parties, and why, especially, do not the Congressmen, offering proof of their patriotic disinterestedness, reestablish in all its parts the Crowder Code, revised a thousand times, mutilated as many more times and suspended altogether in response to the needs of the politicians?

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3205. Date: Jan. 13, 1930.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

"The country cannot longer continue to support a state of affairs that will end by subjecting it to the political somnolence in which certain Asiatic and Spanish-American peoples are to be found.

"The present is a fiction, a farce, a soporific and insufferable comedy without wit; a comedy applauded by a claque which is already tired of its said role."

4. This article is especially interesting when read in conjunction with President Machado's speech at an ovation accorded him a few days previously in Santa Clara, his native province, where, referring to his intentions regarding the reorganization of the political parties, he stated in brief that after the parties have been reorganized, the people would demand that the present party leaders continued to enjoy the confidence of their parties and would thus be confirmed in their leadership.

5. Despite the apparently more liberal attitude on the part of the government, actual interference on three occasions with the press has taken place. These instances are listed below. 2675-B-310

a. As reported in my report No. 3196 dated December 26, 1929, LA VOZ DEL PUEBLO, a weekly of minor importance which has been published off and on since 1923, began to publish not only declarations by the leaders of the Union Nacionalista, but also editorial comment strongly criticizing the present administration. The paper continued as a weekly until the last issue, which was to have appeared on January 11, 1930, at which time the government suppressed it. Prior to its suppression, the editor of the paper called at the Embassy to state that he believed his life was in danger and requested the Embassy's protection. He stated at that time that his fears were based entirely upon the circumstances that certain rumors regarding his alleged complicity with army officers in a plot to assassinate the President were exactly the same as those current shortly before the murder of another oppositionist newspaper man about a year ago.

b. On November 23, 1929, the police entered the offices of a small weekly comic paper, LA PROTESTA, seized all the copies which were ready for distribution. This paper has not reappeared. The motive for its suppression was the publication in its columns of a manifesto signed by leaders of the Union Nacionalista.

c. On January 4, 1930 the military authorities at Santiago arrested Carlos Dellunde and Jose Arroyo, directors of LA REGION and of LA CORRESPONDENCIA, of Santiago, and sent them under military guard to Havana, where they were placed at the disposition of the secret police. The charges against them were that in the publication of their respective papers, reports were made which the government considered of an alarming nature regarding the reestablishment of the Vice-Presidency by means of a new constitutional assembly and the reduction of the army by half for the purpose of cutting down governmental expenses. Another alleged act on their part was the printing of a report that the President intends to go to Europe for his health, leaving the government in charge of a Vice-President. The intervention of the military authorities in this case was justified by the government by virtue of the present laws which provide that the military courts should have cognizance of any offences prejudicial to the army or its efficiency. These two editors were placed in Cabañas Fortress in Havana.

(1) Considerable agitation against the arrest of these two editors was made in the public press of Havana and on January 8, 1930, President

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Machado released these men following a meeting at the Presidential Palace at which a large delegation representing the Cuban Press Association was present. The meeting was held at the request of the Press Association and ended in an atmosphere of complete harmony. At this meeting the President took occasion to deplore the "unpatriotic campaign" which certain enemies of his administration are carrying on, both here and abroad. The representatives of the press pledged him their absolute support and the representatives of the two Santiago editors denied that they had ever opposed his government and that their conduct had never been meant to be in any way connected with any of the elements unfriendly to the administration, whose chief thought was that of demanding foreign intervention in Cuban affairs. The President was apparently satisfied with the assurances of the Press Association and announced that the two detained editors would be immediately set at liberty. He explained the action of having them arrested by the military authorities rather than by the civil authorities by stating that had they been arrested by the civil authorities, they might have been sentenced to as much as 180 days in prison and that it would have been impossible for him to act in the case; whereas by having been taken by the military authorities, he could release them from the Cabañas Fortress without any further formality.

(2) The President further stated at the time that he would give careful consideration to any proposals which the Press Association might wish to submit to him, looking to the enactment of legislation governing relations between the government and the press.

6. It is seen from the above that the government, while still dealing with the press with a very firm hand, has slightly changed its attitude and it is believed that in the future a more liberal view on the part of the government will be given to a freer expression of thought in the Cuban press.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and confidential.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3205. Date: Jan. 13, 1930.

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CUBA (Social)

Subject: Domestic Press.

WAR DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. FEB 19 1930

1. With reference to despatch No. 3038 dated November 24, 1928, subject as above, in which was reported the sale of EL PAIS, an afternoon newspaper, to LA EMPRESA CUBANA de PUBLICIDAD and the formation of the combined paper EXCELSIOR-EL PAIS, announcement has just been made of the withdrawal of Wilfredo Fernandez from the journalistic field and the sale of EXCELSIOR-EL PAIS to Alfredo Hornedo, former owner of EL PAIS.

2. Prior to the announcement, information had been secured to the effect that Sr. Hornedo intended to re-enter the journalistic field, the reason given that the government in the last two or three months has permitted sufficient freedom of the press for the establishment of a newspaper whose policy would be opposed to the present regime, but not inflamatory. However, at the time of the securing of this information, it was believed that Sr. Hornedo intended to establish an entirely independent newspaper.

3. Since the purchase of this paper, no radical change has been observed in the editorial policy of EXCELSIOR-EL PAIS. No reason was given for the sale, but it is generally believed that it was due to the failure of LA EMPRESA CUBANA DE PUBLICIDAD to meet the financial obligations entered into with Sr. Alfredo Hornedo at the time of the original purchase.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and Confidential.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3225. Date: Feb. 13, 1930.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

2800-b

4-1 MAY 16 2657-g-24 1930

WAR DEPARTMENT

Subject: Press Censorship. 7

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 16 1930

CUBA (Social)

1. In one of its recent issues, KARIKATO, a weekly, which is rivaling LA SEMANA in its attacks against the government, published an editorial arraigning President Machado as the person chiefly to blame for the difficult political situation through which Cuba is now passing and accusing his political henchmen of doing nothing but filling their pockets during the period when the government was attacking individual liberty, the right of assembly, and freedom of expression.

2. The police authorities immediately sought a warrant through the courts against the editor of this magazine on a charge of defamatory libel. The Judge, however, refused to issue the warrant, stating that as President Machado was presumably the injured party, he, himself, must file a complaint in his own behalf. To date the President has not taken any action in this matter. This incident is cited as illustrative of the changed attitude of the Machado administration toward the press. Had such an article appeared six months ago in any newspaper, the police would have undoubtedly descended upon the office of the paper and forcibly suspended its publication.

J. T. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and Press.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3298. Date: May 12, 1930.

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CUBA (Social)

Subject: Press Censorship.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUN 17 1930

1. While the government's attitude toward the press has continued to be much more liberal than it was several months ago, two journals were recently victims of repressive measures for having been too free in attacking the President and his administration. LA SEMANA and EL DIA, the latter a recently resurrected opposition paper, suffered seizure of editions, in which it was alleged that defamatory articles had been inserted. After the deletion of the objectionable matter in the journals, they were allowed to resume publication. In the case of LA SEMANA, the Cuban Press Association intervened, protesting against what it described as an unofficial censorship of newspapers prior to their circulation.

2. While censorship in any form is a violation of the constitutional rights of freedom of expression of thought, it is the opinion of many who have observed the ethics of the average Havana newspaper that some form of censorship would be a very excellent and wise measure to enforce. The recent unjust attacks against the Cuban Telephone Company, in which practically all the leading newspapers of Havana took part for no other purpose than to gain popular favor, serves as an excellent example of the undesirable and unethical means that the newspapers of Havana will employ to gain circulation.

J. F. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Sources: Embassy and press.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3325. Date: June 12, 1930.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Principal Newspapers and Important Periodicals - Domestic.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUL 8 1930

1. A study of the Cuban press is made very difficult by the fact that not only are the ordinary statistics unavailable - there being no such thing as an Audit Bureau of Circulation - but also because the political character of the newspapers is continually changing. The figures on circulation given below are simply estimates of an average and, in general, represent the best newspaper opinion available. These figures, when finally arrived at, represent a considerable reduction from the estimates generally offered by the newspapers themselves. They are as follows:

Dailies	Daily	Sunday
El Mundo	45,000	61,000
El Pais	40,000	
Diario de la Marina	27,000	37,000
Heraldo de Cuba	16,000	
Diario de Cuba (Santiago)	12,000	
La Prensa	4,500	
Mercurio	4,000	
Diario Espanol	3,750	
La Lucha	2,000	
Comercial	2,000	
El Comercio	2,000	

Weeklies	
La Semana	40,000
Carteles	38,000
La Bohemia	30,000
Politica Comica	2,000
Karikato	2,000

English language dailies	Winter	Summer
Havana Post	15,000	8,000
Havana Evening Telegram	7,000	5,000
Evening News	1,500	1,500
Havana American	1,000	1,000

2. The big four - EL MUNDO, DIARIO DE LA MARINA, HERALDO DE CUBA, and EL PAIS - dominate the press of Havana, which is,in reality, the press of Cuba. EL MUNDO, with the largest circulation, is the most influential newspaper, the only other important morning paper being the DIARIO DE LA MARINA. From an advertising standpoint, these two newspapers represent the most essential media, since practically everyone in Cuba who reads a newspaper reads a morning one. HERALDO DE CUBA is issued at noon - a somewhat unfortunate hour - and EL PAIS is now issuing three editions in the afternoon.

3. Newspapers in Cuba do not reach the masses, due principally to three causes:

a. The high price for a newspaper - five cents a copy.
b. The high percentage of illiteracy in the population.
c. The lack of interest in politics and national affairs.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3337. Date: June 30, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

4. EL PAIS, which resembles a Hearst publication, has been making a great effort to increase its sale by means of sensational and popular articles and its circulation has increased tremendously in the past two or three months, largely because of its initiating the attack on the Cuban Telephone Company and its keeping the public informed of the activities of the Union Nacionalistas. It claims a circulation far in excess of that given in the above tabulation. This newspaper makes a speciality of murder stories and deliberately styles itself, "The paper of the People" - as such, frequently attacking the government without apparently having any very definite policy of its own.

5. The upward march of EL PAIS has caused considerable concern among the editors of DIARIO DE LA MARINA and EL MUNDO. The clientele of the DIARIO DE LA MARINA is, in general, more intelligent and cultured than that of any other Cuban newspaper. It is the oldest newspaper in Cuba and is received by the Spanish colony in about the same manner as Republicans in the United States used to receive the New York Tribune in the days of Greely. As such, its subscription list includes all business interests and societies in which the Spanish predominate. The editor of this newspaper realizes, however, that he is supporting a losing cause, inasmuch as the Spanish colony is dying out, and the future expansion of any newspaper will depend upon a large circulation among Cubans. It is possible that in this opportunity to widen its Cuban circulation can be found the reason for this newspaper's support of the protest against the Cuban Telephone Company. Obviously, a conservative newspaper of this type would not naturally be sympathetic to such a cause, but, like most of the Cuban press, it subscribed to it purely for means of circulation.

6. While EL MUNDO still dominates the newspaper field, it has suffered considerably in its circulation as a result of an incident which the Cuban laboring element construed as showing its hostility to that class. On March 20, 1930, the Cuban labor leaders called a protest strike of one day. EL MUNDO was the only Spanish paper which appeared on that day, the publishers taking the stand that if its employees did not appear for work on that day, they would not find their positions open to them when they returned. Since that time, labor leaders have been carrying on a campaign for the purpose of boycotting EL MUNDO, both in circulation and in advertising matter. While nothing but estimates are available, unbiased opinion is that this campaign has caused a reduction of about 25 per cent in EL MUNDO'S circulation and a corresponding reduction in its advertising matter. This paper has no fixed policy other than that of following blindly the leadership of the administration. An example of its wavering policy is exemplified in its attitude in the campaign against the Cuban Telephone Company. At the outset, it first supported the company, then offered itself as an arbitrator in the controversy, and finally, following the popular demand, became an ardent supporter of the opponents of the Company.

7. HERALDO DE CUBA is the official organ of the Liberal Party and the present administration. Its circulation has fallen off tremendously and it is now so suffering from lack of financial support, both in circulation and advertising, that its failure in the near future is generally predicted.

8. The comic weeklies have a very large circulation in Havana, but it is doubtful if they exert very much political influence. KARIKATO and POLITICA COMICA, the two weeklies that comment most on political affairs, have a comparatively small circulation, and exert very little influence. LA SEMANA, with the largest circulation of any weekly, and under the able leadership of Sergio Carbo, is the most influential of the weeklies, and has become extremely popular since the return of its editor after his

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3337. Date: June 30, 1930.

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summary deportation last summer for printing articles against the personal life of President Machado. BOHEMIA and CARTELES, with large circulations, do not comment on national and political affairs, their principal means of the circulation of news being confined to photographs of the events of the day.

9. In the English speaking colony, THE HAVANA POST still exerts some influence. It has described its attitude here as being that of a guest in a foreign country, and while it does not comment editorially on Cuban politics or on the internal affairs of the country, it does, by news items, support the present administration as strongly as any of the Spanish dailies. Much space is devoted in its columns to Cuban-American relations, and although it is not unfriendly to the United States, it is always ready to support anything that would put Cuba in the most favorable light. Typical of this attitude was its series of articles on the sugar tariff and its support of the Embassy and the State Department in the Barlow case.

10. There are very few newspapers outside of Havana of any importance. Practically every town of 5,000 or more has its own four-page newspaper, the news in this type of paper, however, being confined to articles of local interest. The most important newspaper outside of Havana is the DIARIO DE CUBA, published in Santiago. This paper has morning and evening editions and circulates throughout the provinces of Oriente and Camaguey. It is representative of the Liberal Party with an independent leaning. LA INDEKPENDENCIA, another Santiago paper, with a circulation of about 8,000, was at one time anti-governmental in its attitude and its editor was arrested and sent to Havana for one of its defamatory articles, but was later released. Since that time the editor has been somewhat restrained in his opinions. With the exception of DIARIO DE CUBA, the influential newspapers which are read outside of Havana are EL MUNDO, EL PAIS, and DIARIO DE LA MARINA.

11. As a result of the raising of the restriction against commercial airplanes flying over Cuban territory after three o'clock in the afternoon, EL PAIS has announced its intention of restoring its airplane service for delivery throughout the island. Recently DIARIO DE LA MARINA stated that it is going to buy two airplanes to facilitate its distribution.

12. The leading personalities in the newspaper field in Cuba are:

Jose Revero, of DIARIO DE LA MARINA
Ralph Govin, of EL MUNDO
Alfredo Hornedo, of EL PAIS
Mora, of HERALDO DE CUBA
Carl Byoir, of THE HAVANA POST
Sergio Carbo, of LA SEMANA
Conrado Massaguer, cartoonist and writer for BOHEMIA and CARTELES

13. Both the United Press and the Associated Press have representatives in Havana and Dean Sanborn, of THE HAVANA POST, handles special news items of THE NEW YORK TIMES and THE CHATTANOOGA TIMES.

Source: Embassy and Personal Contacts.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3337. Date: June 30, 1930.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

2800-b

4-1 2651-g 284

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Press Censorship

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. SEP 29 1930

1. On September 15, 1930, Karikato, a weekly comic, which about six months ago joined the ranks of the opposition papers in Cuba, was suppressed by the Government. Its offices and press rooms were entered by the police, who ordered the owners to stop the press and who also confiscated the entire edition that was to have been released on September 16, 1930. This action caused a very strong protest by the members of the press, all the dailies and weeklies in Havana participating in it, with the exception of the Heraldo de Cuba. Criminal charges were instituted against Lieutenant Calvo, in charge of the raiding party, and also against all the police who assisted him. As a result of this action Lieutenant Calvo was indicted by the Court of Second Instruction on charges of violating the Constitution and of deliberately attempting to suppress, with acts of violence, the individual rights of the press. Just what the outcome of this action will be is problematical. To date Lieutenant Calvo has insisted that he acted without instructions of any superior officer, while the press, on the other hand, insists that his actions were prompted by direct order of the Secretary of the Interior.

2. That the Government is about to change its policy in regard to the freedom of the press is evidenced by the action cited above. For the past eight months the press of Cuba has been enjoying the full exercise of its rights as guaranteed by the Constitution. Some of the articles that have appeared have not only been ultra inflammatory but, in many cases, have bordered on being seditious in character. The fall of the governments of Peru, Bolivia, and the Argentine has greatly stimulated the attacks against the Government, and veiled suggestions that the people of Cuba follow the example set by these countries have occurred almost daily in the opposition press. It is known that the Government is considering affecting the same control over the press that it had exerted over it prior to January, 1930, and the reasons for not putting this into immediate effect are the serious political situation on the island and the amount of space that the press of the United States is now devoting to the Cuban political situation.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Sources:

Embassy and Press

From: M.A., Havana No. 3376 Date: September 18, 1930.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

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OFFICE OF CHIEF OF STAFF
MILITIA DIV.

4-1 APR 9 2657-g-284 1931

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WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Press Censorship.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. APR 8 1931

1. On March 27, 1931 the Cuban Supreme Court rendered a unanimous decision upholding the appeal of the newspaper El Mundo against the legality of the Executive resolution of January 9, 1931, by which the publication of certain dailies and weeklies were suspended. This decision further declared that Article VI of the Law of Public Order of 1870, which was cited as the authority for the aforementioned resolution, was incompatible with Article XXV of the Cuban Constitution.

2. The Cuban press, as a whole, was very jubilant over this decision because it established for the first time the scope and effect of Article XXV of the Constitution, which guarantees the free expression of opinion in this Republic. Moreover, it is believed that this decision will tend to restore confidence in the integrity of the Cuban Courts at a time when the faith in the independence of the judiciary has been rapidly declining.

3. The attorney for El Mundo has stated that his client has not yet determined whether or not to file suit against the Government for the recovery of damages suffered by reason of the newspaper's suspension. This decision has paved the way for such a suit and it is quite possible that other newspapers affected by the resolution of January 9, 1931, may press their claims for their indemnification. However, according to Cuban law, two similar decisions of the Supreme Court are necessary before its rulings on Constitutional questions can be considered as setting a definite precedent.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press, and
Personal Contacts.

From M. A., Havana No. 3506 Date: March 31,1931.

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Foreign Correspondents.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. APR 23 1932

1. The three principal Havana dailies, El Mundo, Diario de la Marina and El Pais, have notified the Associated Press of their intention to withdraw from that organization at the end of the present month.

2. These newspapers have entered into a contract with the Hearst Syndicate and International News Service, effective May 1, 1932, and after that date they will rely upon that organization and upon their own special correspondents for all foreign news.

3. The undersigned was informed by the owner of one of these newspapers that this decision was dictated solely by economic necessity and will result in the saving of about $400.00 a month to each newspaper.

4. The only other Havana paper of importance, Heraldo de Cuba, does not subscribe to any international news service. It obtains all of its foreign news by means of a radio set receiving messages from foreign broadcasting stations.

J. J. O'Hare,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and Personal
Contacts.

From M. A., Havana No. 3749 Date: April 16, 1932.

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G-2 Report

2800-b

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WAR DEPARTMENT

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CUBA (Population and Social)

7

Subject: Press Censorship.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 24 1933

1. Since June 21, 1931, there has existed a Government censorship of the Spanish language newspapers in Cuba. The censors of the newspapers were civilian agents of the Secretary of the Interior until January 10, 1933, when the enforcement of the censorship was transferred to the Army, the actual censoring being performed by Army officers. Immediately after this transfer of authority, the censorship was expanded to include the three English language newspapers of Havana, The Havana Post, the Havana Evening Telegram and the Havana American-News. The censorship was lifted on the Havana Post and the Havana Evening Telegram after two days of operation.

2. On January 13, 1933, Mr. John T. Wilford, an American citizen and editor of the Havana American-News, made a formal protest to the American Embassy against the censorship of his newspaper. He based his protest on the following specific points:

(a) Censorship in Cuba is unconstitutional, even under the emergency status of suspension of Constitutional Guarantees.

(b) The methods used by the military censors are necessarily irksome and bring about such delay as materially to diminish the income of his paper, as well as to increase greatly the cost of its publication.

(c) The knowledge of English of the Army officers who are exercising the censorship is insufficient to allow them to grasp the meaning of the matter they are censoring. (While Mr. Wilford's claim of the knowledge of English of these officers may be true, it is interesting to note that the owner of one of the Spanish language newspapers informed me that censorship under the Army's supervision was working much more smoothly and with more impartiality than it had under the civilian agents.)

3. Mr. Wilford's assertion that the imposition of the present censorship in Cuba is illegal appears to be well-founded, in that Article 25 of the Constitution provides that: "Every person may fully and without being subjected to previous censorship express his ideas, orally or in writing, by means of the printing press, or by any other means; without prejudice to the responsibilities which the laws may impose when by any of these means an attack is made against personal honor, the social order or the public peace." This Article is one of those which, according to Article 41 of the Constitution, can in no case be suspended.

From M. A., Havana No. 3983 Date: January 20, 1933.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

5. The only legal remedy which appears to be available to Mr. Wilford is a recourse of unconstitutionality to the Supreme Court, a procedure which would entail much delay and expense and which would, even in the event his plea were granted, afford relief of doubtful efficacy, excepting as it might furnish grounds for a subsequent formal diplomatic claim.

6. The Embassy has not as yet filed a protest with the Cuban Government. If it does intervene for the purpose of having this censorship removed and, if after censorship is lifted Mr. Wilford continues to publish material which the Cuban Government considers, either with or without good reason, as inimical to the maintenance of public order, it seems not unlikely that Mr. Wilford may again be ordered deported from Cuba as an undesirable alien. On the other hand, should intervention of the Embassy be successfully invoked to prevent both the continuance of the censorship and to leave Mr. Wilford in undisturbed operation of his newspaper, this would place him in a position of advantage as compared with his other English language competitors.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and
Personal Contact.

From M. A., Havana No. 3983 Date: January 20, 1933.

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MAR 21 1933
WAR DEPARTMENT

2657-B-284

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Population and Social)

Subject: Foreign Correspondents.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAR 20 1933

1. Two of the principal Havana dailies, El Mundo, Diario de la Marina, and the English language dailies, The Havana Post and Evening Telegram, have resumed their contracts with the Associated Press, after ten months service with the Hearst Syndicate and International News Service. Heraldo de Cuba, which, for a time had no press service, is also receiving Associated Press service.

2. El Pais expressed a desire to renew its service with the Associated Press but was rejected on the recommendation of the owners of Diario de la Marina and El Mundo. It is now being served by the United Press.

J. J. O'Hare,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache

Source: Embassy and Press.

From M. A., Havana No. 4033 Date: March 16, 1933

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JUN 1933 OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF MIL. INTEL. DIV. 2657-9-284 WAR DEPARTMENT 2800-b

4-1

G-2 Report

CUBA (Population and Social)

Subject: Press Censorship

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUN 17 1933

Press Censorship Renewed

1. On June 8, 1933, the press censorship was renewed by order of the War Department.

Newspapers are required to submit to government censors the proofs of every page to be printed.

A minimum punishment of $50.00 fine and fifty days' imprisonment is prescribed for newspaper publishers if articles deemed objectionable are found in their papers.

T. N. Gimperling,
Lieut. Colonel, Infantry,
Military Attache.

Source: Press

From M. A., Havana No. 4112 Date: June 13, 1933.

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G-2 Report

2800-b

WAR DEPARTMENT

Should be sent to OD. copy sent to Military Attache

CUBA (Population and Social)

Subject: Press Censorship

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUN 20 1933

1. Reference report of this office No. 4112, dated June 13, 1933, on the above subject, which was the result of Order No. 9, Headquarters Military Governor of Havana.

On June 14 was issued Military Order No. 10, which explains that Military Order No. 9 is not intended to restrict the free expression of thought by means of the press or any other method, but that, in accordance with Article 25 of the Constitution and the Law of Public Order in force, it establishes penalties for expression of thought in a manner calculated to disturb public tranquillity, and that in such cases the penalties established will be applied.

This applies also not only to the press, but to political discussions in public places.

T. N. Gimperling,
Lieut. Colonel, Infantry,
Military Attache.

Source: Press

From M. A., Havana No. 4118 Date: June 16, 1933.

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6-1 2657-G-284

G-2 Report 2800-b

CUBA (Population and Social)

Subject: Press Censorship.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 22 1933

1. A decree providing a fine of "not less than $300 nor more than $1000" to be imposed against radios or newspapers distributing "false or alarming" news was reported to have been signed by provisional President Grau San Martin on December 16th. Specific instances which led to this decision were not cited, although several arrests of radio news broadcasters have been made recently, and various newspapermen have also been arrested although later released.

2. On the afternoon of December 17th, six persons were killed and more than a dozen wounded during a demonstration by supporters of the President, which culminated in the plant of El Pais being sacked and burned by the mob, for its alleged anti-government campaign. As the mob advanced toward the newspaper plant, it was joined by soldiers, but it was later explained by one of the soldiers that he and his companions did not know that the crowd intended to attack the building. Soldiers on guard at the newspaper plant fired on the crowd when it failed to halt, but were forced to retreat as the mob surged on into the building and immediately began heaving every article that could be lifted into the street, where it was demolished. This accomplished, they fired the building and fire trucks arrived too late to prevent serious damage to the structure and expensive machinery. While no estimate of the damage done to El Pais could be obtained, it has been learned that it was insured for $300,000 with a British insurance company. It is expected that the insurance company will investigate the details of the attack, in an attempt to establish a claim for the losses caused.

T. N. Gimperling,
Lieut. Colonel, Infantry,
Military Attache.

Source: Press
TNG:vm

From M.A., Havana No. 4379 December 18, 1933.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

2810-a

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Domestic Press.

Important Domestic Publications
and their Political Affiliations.

1. The well-known Havana newspaper El Mundo which closed its doors several months ago, resumed publication on May 20th, under the ownership and supervision of Mr. Ralph Govin, who had published the paper from the time of his father's death until it stopped publication last autumn. The editor is a Sr. Palcares, who was a bitter editorial critic of the Grau government. The new El Mundo is well printed and its news well presented. It takes the Associated Press service. Its first issue contained a large front page photograph of Dr. Grau San Martin and a long interview with him concerning his past and future policies. This interview was critical of the present government, and since then this newspaper has continued to be critical of the Mendieta Government and especially so of the Cuban Army.

2. Mr. Govin, who has been in serious financial straits and who has had difficulty because of this in reopening his paper, is known to share the common journalistic belief in Cuba that to be a success a newspaper must oppose the Government.

3. At present, Diario de la Marina is the only wholeheartedly pro-government journal in Havana; the others, namely El Pais and Ahora, in the morning, and El Pais and Informacion in the afternoon, criticize the Government with varying degrees of intensity, Ahora being the most consistently hostile. This paper is operated and edited by the former employees of El Mundo and it caters to the more radical elements. Its circulation, however, is small, being estimated as between five and ten thousand, as compared with an estimated 50,000 circulation for Diario de la Marina and 30,000 for El Pais. During the long period when El Mundo remained closed the major portion of his circulation was taken up by the conservative Diario de la Marina which formerly catered chiefly to the large Spanish colony. Many people feel that there is no longer any room for El Mundo and that it will be difficult for Mr. Govin to obtain an able competitor for the facile pen of Pepin Rivero (Diario de la Marina), or the dangerous "buzz saw" Ramon Zaydin (El Pais).

4. Mr. Govin states that an A.B.C. journal is shortly to be published on El Mundo's presses and that a guarantee deposit for the rental thereof has been made. Its purpose would, of course, be for the advancement of the political fortunes of the A.B.C.

5. Until recently there were three American newspaper published in Havana, namely, the Havana Post, a morning paper; the Havana Evening-Telegram, an evening paper owned by the proprietors of the Havana Post, and the Havana American News, which was an evening paper also, owned and published by Mr. John Wilford. Due to lack of afternoon circulation, the Havana Evening Telegram discontinued publication some days ago. I suspect that the reason for its discontinuance was because it carried almost no fresh news, most

From M.A., Havana No. 4642 June 4, 1934.

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of its articles being mere repetitions of news items carried in the morning Havana Post. Mr. Wilford's publication, Havana American News, was the most outspoken critic of the Machado regime. It was extremely bitter and of all the papers published in Havana, it alone dared to speak frankly. This placed Mr. Wilford in constant difficulties with the Government, and he was finally deported and his plant confiscated, but he later returned to Havana. During the last days of the Machado regime the circulation of the Havana American News, which had always been small, increased greatly. He supported the Grau government and the anti-American labor elements to such an extent as to disgust most of his former subscribers, whom, of course, were confined almost entirely to the Anglo-American colony. With the resignation of Grau, the paper practically ceased publication, and for some time now it has completely stopped.

6. The Havana Post is edited by a young American twenty-six years of age by the name of William Whelan. This paper is outspokenly for the Mendieta Government and against radicalism. Its circulation, however, is small because it is limited to the Anglo-American colony which has now shrunk to a total of perhaps not more than six thousand in Havana, but the paper also reaches the English and American residents all over the Island.

T. N. Gimperling,
Lieut. Colonel, Infantry,
Military Attache

Source: Embassy and Personal
Observation.

TNG: vm

From M.A., Havana No. 4642 June 4, 1934.

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2810-a

G-2 Report

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Principal Newspapers and Important Periodicals.

Domestic Press.

A.B.C. Newspaper Closed.

1. During the night of December 12th, a group of armed men entered the office of the Spanish language daily newspaper, La Accion, which is the organ of the A.B.C. Society, and took the assistant director, city editor and other members of the editorial staff to the outskirts of Havana where they were dosed with castor oil and then released. Although the armed group wore civilian clothes, it is believed that they were members of the Army or National Police force. Shortly after the incident, the offices of La Accion were closed by orders of Lieut.Colonel Pedraza, Chief of the National Police.

2. It is understood that the feeling of resentment is very bitter on the part of the A.B.C. and it is probable that this incident will tend to increase the hostility of the Society toward the Government and the Army.

T. N. Gimperling,
Lieut. Colonel, Infantry,
Military Attache.

Source: Press

TNG:vm

From M.A., Havana No. 4832 December 13, 1934.

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2457-g-284
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report 3020-d

CUBA (Political)
Subject: Stability of Government.

SEP 25 1935

Sergio Carbo quits Politics.

1. Sergio Carbo,retired newspaper man and former leader in Cuba's revolutionary movements,yesterday told newspaper reporters in Santiago de Cuba that he was definitely through with politics in this country or any other. He stated that he was no longer interested in them. He stated that he was in Santiago merely on personal business,and was leaving for Guantanamo today.

2. If the statements made to reporters are true,it will mean that another of Cuba's revolutionary leaders xxxx has retired from active participation in the various movements to overthrow the present government. Since President Mendieta became the head of the provisional government very little has been heard of Sergio Carbo,and his name was seldom linked with that of Antonio Guiteras and other agitators. During the Grau regime Carbo was active,and was very friendly with Colonel Batista,as was Guiteras. However,when Grau was overthrown, Carbo gradually dropped out of the picture,and was not molested, whereas Guiteras continued his communistic activities and was finally killed while attempting to leave the country.

L.V.H.Durfee
L.V.H.Durfee
Captain,Infantry
Assistant Military Attache.

Source; Press and
Personal observation.
LVHD

From: A/M/A/ Havana 5037 September 19,1935.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

No Objection to Publication in Service Journals.

NOV 8 1935

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G-2 Report 2800-b

2657-9

CUBA (Population and Social)

Subject: Press Censorship.

Current Censorship Activities.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 8 1935

1. Decree-Law No. 361, published in the Official Gazette of October 28th, 1935, derogates Law No. 82 of the 9th of April, 1935, and Decree Laws No. 123 of August 9, 1935 and No.165 of August 21, 1935. It also pardons all infractions of the above mentioned Law and Decree Laws which have been committed since their passage, and declares in force legislation which was in effect prior to the passage of Law No.82.

2. Law No. 82 placed a rather strict censorship on the press as a result of the publishing by some newspapers of articles derogatory to the Government, during and after the trouble in early March.. The above mentioned Decree Laws were merely amendments to Law No. 82.

T. N. Gimperling,
Colonel, Infantry,
Military Attache.

Source: Official Documents.

LVHD:vm

From M.A., Havana Report No.5071 Octob34 31,1935

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

No Objection to Publication in Service Journals.

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2657-g-284
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G-2 Report

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Domestic Press.

Principal Newspapers of Cuba.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 27 1936

1. Following is a list of the principal newspapers of Cuba and the average circulation of each. All of the papers are printed in Spanish excepting one - The Havana Post - which is an English language paper:

Name of Paper	Political Affiliation	Proprietor, Editor, Etc.	Average Week-day Circulation
DIARIO DE LA MARINA	Independent;conservative;oldest paper in Cuba;supports commercial interests of Spanish colony.	Dr.Jose I.Rivero (Ed.-Dir.)	27,000
EL PAIS	Independent; largest circulation.	Alfredo Hornedo (Owner)	68,000
EL MUNDO	Independent; nationalistic	Victor Bilbao (Ed.)	10,000
EL AVANCE	Independent	Dr.Oscar Zayas (Dir.-Mgr.)	15,000
EL CRISOL	Liberal	Julio C.Gonzalez Rebull.(Ed.-Dir)	48,000
ALERTA	Independent	Ricardo Villares (Dir.-Ed.)	24,000
LA DISCUSION	Supports minority (Conjunto Nacional Democratico)party.	Tomas Julia (Ed.)	21,000
HAVANA POST	Independent; English language daily.	C.Clark Pessino (Gen. Mgr.)	3,000
FINANZAS	Independent:commercial journal	Rene Carbonell (Ed.)	2,000
EL CAMAGUEYANO (Camaguey)	Independent	W.Rodriguez Blanca (Ed.)	Not Known
EL COMERCIO (Cienfuegos)	Independent	J.O.Posada (Ed.)	" "
LA CORRESPONDENCIA (Cienfuegos)	Independent	Julio Veliz Lopez (Ed.)	" "
DIARIO DE CUBA (Santiago de Cuba)	Independent	E. Abril Amores (Ed.)	" "
ADELANTE (Santiago de Cuba)	Independent	Ramon de la Paz (Ed.)	" "

T. N. Gimperling,
Colonel, Infantry,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy records.
TNG:vm

From M.A., Havana Report No. 5287 Date: Nov. 19, 1936.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

No Objection to Publication in Service Journals.

APR 29 1938
MILITARY INTEL. DIV.
WAR DEPARTMENT

6-1
2657-F-24
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2810-b 7

G-2 Report

CUBA (Population and Social).

Subject: Principal Newspapers and Important Periodicals.
(b) Foreign Press.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. APR 29 1938

1. There are published in Habana three daily newspapers in the Chinese language, HOL MEN KONG PO, WAR MAN SION PO and MAN SEN YAT PO, all privately owned and intended for circulation solely among the large Chinese colony in Cuba. There are also two daily Hebrew publications designed for the large Hebrew colony in Habana. There are no French, German or Italian publications.

2. The HAVANA POST and its Monday subsidiary the HAVANA TELEGRAM, published in English, are owned by American interests. The daily circulation of the POST is estimated to be in the neighborhood of 5,000, while the TELEGRAM which appears only on Monday, has a circulation approximately the same. Both of these papers use the Associated Press service and also run a number of syndicated features. The HAVANA POST runs pages of comics, and Pearson and Allen's "Washington Merry-Go-Round." The POST is often inaccurate in reporting local news and, so far as can be judged, its editorial policy is devoted to the protection of American economic interests in Cuba. It seeks to represent the view of the large American colony here, its articles sometimes being so phrased as to cause annoyance and irritation to the Cuban authorities, their tone at times being at best patronizingly condescending. In content and compilation it is inferior to the average Cuban newspaper.

E. W. Timberlake,
Major, GS., CAC.,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy files and Press

EWT:vm

From M.A., Havana Report No. 5567 Date: April 22, 1938.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

No Objection to Publication in Service Journals.

~~Confidential: The Military Attache~~
Havana, Cuba.

APR 26 1938 WAR DEPARTMENT 2810-a

2657-9-284
6-1 25 7

G-2 Report

CUBA (Population and Social)

Subject: Principal Newspapers and Important Periodicals.
(a) Domestic Press

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. APR 29 1938

Local Press.

1. Of the thirteen Spanish language papers the three most important are DIARIO DE LA MARINA, EL PAIS and EL MUNDO, the latter being controlled by the same American interests as those controlling the HAVANA POST. The first two named are generally anti-communist and opposed to the Loyalist Government of Spain, while EL MUNDO, which is independent in policy, appears to be anti-fascist in tone. Otherwise, none of these papers seems to have any particular bias for any one foreign government, although they occasionally use gratis foreign press services of an innocuous nature.

2. PATRIA, the leading paper of the Opposition, and the official publication of the Grau San Martin group, perhaps being influenced by the United States' non-recognition of Grau's presidency, is inclined to be anti-American in general tone.

3. Of the other left-wing newspapers there may be mentioned PUEBLO and LA PRENSA, both of which are very definitely anti-fascist and supporters of the Loyalist Government in Spain.

4. Otherwise, the Habana press is on the whole to be praised for the impartiality with which it disseminates news from abroad. Practically every paper devotes at least one full page and often more to Associated Press and United Press despatches on events in foreign countries. Because of Cuba's geographical proximity to the United States and the fact that so many Cubans have been educated in American schools, there is considerable interest in news items from the United States. Generally speaking, the Administration and its policies are handled with respect and consideration.

5. The present Cuban civic-military regime wields great influence over the more important papers through patronage and other indirect subsidies.

6. As to editorial trend with respect to European countries, these appear (always excepting Spain) to be non-existent, although PATRIA, PUEBLO and LA PRENSA take digs at Fascism and Naziism, generally in the form of biting caricatures of Hitler and Mussolini. These as a rule are excerpted from other Latin-American publications and are usually in connection with the activities of Germany and Italy in Spain.

7. While most local papers occasionally print gratis press handouts from foreign sources, these are the exceptions and not the rule. So far as it can be gathered, the only foreign press service which might be considered gratis is that furnished by Havas to the DIARIO DE LA MARINA and AVANCE, consisting of a foreign news column twice weekly at an extremely low subscription rate.

E. W. Timberlake,
Major, GS., CAC.,
Military Attache.

Source: Press and Embassy files.
Incl.List of newspapers.
EWT:vm

From M.A., Havana Report No. 5568 Date: April 22, 1938.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

MR., INTEL DIV. 2652-g-2-284 2-5-f WAR DEPARTMENT 7

DAILY NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED IN THE SPANISH LANGUAGE IN HABANA.

Name	Any foreign control.	Policy concerning foreign countries.	Foreign Influences	Governmental Subsidies,- Cuban & Foreign if any.	Influenced by other economic interests.	Influenced by personal prejudice.	Circulation Approximate.
DIARIO DE LA MARINA	Spanish residents and Catholic Church (Jesuits)	Anti-communistic	Spanish Rightist	Cuban	Local Spanish Commercial Interests		Sunday 60,000; Week-days 55,000.
EL MUNDO	American (Govin's Interests)	Conservative	Generally Pro-United States.	Cuban	Independent and neutral.	Rightist	Sunday 35,000; Week-days 15,000
EL PAIS (3 editions)	None	No Particular Bias		Cuban			Morning Sunday 51,310; Weekly 45,000; Afternoon Lottery days 69,000; Other days 54,000.
AVANCE	Subsidiary of DIARIO DE LA MARINA						25,000
PATRIA	None	Pro-Loyalist Spanish Government. Anti-German & Italian; sometimes Anti-American				Leftist	6,000
PUEBLO	None	No Particular Bias.	Spanish Leftist			Leftist	4,000

M.A. Havana
April 22,1933

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

DAILY NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED IN THE SPANISH LANGUAGE IN HABANA.

Name	Any foreign control	Policy concerning foreign countries.	Foreign influences	Governmental subsidies,- Cuban & Foreign if any.	Influenced by other economic interests.	Influenced by Personal Prejudice	Circulation Approximate.
INFORMACION	None	The same as above				If anything, favors Opposition parties	3,000
LA DISCUSSION	None					None	600
LA PRENSA	None	Somewhat Anti-American				Against Government and Batista. Grau San Martin People.	1,000
NOTICIERO MERCANTIL	None	Friendly to United States. Supporters of Trade Agreement.					3,000 est.
FIANZAS							3,800 est.
ALERTA	None	Leftist					10,000
EL CRISOL	None						30,000

M.A. Havana
April 22, 1938.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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4-1 1928 2657-9-25
3110-a 1

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

SUBJECT: Present Executive : political policies, methods, etc.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. JUN 22 1928

1. It might be interesting to recount a few of the happenings under the present administration that would seem to reflect the personality of the present incumbent and the manner and methods by which he physically controls his administration.

2. I was talking recently with the Assistant Manager of the National City Bank of New York, who has been in Havana for approximately twenty years. He is a very quiet, conservative type of American. He informs me that he has never seen such high handed, arbitrary methods as those of the Government now in office.

3. Shortly after President Machado assumed office as President of the Republic of Cuba, he was attacked very strongly by a leader of the Conservative Party through the newspapers, in regard to his private life. This was in May, 1925. Shortly after this, one Armando Andre, who was responsible for the attack, was shot in front of his residence, receiving thirteen wounds. There was great public indignation and many threats were made, but nothing was done and the incident forgotten.

4. Just recently, a retired Colonel, Señor Masó, was shot and killed on the roof of his house in the cool hours of twilight. The papers published an account of this incident, but the official investigation said that Colonel Masó died before regaining consciousness and the assailant has not been apprehended. There has been a lot of indignation in regard to this incident, although you hear very little open comment in regard to same. I was told by a conservative American that Colonel Masó, after having been shot, made a dying statement in which he accused the Administration as being directly responsible for his death. My informant was told by a Cuban who was present when this alleged statement was made.

An effort was made in Congress to have the assassination of Colonel Masó investigated. I understand that members withdrew so that no quorum existed. The newspapers cover this by saying that the motion was put on the table to await its turn, i.e., "killed". I got this information also from a Secret Service man here in Havana, that is, without doubt, the Administration is responsible for the murdering of Colonel Masó.

5. It was alleged that Colonel Masó was intimately associated with ex-Secretary of War Iturralde and the paper yesterday carried a remark covering the "flight" of Iturralde from the country - he having left by plane.

6. Recently, Dr. Cosme de la Torriente, a prominent lawyer, who is alleged to be opposed to the Administration, has packed up his furniture, vacated his house and has left Cuba, evidently for a prolonged stay.

7. Colonel Hevia, a prominent lawyer, ex-Secretary of Gobernacion under the Menocal Regime, desiring to protest against the unconstitutionality of the recent amendments to the constitution and finding it impossible to have his articles published in the press, issued same in pamphlet form. It was a moderate, legal discussion in regard to the unconstitutionality of the amendments. The pamphlet was confiscated by the Government and Colonel Hevia is now cited for libel.

Colonel Hevia's son, a man of about 35 years, educated in the States, and who has spoken freely and confidentially to me, brings up these two points ; 1st ; that the Government at present is unconstitutional
2nd ; owing to the at least tacit backing of the United States and to the loyalty of the Army, nothing will be done to disrupt the present administration

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

but that should the United States for any reason fail to back up the present Government and if one regiment could be led to mutiny or declare itself against the present administration, it might easily overthrow the present government.

8. The entire press is evidently behind the present Government. They seem united in praising the present regime and even in advocating the President as the only candidate to go before the people for the three parties.

There has recently appeared in LA SEMANA, a politico-comic weekly, cartoon showing the President under the caption of "Yo Dictador" (I, Dictator) Another cartoon, referring to the assassination of Colonel Masó, indicating the old proverb that "night air being dangerous, one should not appear on the porch or roof of their house in the twilight evening hours".

9. The Army seems solidly behind General Machadó. He has done a great deal for the improvement of the living conditions within the Army. He is building new quarters at Camp Columbia. He is building throughout the Island, new Rural Guard quarters. He has recently given the Rural Guards more municipal police authority than they have ever possessed before.

He has taken 60 sergeants and put them on civilian secret service status in plain clothes.

10. Camaguey Province is known as the revolutionary province. It is the center of the cattle raising industry and the men seem to be bolder and better. The District Commander there, Colonel Rangel was chosen for this difficult station. He is an energetic, cold blooded, efficient soldier. I understand from a Cuban Secret Service man and from several Americans in Camaguey, that there have been a number of disappearances in the Province; that these are not only political characters, but that the system is for the direct handling of cases and is applied to bandits or thieves; that when caught by the Rural Guards, they are simply not brought in for trial. I was told by one rancher that in the vicinity of Camaguey he has never known less stealing or marauding on the part of natives than exists in that vicinity today. This is on account of the expeditious way in which cases that come up are handled by the Rural Guards.

11. It is surprising to note the utter indifference with which the majority of the citizens of Cuba regard such governmental activities as cited above. The poorer class only wants a living and are utterly indifferent as to what the Government is doing. The higher class, outside of the politicians, most of whom are now in with the Administration, simply want the condition to prevail that will permit them to satisfactorily run their sugar estates or whatever line of endeavor they may be following.

James C.R. Schwenck.
JAMES C.R. SCHWENCK

M/A Office, Habana No.2977 June 15, 1928.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF FOREIGN SERVICE ADMINISTRATION

1928 2657-g-245
C8 130

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA

26 October, 1928.

No. 3030

Subject: The Machado Administration in Cuba.

RECEIVED G-2 W. D. OCT 29 1928

To: A.C. of S. G-2

1. I desire to make the following resumé of the recent happenings here in Cuba, with the idea of giving a more accurate picture of the Machado of Today and his present administration.

2. It will be remembered that in a formal report this office stated that the constitutional amendments and other features of the proposed re-election of Machado were in fact violations of the constitution. This is still the opinion of this office. I have definite information that Col. Masó was ordered to be shot by President Machado: that he was opposed in this by one of his advisers, but Colonel Masó was shot in compliance with the wish of the President.

3. Recently six prisoners were being conducted under a picked guard for incarceration in the new prison on the Isle of Pines. The newspapers carried the story as to the attempted flight and killing of these prisoners by the guards. I have some definite and authentic sources of information that these prisoners were killed in compliance with the wish of the Administration and I have been told that the Chief of Staff of the Army was the man who gave the order and named a certain Captain as Executioner.

4. Recently, one, Suarez, who it is alleged writes various articles against the Government which are signed by Colonel Mendieta, who is the head of the Union Nacionalista Party, was tipped off to the effect that President Machado had issued his death warrant, i.e., that he would be assassinated. Suarez attempted to appeal to ex-President Menocal, but notbeing able to locate him, went to Barraqué, Secretary of Justice, with the idea of getting this order countermanded. Barraqué told Suarez to go home and stay in his house until he received some definite instructions. Barrqué then went to President Machado to intercede for Suarez, but Machado resented this very much, went into a tantrum, but finally acceeded to the wish and countermanded the order.

5. It is universally understood that ex-President Zayas receives $90,000 per month for keeping out of politics. Within the last three months, ex President Menocal is supposed to have received two payments, one of $500,000 and another of $450,000.

6. I am informed by friends and opponents of Machado that he deems himself a God-sent man to the Island of Cuba, that he resent viciously any

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

advice contrary to his desired line of action; that he thinks that the United States are thoroughly in back of him and that his regime as such is good.

7. The Sister of Arroyito, who was one of the most prominent of these prisoners referred to above as having been killed, was arrested immediately after this murder and accused of having the intention to get revenge by killing President Machado. I talked with the Chief Detective who interviewed her and he told me the story as follows:

"that the woman quietly said: "" My brother was not a bad man. The Courts of Cuba had awarded him what was deemed a just sentence for his offense but now you have killed him and I intend to get revenge""

The man having told me this, turned to me and said: "What could I say", implying that the woman was correct in her conception of the justice of things. She has recently been deported from the Island, probably having received money.

8. I think that the above incidents give a pretty accurate view of Machado's character and the methods used in sustaining himself in the office of President.

9. On the other hand, I would like to recount a few things that he does to show his cleverness in attempting to retain his popularity, both in Cuba and the United States. For instance, during the visit of the 8,000 veterans here, he and all Cubans were very hospitable, generous and brotherly. Habana threw open its arms. Everyone had a smile on his face and went back to the United States as excellent propagandists for Cuba and Machado. The Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army and the Chief of the Navy were here at this time and were both extended all courtesies and went away with the impression that the Cuban people are prosperous, generous and very good friends of the United States.

10. Machado has always been a very good friend of the Cuban Army and Navy. This is for the reason that he could not sustain himself but thru their loyalty. I have heard it said recently that if one regiment would declare itself against the Government, a revolution could be effected. Machado has recently inaugurated the magnificent school building - Escuela de Applicacion - at Camp Columbia. It is better fitted up than any similar building in the U.S. Army. At the inaugural speeches, there was much applauding with frequent "Bravos".

11. Recently much money has been spent on the two main boulevards - Prado and Malecon. This makes the boulevard system of Cuba compare favorably with any city of equal size in the world. It would excel most of these.

12. During Machado's campaign trips and inaugural exercises of various kinds, great crowds havebeen present, but very little real spontaneity of applause or appreciation. It is well known here in Habana that, for instance, on the day of the parade to greet him on his return to the city, business offices were closed on official order and many of the government establishments were ordered to appear with a certain percentage of their people present. It is understood that for the election, even though there is no opposing candidate, that they intend to ~~speed~~ Roll by force or otherwise ~~Pet~~ a big vote as indicative of thepopularity of the sole candidate Machado. In regard to this, there is a cartoon in the comic-weekly LA SEMANA showing a boy and girl together on an omnibus. Underneath is written something to this effect:

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Boy : Won't you give me a kiss, Sweetheart?
Girl : Yes, but we must go where we cannot be seen.
Boy : An ideal place would be an election booth on the day of polling.

13. CONCLUSIONS : Machado's government is unconstitutional and practically that of a Dictator. He maintains himself through graft and assassination. He seems to enjoy in the United States a reputation as an individual and Chief Executive of the country to which he is not entitled. There is some possibility of his being killed, more probably through personal revenge than political opposition. I believe that through a lack of appreciation of the status in Cuba today, the United States has failed in its responsibility to the people of Cuba, as expressed in the Platt Amendment.

James C.R. Schwenck
JAMES C.R. SCHWENCK
MAJOR GS MA.

cc to the Embassy.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

CONFIDENTIAL

G-2 Report. 3110-a.

OFFICE CHIEF OF M.I. DIV.
NOV 6 1929
2657-g-285
WAR DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 5 - 1929

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Present Executive.

1. I have been informed from a very reliable source that on October 19, 1929, while motoring from Havana to Matanzas, the President's automobile was fired on from the roadside and that the President's chauffeur was struck by the bullet. No mention of this has been made in the press of Cuba and while I consider my informant in this case thoroughly reliable, I have been unable to secure any confirmation of this report.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Confidential.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3145. Date: October 31, 1929.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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By authority letter of Dec. 18, 1934, from G-2 to Archivist
By
Date 6-24-69

G-2 CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
NOV 30 1929
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report 4-1 2657-g-285 3100-a 4 7

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Presidential Office.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 30 1929

1. Some of the leading American business men in Cuba and Cubans unfriendly to the administration feel that the peak of General Machado's power has been reached and passed and that the pendulum of public opinion is slowly but gradually swinging against him. Many have expressed opinions of doubt as to whether or not he will be able to weather the storm and complete the six years of his second term of office which began on May 20, 1929.

2. Some of the reasons advanced by those of the above cited belief are as follows:

a. The Cuban people, being accustomed to governmental graft, are quite content that it should continue as heretofore, but greatly resent the President's entry into the commercial field, thereby directly competing with private interests. Among the business interests that the President is reported to be heavily interested in are:

(1) A newspaper (Excelsior El Pais)
(2) A bank (Banco del Comercio)
(3) A market (Mercado Unico)
(4) A general contracting business (Mestre y Machado) - importers of wheat, food and supplies for hospitals, office supplies, food and supplies to the army and all supplies for the public schools.
(5) A paint factory.
(6) A shoe factory.

The interests of President Machado in these business enterprises have been very energetic, especially in the paint factory. Several instances have been cited to me where so much pressure was brought to bear on merchants that they were forced to buy articles which the President is financially interested in, even canceling orders, especially paints, previously ordered from other concerns.

b. The financial situation in the Republic is very acute. Nothing has recently been announced to indicate just what steps the administration is going to take to alleviate this difficulty. However, José Emilio Obregon, son-in-law of President Machado, and President of the branch of the Chase National Bank in Havana, expects to leave Havana for New York within a few days and I believe that his departure is very significant at this time. If money is not secured in the immediate future, it is possible that about 18,000 employees of the Public Works Department will be without employment. Such a condition would greatly increase the dissatisfaction now current in the Republic, which, among the laboring classes, is great, due to the present number of unemployed.

3. While I do not concur in all the statements given above, I have noted in my short time here a somewhat changed point of view on the part of many Cubans. Until a month and a half ago, no one whom I met spoke of General Machado or the present administration except

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3173. Date: Nov. 26, 1929.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

in reverence, but today a somewhat different feeling seems to exist, and it is not uncommon for me to have conversations with Cubans who talk freely of the failings of the present administration. Whereas heretofore the strong admirers of the present regime have been looked up to and respected because of their affiliation with the President, it is now not uncommon to hear them openly referred to as "Guatacas" (a Cuban slang expression, the nearest English translation of which is "boot-licker.").

O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Confidential and Embassy.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3173. Date: Nov. 26, 1929.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
JUN 22 1928
4 1 2657-g-28
3850-f 1

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

SUBJECT: Treaties

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. JUN 22 1928

1. On June 14th, a parcel post treaty was signed by the Secretary of State, on behalf of President Machado, and by the German Minister in Cuba, Mr. Zitelman. It consists of 22 articles and will run for a year. It is expected that it will be of great assistance to the export of Cuban tobacco, as Cuba has not been satisfied with the amount of that commodity being taken by Germany at the present time.

2. A treaty of Extradition is also being discussed with Italy and it is expected that it will be signed shortly. Secretary of State Ortiz is now in Europe and will endeavor to hasten this treaty, as well as lay the foundation for several other treaties.

3. A treaty is also under discussion with Panama. This treaty is alleged to be ready with the exception of clearing up the interpretation of some of the articles. One of the delays has been caused by the fact that capital punishment has been abolished in Panama and still in effect in Cuba.

James C.R. Schwenck.
JAMES C.R. SCHWENCK
Major, GS. M/A.

M/A Office, Havana No.2978 June 15, 1928.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

MIL. INTEL. DIV.
4-1 1928 2657-g-286
3850-f 2
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

SUBJECT: Treaties

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUL 6 1928

1. A parcel post treaty between CUBA and GREAT BRITAIN will go into effect on July 1st. This applies to all parts of the Empire.

2. There was signed this morning, a treaty of communications between CUBA and MEXICO, (radio-telegraphic).

James C.R. Schwenck

JAMES C.R. SCHWENCK
Major, GS. M/A.

M/A Office No. 2981 June 30, 1928.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Date 8/10/28

File No. 2657-G-286/3

M.A.No. War- 3014

From: RECORD SECTION, G-2

To:

European Section

Far Eastern Section

Latin American Section

Air Liaison Officer

Communication Section

File ✓

ENCS. ATTACHES TO COPY #_____

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#6 to _____

Note: Original or copy #1 sent to file

But Br attached is example which leads me to doubt the understanding of MA of such information - please see to it that such information is not passed on to foreign governments

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

MIL INTEL D.W.
AUG 10
3 - 1928 2657-g-24
3850-f 3
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

2657-g-24 2

SUBJECT : Treaties.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. AUG 9 1928

1. With reference to our 2961 and your comment on Evaluation Report of July 12th.

2. The State Department records here do not indicate that the Extradition Treaties with FRANCE or MEXICO were ever ratified. It is not considered advisable by this office to approach the Cuban Foreign Office for this information.

3. The Commercial Treaty with Spain, signed July 15th, 1927, went into effect on that date, having two years to run, at the end of which period the parties concerned had the right to make revisions; denunciation of any of the clauses must be announced six months before the expiration of the two year trial period.

4. According to reports, the Cuban Government is not entirely satisfied with the way in which the treaty has worked out and it is practically sure that various changes will be made when the time comes.

James C.R. Schwenck
JAMES C.R. SCHWENCK
MAJOR GS MA.

M/A Report No 3010 July 30,1928

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

4-1 1928 2657-G-286 3850-f 125 OCT 25

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

SUBJECT : Treaties.

RECEIVED G-2 M. I. OCT 24 1928

1. With further reference to our 2981 of June 30th. There is attached herewith a copy of the Parcel Post Treaty now in existence between The Republica of Cuba and Great Britain, as printed in the daily press. As will be seen, it applies only to Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

2. The Treaty of Extradition that has been under discussion between Italy and Cuba for some time was signed October 3rd. Ratificatioms have not yet been reported. When a copy of the treaty becomes available, it will be forwarded.

James C.R. Schwenck.
JAMES C.R.SCHWENCK
MAJOR GS MA.

M/A Report No.3024 16 October, 1928.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ANGLO*CUBAN PARCEL POST CONVENTION : Effective July 1, 1928.

.....

The Government of the Republic of Cuba and the government of his British Majesty, wishing to establish better postal arrangements between the Republic of Cuba and Great Britain, have agreed to the following provisions for the interchange of parcel post:

The dispositions of the present treaty will have general application not only for parcel post exchanged directly between the R. of Cuba and Great Britain, but also for those sent in transit by either of the coumtries and in these dispositions as well as in the regulations set forth the term Great Britain shall be considered to include Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Island of Man.

1. OBJECT OF THE TREATY : Under the denomination of Parcel Post, it shall be possible to send by mail from Cuba to Great Britain, up to a limit of five kilograms and from Great Britain to Cuba up to a limit of 11 english pounds.

2. TRANSIT OF PARCELS : The postal administrations of the two contracting countries mutually guarantee the right of transit through its territory and any packages proceeding from the countries with which the parcel post service has been established or those consigned to such countries, both governments accepting the responsibility for the transit to said packages subject to the limits provided in Article 14.

3. POSTAGE PAYABLE IN ADVANCE : Except in cases when the parcels are returned, the payment of postage shall be made in advance.

4. CHARGES: (1) The British territorial postage shall be the equivalent of one franc, one franc and 50 centimes and two francs (gold) for parcels not exceeding one kilogram, four kilograms and five kilograms respectively. Cuban territorial postage shall be the same.

(2) The postal administration of the country of origin shall pay to the postal administration of the country of destination the territorial postage of the latter, as well as any other maritime charge that may be accrued, also agreeing to pay any postage due to any of the intermediate postal administrations.

(3) The totals of the above mentioned postages shall serve as a basis to determine the amount that shall be collected from the senders but in fixing the rates of postage each administration shall be at liberty to apply the approximate amounts more advantageous to their own currency.

5. INSURANCE : (1) The parcels exchanged in accord with this treaty can be insured up to a limit of francs (1000 gold).

(2) The Postal Administration of the country of origin will pay to the Postal Administration of the country of destination for territorial service at a rate of five centimes (gold) for each 300 francs (gold) of value insured. If the Postal Administration of destination provides for the maritime service, the Administration of the country of origin will pay an additional charge of ten centimes (gold) for each 300 francs of the insurance or a fraction thereof.

(3) The Postal Administration of the country of origin is at the same time authorized to collect from the sender of every insured parcel an insurance or registration tax.

6. PAYMENTS FOR TRANSIT OF PARCELS : For every parcel sent in transit for either of the Postal Administration and for account of the other, the sender will credit the Postal Administration of the intermediate country, the amounts due for transportation and insurance of said packages in accordance with the schedules mutually exchanged for this purpose.

7. TAX ON DELIVERIES AND CUSTOMS REQUIREMENTS : The Postal Administration of Cuba shall collect from the consignee for the delivery of the parcels and customs requirements a tax not exceeding 50 centimes (gold) for each parcel. The Postal Administration

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

of Great Britian will collect for the same service a tax not exceeding one shilling.

8. CHARGE ON SHORTAGE : Each Postal Administration shall collect as storage charge any amount stated on the legislation for a parcel marked SURPLUS POSTAGE or that which has not been claimed during the time stated. This tax should never exceed the amount of fifty centimes (gold).

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT : The sender of an insured parcel can obtain a receipt of acknowledgement by making an advance payment of a fee which will be determined by the Administration of the country of origin. It will also be collected under the terms stated by the Postal Administration of the country of origin, a fee to cover inquiries about disposition made of every insured parcel, provided the sender has not covered this charge in advance in order to obtain the acknowledgement of receipt. The total amount of these charges will be retained by the Administration of the country of origin.

10. SPECIAL DELIVERY : Upon sender's request parcels may be delivered by special messenger at consignees address immediately upon arrival at the Post Office of destination provided this office has this service in practice.

(2) For these parcels, which the senders will mark EXPRESS, they will pay a special delivery fee besides the usual charges. To this effect, the amount of 80 centimes (gold) will be credited on the parcel invoices to the Postal Administration of the country of destination.

(3) Should the consignees address on these express parcels be too far from the Post Office delivery station, this office may collect from the consignee a supplementary charge for the delivery of a parcel or notice of arrival which charge will not exceed that already fixed for deliveries by the country of destination, deducting the equipment of 80 centimes (gold) credited on the invoice for this express service.

(4) The services of the special messenger or notice of arrival will be tried but once on every occasion. Should this trial be unsuccessful, the parcel will no longer be considered as EXPRESS PARCEL, but will be handled as an ordinary parcel.

(5) In case of resending an express parcel to another country before attempting to make the delivery by special messenger, the charge of 80 centimes (gold) for special delivery will be credited to the Postal Administration of the first country of origin. The said amount will be also retained by the same administration whenever these parcels cannot be delivered.

11. UNFORESEEN POSTAL CHARGES : Parcels covered by this treaty will not be subject to any other postal charge but to those foreseen in all the articles of this treaty.

12. RETURNED PARCELS : The return of parcels from one country to another will be subject to a supplementary charge determined in accord with articles 4,5,6, which will be collected from the sender, besides the special charges and custom charges that these parcels may be subject to.

13. PROHIBITION : (1) It is forbidden to send by mail any parcel containing: (a) a letter of communication considered as such (however, it is allowed to enclose in the parcels an open invoice with its corresponding particulars and also a plain copy of the sende4s address and that of the consignee).

(b) An enclosure with an address different from the one on the parcel. (c) Any live animal (except the bees contained in cases made ad hoc to avoid danger for the Post Office employees and that contents may be easily determined). (d) Any article not allowed by the Customs or other rules and regulations in force in each of the contracting countries. (e) Explosives or combustive substances and in general any other article of dangerous handling.

(2) It is also forbidden to send from one country to another uninsured parcels containing coins, gold orsilver objects, jewels, or other valuable articles.

(3) Should a parcel which does not comply with these regulations be delivered

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from one administration to the other, the latter will proceed in accord with its rules and regulations.

(4) The administrations will exchange their respective lists of forbidden articles, but in case of violation they shall not incur in any responsibility with the police and customs authorities or with the sender of the parcel.

14. RESPONSIBILITY :(1) In case of loss, breakage, etc., of the contents of parcels, except those cases considered as of force majeure, or that the contents be considered as of the ones mentioned in sections 1 and 2 of Article 13, the consigner or in his place the consignee, at his request will be entitled to a reimbursement equivalent to the full value of the damaged or lost article, unless this was due to carelessness of the sender or to the nature of the article sent. This reimbursement will not exceed 25 francs (gold) for uninsured parcels and the amount of the insurance for insured parcels. The sender of a lost parcel or of a parcel which contents have been damaged or totally lost in the mails will also be entitled to the reimbursement of the postage. In any event, the Postal Administrations will retain the insurance fees.

(2) The Postal Administration through which the remittance has been made will make the reimbursements. Said administration will reserve its right to make a claim from the Administration in which district the loss or damage has occurred in order to reimburse itself the amount of insurance paid.

(3) The Administration which received the parcel without objection and which cannot prove its delivery or its transmission to the next Administration, in the case of a parcel in transit, shall be held responsible.

(4) The Administration from which the parcel is sent will pay the claims at the earliest possible moment, or at the latest one year from the date in which the claim has been made. The administration responsible for the loss will be under the obligation to reimburse without delay to the Administration of origin the amount of the claim paid by the latter and any postage refunded by same.

(5) It is understood that no claim will be considered unless presented within a year after the remittance of the parcel. After this period the applicant will have no right to make any claim. The Administration of the country of origin will have the right to reimburse the sender for account of an intermediate country or the Administration of the country of destination, if such country having been notified has taken no action in the matter within a period of nine months. If a debtor administration declines payment of reimbursement after its responsibility has been proved, then it will have to pay besides the reimbursement, any other incidental expenses resulting from the unjustified delay in payment.

(6) If the loss or damage should occur during the transportation between the office of exchange of the two Administrations and if it should not be possible to determine which of the two offices was at fault then each of the Administrations will pay half of the amount of the claim.

(7) TheAdministrations will cease to be responsible for the parcels after their owners or their agents have accepted their deliveries and also for the parcels which disposition could not be justified on account of the destruction of official papers due to force majeure. In regard to parcels in transit the Administrations will not be responsible should the loss, damage, etc. occur under the service of a country which does not assume any responsibility.

15. FRAUDULENT INSURANCE : (1). No parcel could be insured for a larger amount than the value of its contents. The infraction of this rule, with intention to fraud, will deprive the sender of the fight of a claim and legal proceedings will be taken against the infractor in accord with the laws of the country of origin.

16. VALUE OF BAGS : The value of the bags in which the parcels will travel between the two countries will be equally divided between both of the Postal Administrations.

17. NATIONAL LEGISLATION : 1. The National Legislation of the R. of Cuba andGreat Britain will apply to any unforeseen detail not covered by the present treaty and the rules for its execution.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

(2) The Postal Administration of the contracting governments will exchange communications regularly regarding their legislation, dispositions and regulations applying to the transportation of parcels.

18. REGULATIONS : The Postal Administrations of the two contracting governments will designate the offices or proper places for the international exchange of the parcel post service, will adopt regulations applying to the way of transportation of these parcels and such other measures as to insure the proper execution of the present treaty.

19. DURATION OF THE TREATY : 1. This treaty will be in force on the date determined by the Postal Administration of the two contracting governments by mutual agreement.

2. It will remain in force until one year after one of the contracting governments has notified to the other government its intention to withdraw.

3. The present treaty will be ratified and the ratification exchanged in London as soon as possible.

4. In testimony whereof, the undersigned duly authorized to this effect, have signed the present treaty in Spanish and English, affixing their seals.

MADE IN DUPLICATE IN LONDON ON THE FIRST DAY OF DECEMBER, 1927.

(L.S.) Austen Chamberlain,
for Great Britain.
(L.S.) Guillermo Patterson
for the Republic of Cuba

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

HEADQUARTERS

ADDRESS THE COMMANDANT, U. S. COAST GUARD
AND REFER TO No. 64
10[illegible]-9720

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

WASHINGTON 29 June 1928

2657-B-287

WAR DEPARTMENT

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Chief Intelligence Officer, U. S. Coast Guard.
To: Chief, Military Intelligence Division, U. S. Army.

Subject: Cuba.

1. Agents of this office in the West Indies report that President Machado of Cuba is preparing to run for re-election on a platform which opposes the curtailment of sugar production in Cuba, and proposes an effort to have the United States tariff on sugar reduced, in order that the continued production of large crops of that necessary commodity may be effected.

2. Aside from any sentimental interest which the citizens of the United States may have in the prosperity of Cuba, it is suggested that if our tariff finally results in making us dependent on Hawaii and the Philippines for sugar, it would place us in a bad military situation because the long line of communication across the Pacific will be very difficult to protect and maintain.

3. It is further suggested that this matter is a very proper one to be very seriously considered by the General Staff of the Army.

CHAS.S.ROOT.

Read from Col. Hourze, 7/31/28 "Purposely buried."

ARS

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/24/71

4-1 1928 2657-g-288 22 OCT 1928

G-2 Report 3510-c

CUBA (Political)

SUBJECT: National tendencies toward legal acceptance of electoral results.

RECEIVED G-2 W. D. OCT 22 1928

1. In many countries of Latin America, the traditional tendency is not to accept electoral results in good grace, when a powerful faction has been thwarted at the polls. The history of some of these countries, since the days of separation from Spain, has been one long story of political turmoil, and when the tradition of a people over a century or more has been along one political line, it cannot be changed in a day or by a wave of the hand.

2. The tendency in Cuba can be said to be more or less in line with some of the other Latin countries, in that the party losing at the polls is liable to foment trouble in an effort to bring the United States on the scene, or, in some other manner, to accept the result with bad grace and to seek to discredit the new regime.

3. However, insofar as Cuba is concerned, the influence of the United States has always been a deterrent, although not always a preventative, of after election violence or unrest. Not only the treaty ties with the United States, but the geographical position of that country has perhaps ended for all time any chance of a real revolution following an election, because before events reach such a serious stage, the good offices of the American Government will no doubt be offered to soften the ill feeling.

James C.R Schwenck

JAMES C.R SCHWENCK
MAJOR GS MA.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

4-1 1928 111
2657-g-289 100
1

G-2 Report 3520-

CUBA (Political)

SUBJECT: Freedom of speech and Action.

RECEIVED G-2 W. D. OCT 22 1928

1. ARTICLE 25 of the Cuban constitution provides:

"ALL PERSONS MAY FREELY WITHOUT CENSORSHIP EXPRESS HIS THOUGHTS EITHER BY WORD OF MOUTH OR IN WRITING THROUGH THE PRESS OR IN ANY OTHER MANNER WHATSOEVER, SUBJECT TO THE RESPONSIBILITIES SPECIFIED BY LAW, WHENEVER THEREBY ATTACKS ARE MADE UPON THE HONOR OF INDIVIDUALS, UPON SOCIAL ORDER and UPON PUBLIC PEACE".

2. ARTICLE 28 provides:

"ALL INHABITANTS OF THE REPUBLIC HAVE THE RIGHT TO ASSEMBLE PEACEFULLY UNARMED AND TO ASSOCIATE FOR ALL LAWFUL PURSUITS OF LIFE".

3. ARTICLE 40 states that rights granted in No. 28 shall not be suspended throughout the Republic or any part thereof, except temporarily and when the safety of the State may require it in cases of invasion of the territory or serious disturbances which threaten the public peace.

4. The present Government of Cuba is not tolerant of public criticism. Previous to the administration of General Machado, not a very high grade of journalism prevailed, and it was the usual method to search the family and private life of the individual and hold them up to the sun - even using trumped up events. One cannot say that the grade of journalism is higher, but it is more fearful and some of the events previously advised of have made the press very careful as to their criticism of high functionaries of the Government. There is practically no criticism of the Government in power from the press and it is largely so from fear.

5. There can be said to be no free expression of public opinion. The right of assembly, peaceful, has been denied in many quarters, when the object thereof was to voice some opposition to the Government in power. Free speech does not exist when it is in opposition to the Government.

6. CONCLUSIONS : Real constructive criticism, either thru the Press or by the usual method of free speech in open, peaceful assembly, does not exist at the present time in Cuba. The entire press is behind the Government, either from subsidies received, or other favors granted, or because the owner of the paper has an axe to grind, and criticism does not exist because the present Government of Cuba will forcibly suppress it.

It may be that when the new term of office for the President has been approved at the polls and he goes into power for another six years, relaxation may occur, for then the General will have no real reason to fear just criticism, for he surely cannot aspire to another term of office.

James C.R. Schwenck

JAMES C.R.SCHWENCK
MAJOR GS MA.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

For ~~Official~~ Use Only.

JUN 17 1983
GENERAL STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.

4-1 2657-8-289

WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report 3520-a

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Government Toleration of Public Criticism

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUN 14 1933

Freedom of Speech and Action:

1. On June 8, 1933, the Military Governor of Havana issued instructions to the police and army personnel under his jurisdiction for the purpose of curbing free speech. The police are directed to arrest persons found in the streets or in public places who express political opinions deemed to be prejudicial to the present Government.

The importance of these instructions depends upon the interpretation placed upon each individual case which may be examined by the Military Governor or his assistants.

Whether the Military Governor will enforce these new instructions in a more or less severe manner is as yet not known.

Further reports on this subject will be submitted when the practical application of these instructions can be studied.

T. N. Gimperling,
Lieut. Colonel, Infantry,
Military Attache.

Source: Press

From M. A., Havana No. 4113 Date: June 13, 1933.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
4-1 192657-g-270
3850-f

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

SUBJECT : Treaties

Military Attaché U. S. OCT 29 1928

1. According to official statement issued by the Cuban State Department under date of October, 12, 1928, this country has ratified the following labor treaties voted at the recent International Labor Congress held in Geneva:

(a) Regulation of women's work before and after childbirth.

(b) Regulation of women's work in general;
Minimum age limits for agricultural work.

(c) Regulation of night work for minors.

(d) Age limit for minors, manual work activities.

(e) Sailor's indemnization following shipwreck.

(f) Workmen's compensation measures.

(g) Compensation for professional diseases.

(h) Regulation of night work at bakeries.

(i) General accident compensation legislation.

2. Further details of these treaties will be forwarded when available.

James C R Schwenck.
JAMES C.R.SCHWENCK
MAJOR GS MA.

M/A Report No.3029 October 26,1928.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

153

MILITARY INTEL. DIV.

4-1 1929 2657-g-29/1

JAN 8

G-2 Report 3850-f

7

CUBA (Political)

RECEIVED G-2 W. D. JAN 8 1929

SUBJECT : Treaties

1. President Machado sent the KELLOGG PEACE PACT to the Senate early in December, together with a message urging its acceptance.

2. On December 12th, the Cuban Senate unanimously approved it.

James C.R. Schwinck
JAMES C.R.SCHWINCK
MAJOR GS MA.

M/A Report No.3045 December 28th, 1928.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA

March 1, 1929. 2657-g-292

No. 3060

To: A. C. of S., G-2.

Subject: Propaganda against the present Cuban Administration.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D MAR 9 1929

1. With reference to the recent alleged attack on the life of President Machado, I desire to render the following brief report: From time to time throughout the past month it has come to my personal attention through creditable sources and otherwise that there is on the island a body of men engaged in all kinds of propaganda, most of which is directed against the present administration of the Republic of Cuba. This propaganda has expressed itself in such ideas as the followings:

a That the United States has announced that it will not permit President Machado to resume office on the twentieth of May.

b That the United States on the twentieth of May will, if there is the slightest revolutionary activity or demonstration, land troops and take over again the administration of the Island of Cuba.

c That the present Cuban administration, both through activities of the President and the members of his cabinet, especially Carlos Miguel de Cespedes, no longer enjoys the trust and support of the United States.

2. Some two weeks ago a Cuban gentleman of social prominence, closely associated with President Machado, brought to my office a summary of all the rumors that he had heard and wanted to know if the American Embassy attached any importance or credence to any of them. He stated that this memorandum was brought to me, following a personal conversation between him and President Machado. I showed this memorandum to the Ambassador and his response was that he doubted the legitimacy of the paper and instructed me to tell my informant that he, the Ambassador, had laughed and said there was nothing to it, which message I conveyed to my informant.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

3. Some three days ago this same informant told me that he was going to Camaguey to try to prevent a shooting; that one, Dr. Eduardo Dergara, was scheduled to be bumped off; that he had been warned through a mutual friend and decided to arrest him as a means of preventing him from being shot.

4. Two nights ago I heard rumors to the effect that an attempt had been made on the life of President Machado. The next morning the newspaper carried head-lines to this effect and said that nine men engaged in propaganda against the present administration had been denounced by Chief Fors of the Judicial Police and other arrests would follow; that no attempt had been made against the life of Machado but that it was decided that all propaganda against the administration would be stopped. The men arrested are alleged to be members of the Nationalistic Party. They are, however, of little prominence socially or politically. I have attempted to find out who is the brains back of this organization and propaganda and have been told that Dr. Dergara and another man in Oriente, about whom I know nothing, were the brains back of the organization and were known to be such, but did not appear as such in the activities.

5. The following quotation appears in "El Mundo" of March first by President Machado as a denial of the present propaganda:

"THERE IS NO REASON FOR ALARM AT THE PRESENT TIME -
NOR WILL THERE BE.

"First of all I want to make a public manifestation of gratitude to all those persons who, moved by the information published by our local press, accosted me, offering to the government their unconditional support.

"The information published referred to the arrests which were made by the police at the instigation of the judicial authorities because of propaganda which for some time has been disseminated in an insidious and unpatriotic manner - elements which, although known, absolutely lacked authority.

"In consequence, there is no reason for alarm at the present time - nor will there be - because my government - and the people are on my side - guarantees the tranquility of the country.

"Furthermore, I have confidence in the rectitude of the tribunals of justice, those which are charged with the

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

execution of their responsibilities, and the country may be assured that the law will be enforced without passion or exaggeration of any kind.

Gerardo Machado."

6. There are all kinds of rumors afloat. I think there is an expressed dissention against the present administration and I think this is aggravated by the hard times financially which Cuba is undergoing. However, I do not believe that there can be any substantial revolution as long as the army remains loyal and I think that is the status of the army today. I expect, however, to see various types of revolutionary demonstration which in effect will amount to nothing.

James C. R. Schwenck

JAMES C. R. SCHWENCK,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

American Embassy

OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE,
5 RUE DE CHAILLOT,
PARIS.

3 copies
3-1 H 2657-g-283 1929
WAR DEPARTMENT

CONFIDENTIAL

#15,348-W

September 17, 1929.

file noted by col Ford & Col Perrin

Subject : Request made to me by Mr. Henri Laraque, Counselor of the Haitian Legation in Paris.

To : Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department, Washington, D.C.

1. I am enclosing herewith copies of two memoranda sent to Mr. Armour with regard to a request made to me by Mr. Henri Laraque, Counselor of the Haitian Legation in Paris. These copies are sent to you for your information and for any use you may think should be made of them. I am under the impression that the memorandum of February 8th has already been forwarded by Mr. Armour and perhaps the other may be likewise disposed of. In any case, it throws an interesting side-light on the developments in Haiti where our military forces have produced the longest period of peace known in that country since the first revolution when all white persons were killed.

Wm. W. Harts

WM. W. HARTS,
Brigadier General, U.S.A.
Military Attache

WWH/cd

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

3 encls.

H 2657-g-293 1929

American Embassy

OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE,
5 RUE DE CHAILLOT,
PARIS.

WAR DEPARTMENT

CONFIDENTIAL

#15,348-W

September 17, 1929.

filed noted by col Ford col Rein

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Wm. W. Harts,
Brigadier General, U.S.A.
Military Attache

WWH/cd

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
3-Y 2057-g-293
OCT 1929
WAR DEPARTMENT

September 17, 1929.

MEMORANDUM FOR : Mr. Armour.

I beg to invite attention to my memorandum to you dated February 8, 1929, reporting a conversation I had had at that time with Mr. Henri LARAQUE, Counselor of the Haitain Legation and his half-brother, Dr. BOBO, formerly an aspirant for the dictatorship of Haiti. In this conversation, you will recall, a request was made that Dr. Bobo be authorized to return to Haiti with the consent of the United States Government in order to permit him to stand for election for President of the Republic next spring.

A short time ago, Mr. Laraque wrote a note to me asking what result had come from my earlier communication. To this letter I replied asking him to stop here in my office at some convenient time when he happened to be in this vicinity, but before receiving this note he called anyway.

I told him that no reply had ever been received by me and that it was probably due to the fact that a request of this character could scarcely be considered as properly placed before the State Department. This would more than ever seem to be the probable reason as the Haitian Government maintained a Legation in Washington, a part of whose duties was the presentation of just such requests. I suggested to him that Dr. Bono should make his request through the Haitain Legation in Washington in the ordinary way prescribed by protocal regulations. He stated that this was quite impossible owing to political differences. He then suggested that perhaps he might have some senator or representative in the United States Congress present his request. I replied that should he adopt this method he would undoubtedly get a very prompt reply.

It appears that Dr. Bobo is half-brother to Mr. Laraque and was the leader in the last revolution in Haiti just before the American occupation.

At a social entertainment recently I had an opportunity of discussing the same subject with General Russell of the Marine Corps who happened to be in Paris on leave of absence. It will be recalled that he is the chief government representative in Port-au-Prince, the capital of Haiti. General Russell said he knew a great deal about

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

the activities of Dr. Bobo and that under no consideration would he recommend his return and in fact he thought that such a step on the part of Dr. Bono would lead to difficulties which he hoped to avoid. He felt that Dr. Bobo should at all costs be prevented from returning to Haiti if it could be done properly in view of the fact that some one might attempt to put some pressure on the State Department to permit Dr. Bono's return. A new revolutionary effort would likely be encouraged by him.

I thought it well to furnish you with this additional information for such use as you might think it merits. It scarcely requires any further action now as the incident is closed for the time being anyway.

WM. W. HARTS,
Brigadier General, U.S.A.
Military Attaché

WWH/cd

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFF

3-1 OC 2657-Q-73 1 1929

WAR DEPARTMENT

CONFIDENTIAL

#15,348-Q

September 17, 1929.

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To : Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department, Washington, D.C.

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WM. T. HARTS,
Brigadier General, U.S.A.
Military Attache

WTH/cd

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

COPY 1.

3-3 2657-g-293 1 1929

February 8, 1929.

WAR DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ARMOUR:

At a social function a few days ago I had a conversation with Mr. Henri Laraque, Counselor of the Haitain Legation who stated that he had an important matter to communicate to me privately which affected the good relationship between the people of the United States and the people of his country. I made an appointment to call on him yesterday afternoon and had a long conversation with him of over an hour and a half. There was present at the same time Dr.Bobo whom he referred to as his brother (presumably his brother-in-law) who, it appears, was more personally and directly concerned in the conversation than Commander Laraque. Briefly, the conversation was about as follows:

Dr. Bobo stated that many years ago he had studied medicine and had practiced among the people of his country more with a view to acquiring a certain popularity and personal influence than for any profit he might make out of his profession. During several years he had acquired a very considerable personal following in the north and center of Haiti. He desired to use his influence, he stated, for the good of his country in suppressing errors and wrongs and in cultivating industry and production - accordingly he caused an uprising which placed him in supreme control as "Supreme Chief" in 1915. A short time later before he had been able to consolidate his power, Admiral Caperton and Captain Beech arrived from the United States stating that they had orders to assume sufficient control in the affairs of his State to prevent further disorder and bloodshed. These Naval officers offered him the position of President of the State, provided he would accept certain conditions of supervision at the hands of the American Government. These he refused and left the State for the neighboring country of Santo Domingo. Another man was induced to accept the position of President and from that time to the present the Government of Haiti has been in the hands of Americans really but with the actual Government nominally in the hands of the Haitians. This situation, during the intervening thirteen years has produced great discontent among the people, more particularly of the north of Haiti; so that they are now hostile to the American Government and ready to follow any leader who can succeed in overthrowing the present regime. This, of course, is impossible with the U. S. Troops in charge, and the natives, he stated, were in a sullen mood

and .....

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

and think that he, as their friend and former leader, could meet this condition provided he could return to Haiti and become a candidate in the election for the Presidency which election takes place the first of January 1930. He was very desirous of knowing whether his return and candidacy would be favored by the United States for, if not, he would be unable to do anything to improve the local situation. He stated that since his exile in 1915, he had not been back to Haiti, inasmuch as the officials of the State Department had forced him to leave Santo Domingo when he had taken refuge there in 1915. It was for this reason that he hesitated to raise this question in the normal way but preferred to see whether the ground could not be prepared in some way through me. I think he would like to write to some on in the State Department and get some assurance that he would not be regarded unfavorably should be return to become a candidate for the Presidency but whether the State Department would like to make any answer to such a request I have no means of knowing.

I told Dr. Bobo and Commander Laraque that I had no authority whatever as Military Attaché to the American Embassy to discuss any such matters of a political nature but would be glad to mention the matter to the proper official of the Embassy.

Commander Laraque several times mentioned his warm friendship for President Borno who was responsible for his position as Counselor.

Dr. Bobo disclaimed any responsibility for the terrific cruelties of the revolution of 1915, saying that he was always humane and that his present love for his people was the motive of his request.

I am not altogether sure whether this is a bona fide request or whether it is an effort to bring out some reply from the State Department that might be used disadvantageously. Both of these men were keen-eyed, intelligent and extremely earnest. Permit me to suggest that whatever action is taken should be well scrutinized before reaching their hands, should it be desirable to make any reply at all.

WM. W. HARTS,
Brigadier General, U.S. Army,
Military Attaché

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OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
OCT 5 1929
WAR DEPARTMENT

4-11-2657-G-294
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CUBA (Political)

Subject: Present Executive.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D OCT 5 1929

1. The Saint's Day of President Machado was observed in Cuba on September 24, 1929. For some weeks prior to the celebration, the press devoted a considerable portion of its space to the event and urged all residents of Havana and nearby towns to participate in the ceremonies.

2. Various committees were formed, members of which were all in political favor, for the purpose of urging all business houses in Havana to close on the afternoon of September 24th in order to allow the employees to participate in the celebration. Members of these committees are known to have called on various business firms and suggested the observance of a half holiday. As a result, the vast majority of all business firms and banks did close during the afternoon of September 24th. It is not known whether or not those firms which did not close have been approached as a result of their failure to close, although the implied "urging" of the committees prior to the celebration indicated that this would be done.

3. All governmental employees were given a full day's holiday. In the Public Works Department, which has by far the greatest number of governmental employees on its payroll, each employee was issued a card "inviting" him and his family to attend the public demonstration in honor of the President that was held on the afternoon of September 24th in the town of General Machado (formerly Rancho Boyeros). This "invitation" was signed by Pedro Cartaña, Director-General of Public Works. An interesting feature of this "invitation" was a note at the bottom of the card to the effect that the card would be collected at the town of President Machado and would be considered as proof of the attendance of the employee to whom it was issued.

4. The President received the Diplomatic Corps at 10:00 A.M. Vast crowds surrounded the entrance of the Palace at the time of our arrival, but very little effort was made by the police to keep the crowd in order. The President's reception to the Diplomatic Corps was most informal and lasted for about ten minutes. After the reception we were all led by the attachés of the Foreign Office to an elevator in the rear of the Palace which necessitated our passing the main stairways. These stairways were packed with people, all waiting to catch a glimpse of the President, and when he did appear, he was greeted vociferously. It was noted, however, that about three-fourths of the crowd were women.

5. In the afternoon the public reception at the town of President Machado took the form of a political demonstration. The various business organizations, governmental bureaux, political clubs, and societies were reviewed by the President, after which he received the leaders of each group. Among the American organizations participating in the celebration was the American Legion. This organization was given the place of honor in passing in review. There was considerable doubt in the minds of many of the members of the Legion Post as to whether or not they

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3116. Date: Sept. 26, 1929.

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should participate in this demonstration, due to the political nature of it. Several of the members sought advice from the undersigned on this subject. Naturally, no suggestions as to their participation were made by me.

8. During the day President Machado made a few brief addresses. He took occasion in one of his addresses to refer to the attacks that are being made against his administration in the United States and referred to the resolution reported to have been offered in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee calling for an investigation of conditions in Cuba, and subsequently denied in the press as being in existence by Senator Borah. A portion of his address was as follows:

> "I have read with considerable satisfaction today the statement by Senator Borah, of the Foreign Relations Committee of the United States Senate, in which he denies the existence of any resolution which would question the honor of the Republic of Cuba and its rulers. I have already sent my heartiest congratulations to Senator Borah because his act confirms my belief that in the Senate of the great neighboring country are honorable legislators, friends of truth and justice, and because it is a propitious time to give "the lie" to those people who have been slandering our government to a foreign government."

7. A movement was started on September 24th to secure sufficient funds from the Cuban people to erect a statue of General Machado. This movement was endorsed by practically all the leading business firms of Havana. The list of signatures affixed to the resolution printed in the press of today included many Americans prominent in business affairs. From confidential sources it has been learned that some of these Americans were reluctant in affixing their signatures to this resolution, but were "advised" to do so.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

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3700-a

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Importance of Party Organization in Political Life of Country.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D OCT 5 1929

1. The Nationalistic Union, a political group of prominent Cubans unfriendly to the present Machado regime, submitted a declaration to all the papers in Havana, copy of which is enclosed, on September 21, 1929 for publication. This article has not been published in any of the Cuban newspapers.

2. A special messenger was sent to the United States for the purpose of furnishing this declaration to the press for the United States, but to date nothing has been learned as to whether or not it was published in the United States' papers.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Confidential.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3117. Date: Sept. 27, 1929.

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Declaramos, autorizados por nuestra historia de patriotas y de ciudadanos conscientes de nuestros deberes civicos, respetuosos como somos de los principios democraticos y de la Ley, que el Gobierno que preside el General Machado y Morales, a partir del veinte de Mayo de mil novecientos veinte y nueve, es arbitrario e inconstitucional.---

Así mismo manifestamos, respondiendo a los dictados de la verdad y de nuestra propia conciencia, que en Cuba existe un estado de opresión, que ha hecho imposible toda oposicion justa y legitima amparada por la Constitución y las Leyes; y que el Partido Union Nacionalista, que cuenta con incalculables adeptos en toda la Isla, no ha podido organizarse por las persecuciones ordenadas por el Gobierno, sirviendose este de las fuerzas publicas para disolver nuestras reuniones y encarcelando, al propio tiempo, a no pocos de nuestros correligionarios entre los que figuran ciudadanos de grandes prestigios.--- Es necesario que se conozca que la situacion actual de Cuba es la negación de los derechos humanos y que bajo la autoridad del General Machado, no existen garantias individuales para la libre propaganda de ideas y principios que puedan contribuir al mas completo equilibrio de la vida ciudadana.--- Estimamos que el problema que se debate es de justicia y de civilización, sin que nos guie el menor interes personal en nuestra labor de restauración de los derechos conculcados, respondiendo así a los principios emancipadores sustentados por los fundadores de la nacionalidad cubana, con el valioso y decidido auxilio del noble Pueblo Americano.---

Consignamos, al propio tiempo, que las protestas formuladas por algunos diarios de la Habana o entidades que responden

a la

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a la directa influencia del General Machado, no pueden destruir nuestras afirmaciones que son el mas exacto producto de la verdad, en armonia con el criterio publico ansioso de justicia y de paz moral tan perturbados en esta hora, y cuyas afirmaciones en cuanto al orden material estamos dispuestos a aportar las pruebas, y en el orden legal a sostener en la esfera del derecho que el estado actual politico de Cuba es una violacion manifiesta del Derecho Publico Interno e Internacional.---

Habana Septiembre 21 de 1929.---

Coronel Carlos Mendieta - General Fco. Peraza - Coronel R. Mendez Peñate -

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WAR DEPARTMENT
3700-8

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Importance of Party Organization in Political life of Country.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. OCT 15 1929

1. The Nacionalista Union is endeavoring to keep alive the subject of "Political Oppression" in Cuba. The Cuban press, naturally, devotes none of its space to this topic, except to combat articles that appear in the press of the United States on this subject. Copies of all such articles printed in the United States are translated into Spanish by the Nacionalista Party and distributed throughout the country. Recently considerable difficulty has been experienced by this party in getting any printer to reproduce any of their circulars, and they have had to resort to the typewriting and mimeographing of the circulars that they are distributing.

2. In order to show how closely this party looks for any articles appearing in any publications in the United States attacking the present regime, I am enclosing herewith copy of a translation into Spanish of an editorial of the Washington Daily News, which appeared on page 3936 of the Congressional Record for September 19, 1929.

3. It is not believed that the distribution of these articles by the Nacionalista Union is having any great effect upon the Cuban people. Their feeling still seems to be one of entire indifference toward the political issues of the day, and the influence of this political party over them at present appears to be of little importance.

T. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Confidential.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3125. Date: Oct. 11, 1929.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
OCT 15 1929
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WAR DEPARTMENT

COPIADO DEL:
-Congressional Record- Pagina 3936-

Seventy -First Congress,First Session
Vol 71 Washington,Thursday,September 19,1929 No. 72

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Relaciones con Cuba

Observaciones del Honprable William E.Borah,de Idaho En el Senado de los Estados Unidos-Jueves,Septiembre 19(dia legislativo del Lunes 9 de Septiembre de 1929)

Un Editorial sobre la situación de Cuba.

Mr.BORAH.- Sr.Presidente,presento un editorial del Washington Daily News de ayer sobre la situación en Cuba,que pido sea publicado en el Record.

No habiendo objeción,se ordena que el editorial sea publicado en el RECORD,como sigue:

(Del Washington Daily News,September 18,1921)

GUGGENHEIM CONTRA MACHADO.-

El nombramiento de Harry F. Guggenheim como embajador en Cuba trae otra vez la atención sobre la intolerable situación en la Isla y las dificultades existentes entre en las relaciones entre los Estados Unidos y su pupila.

Hay dos razones obvias para mandar a Guggenheim a la Habana.El es un hombre de negocios con grandes intereses en la America latina, y muchos de los problemas de los dos paises son de naturaleza economica,como el azucar y las tarifas.El es uno de los fundaderes del desarrollo del comércio aereo.El comercio Latino-Americano puede ser estimulado por comunicaciones rápidas por medio de una red de lineas aereas.De esa red aerea la Habana es el eje,un lugar estrategico,y ciertamente un lugar para un Guggenheim.

Pero hay otras cosas que considerar mas importantes que el comercio.

El nuevo Embajador va a representar a una democracia en un país castigado con una de las dictaduras peores en una epoca de dictaduras.No habría dificultad para un Embajador en circunstancias ordinarias,porque las condiciones interiores de un país en nada le importan.Pero con Cuba es diferente. Cuba es un protectorado de los Estados Unidos.

Los Estados Unidos están obligados por la Enmienda Platt y tratado a proteger los derechos de los cubanos garantizando un Gobierno cubano "adecuado para la protección de la vida,propiedad y libertad individual",.

La dictadura de Machado destruye la vida,la propiedad y la libertad individual.Muchos de los opositores políticos de Machado han desaparecido misteriosamente,sus cuerpos han sido encontrados mas tarde en las prisiones o en el mar.El ha violado los derechos de la propiedad de cubanos y americanos en los últimos casos desafiando las cortes y las protestas del Departamento de Estado.

La libertad individual no existe en la isla que nosotros ayudamos a libertarse del despotismo español. Machado ha barrido con la opo-

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sición,partidos políticos y gremios obreros.El ha cerrado Universidad.El ha destruido la libertad de imprenta,la libre del pensamiento y el derecho de reunión.Por trampas legislativas manipulando las elecciones ha prorrogado su periodo de elección que debió terminar en Mayo último,hasta 1935.

Los cubanos amenazan con una revolución como el único medio de acabar ellos con el terror machadista y restaurar los derechos inalienables.

Que es lo que los Estados Unidos van a hacer sobre sus obligaciones para preservar esa ~~el~~ libertades cubanas? Machado ~~el~~ alardea de que tiene el apoyo entusiasta de Washington.Nosotros no lo creemos. Pero la inaccion del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos es muy dificil de explicar.

Ahi es donde entra Guggenheim. Como Embajador el reportará e interpretará la dictadura a Washington. Si él ve claramente y reporta sin miedo, habrá un cambio de la ~~pie~~ política del gobierno ~~hacia~~ con Machado muy pronto.

Se estan jugando intereses mayores que el comercio y la aviación.

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OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL DIV.
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WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

4-1

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Importance of Party Organization in Political Life of the Country.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. OCT 29 1929

1. The Nacionalista Union has circulated another manifesto to the Cuban people, original copy of which and English translation are enclosed. Considerable difficulty was had in obtaining a printer to print this manifesto and when one was finally had, he refused to put the name and address of his printing shop on the manifesto, as required by law. This manifesto has been given wide circulation throughout Havana and the Provinces, but its effect on the people of the country is considered negligible at this time.

2. It will be noted that this manifesto was dated October 10, 1929, the anniversary of one of Cuba's most sacred holidays - "El Grito de Yara" - this being the anniversary of the beginning of the ten years' war against Spain.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Confidential.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3132. Date: October 19, 1929.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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TO THE COUNTRY.

The Senators and the Representatives, that is, those who occupy legally their seats - due to having been elected by the people - as well as those who should have gone out of office on the first of April of this year - because on that day ended the period for which they were elected - have recently met in extraordinary session for the purpose of approving a very bad modification of the Railway Retirement Law, but in reality to declare their adhesion to the ruling regime, as all elements having more or less official character in this country seem to be doing. The Governors and the Mayors whose terms have been prorogued; the Provincial and Municipal Councilors; the Chambers of Commerce and the National and Foreign Societies, the contractors and great purveyors of the State, all those who here have to live in more or less intimate relation with Public Power, have made manifest their admiration for that Power, as if they had responded to a signal, applaud not only what they call its internal policies, but also its external policies - applause which is really astounding because the external policy of Cuba is actually the same as that which has been followed from the first day, and which consists in living in peace and harmony with all the nations of the civilized world.

The Senators and Representatives could not remain, under such circumstances, with their arms folded right up to next month; no, they had to meet and so they were called in extraordinary session so that their voice also should

have

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have to be heard in the concert of praises which is intended to silence the protest of a nation which shed its blood in abundance in order to enjoy the liberty and justice which it deserves for the degree of culture and of civilization which it had attained even before it had succeeded in making itself an independent nation.

These protestations of adhesion to the ruling system are due to the intent to hide the truth; but it is almost inconceivable that those who are in accord with this procedure should hope to achieve any practical result. All the inhabitants of Cuba know the truth about what is occurring at this sad moment in our history. As well as or better than the suffering public, it is known by those who willingly or of necessity are applauding the existing regime. All of us here know that the legally constituted Congress approved of abominable constitutional reforms which were objectionable to the country, because they violated the essential principles of the Constitution; but all of us here also know that the Constitutional Convention convoked under Article 115 of the Constitution then in force, to approve or discard the reform made by the Congress, exceeding its authority, did not approve the work of the Congress, but altered it, and modified it according to its whims, with the purpose, among others, of authorizing the President of the Republic, who was prohibited from re-election, to be re-elected for six years, accomplishing thereby a real coup d'etat, which has violated from that moment all of the public life of the country and deprived the constituted powers of any character of legitimacy

which

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which is essential for retaining the respect and esteem of citizens conscious of their rights and their duties.

From that moment, the UNION NACIONALISTA, a legally constituted organization, which had tried to prevent the realization of this coup d'etat of which our people are the victims, declared solemnly that it considered the deed as a true coup d'etat to which it refused its voluntary respect and against which it not only raised its most formal protest, and had to combat it energetically and perseveringly with the weapons which the little legality that still existed in spite of the coup d'etat left in its hands.

Nor has that bit of legality been respected by the blind holders of Public Power. We have tried to utilize the right of assembly in order to set forth our principles, and our reunions have been dissolved by the public forces. We have sought to publish periodicals which would voice our opinions and the police have invaded our work-shops, imprisoning for months the owners and directors of these newspapers, inventing false accusations to silence our propaganda and to intimidate our partisans. Against this reign of force and violence employed by those who are illegally in power, we have been protesting, hoping that the voice of patriotism would make itself heard in the conscience of the holders of the soverégnty of this people, who cannot have lost their legendary strength of character in spite of the fact that some believed them indifferent to their duties and the dictates of a sound patriotism; and although

force

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force and violence has closed to our protest legal re-
course we have not abandoned it, nor will we abandon it
for the good of Cuba.

On the other hand, it does not appear that the great
and radical rectifications which the serious situation of
the country requires should be made rapidly and decisively
are admitted or even understood by those who today usurp
the direction of public affairs. On that account, now
more than ever, the UNION NACIONALISTA group believes it
its duty to reaffirm its program which has not altered,
its firm attitude against the illegalities which daily
are committed, against the arbitrary acts which are
systematically committed in disregard of those rights,
which are sacred, here where there should be civilization,
and above all, here where the constitutional regime rests
on sane principles of democracy.

For these powerful motives, now that an attempt is
being made by declarations of the directors of newspapers
friendly to this illegal situation, declarations directed
to the press of the United States, and by means of mani-
festations of official and unofficial organizations to
mislead public opinion within and without the Republic,
we believe in the duty of reiterating our well-known
statements, which were set forth in our previous mani-
festos, all of them addressed to our fellow-thinkers and
to the Cuban public.

Today as yesterday, we maintain the opinion that the
Constitution has been violated; that we are living under
a regime of coercion and of violence; that liberty is

proscribed

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prescribed to all who do not constitute themselves flatterers of the system; that Cuban opinion is in shackles; that the right of assembly does not exist; that public administration and civil life are subjugated by the armed forces of the Republic; that the existence of those who do not think as those who command wish, lacks absolutely all guarantee.

They are trying to excuse all this by saying that the country has made great progress, but the truth is that an administration, as torpid as it is impious, has impoverished it. Industry and commerce are sustained by means of prodigies and enforced economies; the proletarian classes suffer hunger, and the fictitious prosperity which the State endeavors to show serves only to hide for a period, relatively brief, the straitened circumstances of the country, squeezed by the multiplicity of excessive taxes which are bringing about the ruin of urban property and transferring rural property to the hands of foreigners at wretched prices.

As the current of harmony between the immense majority of the country and its self-imposed Governors is broken, thanks to combinations of violence and an audacity that at times is accompanied by total ignoring of responsibility, no way is seen to find a formula which will permit the solution through normal and harmonious channels of the very serious situation which has been created by those who imagine that in Cuba everything can be done with impunity. But while we foresee new troubles for the suffering country in which we were born, and for whose

liberty,

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liberty, independence, and prosperity many of us have struggled and all of us have sighed, we believe in the duty of proclaiming once more that we are not responsible for the present ills of the country, and that, on the contrary, we have fought and shall continue to fight against those who by their acts cause them; not that we shall desist in exhorting them to abandon the mistaken road which they follow; and turning in their tracks, that they should rectify the conduct which they are observing, sacrificing personal ambitions, and thus making it possible for all truly Cuban hearts to join in the salvation of the country from the dangers with which it is threatened by a policy of disregard of the Constitution, from exhorbitant pilfering, from a disorganized treasury, and above all, engendered by the profound division existing among Cubans, separated today into two castes: those who dare to do anything they can, and those who are treated like pariahs, deprived even of expressing their disagreement, of protesting against that which their conscience repudiates, and of endeavoring to obtain by legal means the revindication of their unrecognized and trampled rights.

At this moment, which to us appears critical and anguished, the UNION NACIONALISTA believes that it is complying with its duty in exposing clearly once more its attitude, its aspirations, and its convictions, which in no way have varied. And it does this, although in moderate language, yet with complete firmness and loyalty, looking only to the great interests of the country, which have

fallen

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WAR DEPARTMENT
1-1 50 2657-g-295 3 1929

AL PAIS

Los Senadores y los Representantes, así los que ocupan legítimamente sus escaños—por haber sido elegidos por el pueblo—como los que debieron cesar en primero de Abril del presente año—por haber cesado ese día el período para el que fueron designados—se han reunido recientemente en sesión extraordinaria con el pretexto de aprobar una pésima modificación a la Ley del Retiro Ferroviario; pero en realidad para declarar su adhesión al régimen imperante, como lo vienen haciendo todos los elementos que revisten en este país carácter más o menos oficial. Los Gobernadores y los Alcaldes prorrogados; los Consejeros Provinciales y los Ayuntamientos; las Cámaras de Comercio y las Sociedades nacionales y extranjeras, los contratistas de obras y grandes proveedores del Estado, todo lo que aquí tiene que vivir en relación más o menos estrecha con el Poder Público, han hecho manifestaciones de admiración por ese Poder, como si respondiesen a una consigna, aplaudiendo no solo lo que llaman su política interior, sino también la exterior, aplauso realmente asombroso, porque la política exterior de Cuba, es actualmente la misma que ha observado desde el primer día, y que consiste en vivir en paz y armonía con todas las naciones del mundo civilizado.

No podían en esas condiciones los Senadores y Representantes —permanecer con los brazos cruzados, y puesto que hasta el mes próximo—no habrían de reunirse, de ahí que se les convocase a sesión extraordinaria, a fin de que su voz se hiciese oir también en el concierto de alabanzas, con que se quiere acallar la protesta de un pueblo que derramó su sangre a raudales para gozar de las libertades y derechos que merece por el grado de cultura y de civilización a que había llegado, aún antes de que alcanzara a constituirse como nación independiente.

Estas protestas de adhesión al sistema imperante, obedece al propósito de ocultar la realidad; pero resulta punto menos que increíble que esperen alcanzar algún resultado práctico los que acuden a ese procedimiento. Todos los habitantes de Cuba saben la verdad de lo que está ocurriendo en este triste momento de nuestra historia. Tanto o mas que el pueblo que sufre, lo saben los que de grado o por fuerza aparecen aplaudiendo el régimen existente. Todos aquí sabemos que el Congreso legítimo acordó una reforma constitucional vituperable que repugnaba el país porque violaba principios esenciales de la Constitución; pero todos aquí también sabemos que la Convención Constituyente, convocada a tenor del artículo 115 de la Constitución entonces en vigor, para aprobar o desechar la reforma que hiciera el Congreso, extralimitándose en sus atribuciones, no aprobó la obra del Congreso, sino que la alteró, la modificó a su antojo, entre otros propósitos con el de autorizar al Presidente de la República, al que estaba prohibida la reelección, para que pudiera reelegirse por seis años, realizando así un verdadero atentado, que vició desde ese momento toda la vida pública del país y privó a los Poderes constituídos del carácter de legitimidad, que es esencial para obtener el respeto y el acatamiento de los ciudadanos conscientes de sus derechos y deberes.

Desde ese momento, la UNION NACIONALISTA, agrupación constituida legalmente, y que se esforzó en evitar que se realizara el atentado de que es víctima nuestro pueblo, declaró solemnemente que consideraba lo hecho como un verdadero "golpe de Estado" al que negaba su acatamiento voluntario, y contra el cual no solo levantaba su más formal protesta, sino que habría de combatirlo enérgica y perseverantemente con las armas que le brindaran la porción de legalidad que, apesar del atentado, quedara vigente.

Ni siquiera esa porción de legalidad ha sido respetada por los ciegos detentadores del Poder Público. Hemos intentado utilizar el derecho de reunión para propagar nuestros principios, y nuestras reuniones han sido disueltas por la fuerza pública. Hemos querido publicar periódicos, voceros de nuestras opiniones, y la policía ha invadido nuestros talleres, encarcelando durante meses a los propietarios y redactores de dichos periódicos, inventándose acusaciones falsas, para acallar nuestra propaganda y procurar intimidar a nuestros partidarios. Contra ese régimen de fuerza y de violencia, utilizado por los que ocupan el Poder ilegalmente, hemos venido protestando, esperanzados de que la voz del patriotisma se hiciera oir en la conciencia de los detentadores de la soberanía de este pueblo, que no es posible haya perdido su legendaria virilidad, apesar de que se le crea por algunos insensible al cumplimiento del deber y a los dictados de un sano patriotismo; y pese a que la fuerza y la violencia ha cerrado la vía legal a nuestra protesta, no la hemos abandonado ni la habremos de abandonar por el bien de Cuba.

Por otra parte, las grandes y radicales rectificaciones que la angustiosa situación porque atraviesa el país demanda que se lleven a cabo rápida y decisivamente, no parece que son admitidas, ni comprendidas siquiera, por los que hoy usurpan la dirección de la cosa pública. Por eso, mas que nunca la Agrupación UNION NACIONALISTA se cree en el deber de afirmar una vez mas con su programa, que no ha alterado, su actitud decidida contra las ilegalidades que a diario se cometen, contra los actos arbitrarios que sistemáticamente se realizan, con mengua de aquellos derechos que son sagrados, allí donde quiera que hay civilización, y sobre todo allí donde el régimen constitucional descansa en los sanos principios de la democracia.

Por esos poderosos motivos, ya que se intenta con declaraciones de los directores de periódicos adictos a esta ilegal situación, formuladas ante la prensa de los Estados Unidos; y en las manifestaciones de organismos oficiales u oficiosos, extraviar la opinión pública dentro y fuera de la República, nos creemos en el deber de ratificar nuestras conocidas reclamaciones, que quedaron consignadas en nuestros manifiestos anteriores, dirigidos todos a nuestros correligionarios y al país cubano.

Hoy como ayer, mantenemos la opinión de que la Constitución ha sido violada; que vivimos bajo un régimen de coacción y de violencia; que la libertad está proscrita para todos los que no se transforman en alabarderos del sistema; que el pensamiento cubano se encuentra aherrojado; que el derecho de reunión no existe; que la administración pública y la vida civil están sometidas a las fuerzas armadas de la República; que la existencia de los que no piensan como quieren los que mandan, carece en absoluto de garantía.

Todo eso se quiere disculpar alegando que el país ha realizado grandes progresos, y la realidad es que una administración tan torpe como despiadada, lo ha empobrecido. La industria y el comercio se sostienen a fuerza de prodigios y de economías forzadas; las clases proletarias padecen hambre, y la ficticia prosperidad que pretende representar el Estado, no sirve mas que para ocultar por algún tiempo, relativamente breve, el estado angustioso del país esquilmado por la multiplicidad de impuestos excesivos que están dando al traste con la propiedad urbana y trasladando a manos extrañas, por mísero precio, la propiedad rural.

Rota la corriente de armonía entre la inmensa mayoría del país y sus gobernantes impuestos, merced a combinaciones en que entran la violencia de la fuerza y la audacia, que a veces acompaña a la inconciencia de la responsabilidad, no se vé la manera de tropezar con la fórmula que permitirá llegar a solucionar por vías normales y armónicas la situación gravísima que han creado los que se imaginan que en Cuba todo se puede hacer impunemente. Pero por lo mismo que vislumbramos nuevos contratiempos para el sufrido país en que hemos nacido, y por cuya libertad, independencia y bienestar hemos bregado muchos y suspirado todos, nos creemos en el deber de proclamar una vez mas que somos irresponsables de los males presentes de la patria y que, por el contrario, hemos combatido y seguiremos combatiendo a los que, con sus actos, los ocasionan; sin que por ello dejemos de exhortarlos a que abandonen el camino equivocado que siguen; y volviendo sobre sus pasos, rectifiquen la conducta que observan, sacrificando ambiciones personales, y haciendo así posible que todos los corazones verdaderamente cubanos puedan juntarse para salvar a la patria de los peligros ciertos con que la amenaza una política de extralimitaciones constitucionales, de despilfarro exhorbitante, de hacienda desordenada y sobre todo, engendradora de profunda división entre los cubanos, separados hoy en dos castas: la de los que a todo se atreven a la vez que todo lo pueden, y la de aquellos a quienes se quiere tratar como parias, privándolos hasta de la facultad de exponer su inconformidad, protestar contra lo que repudia su conciencia, y tratar de obtener por las vías legales, la reivindicación de sus derechos desconocidos o conculcados.

En esta hora, que nos parece crítica y angustiosa, la UNION NACIONALISTA cree que cumple con su deber, exponiendo claramente una vez mas, su actitud, sus aspiraciones y sus convicciones que en nada han variado. Y lo hace, si bien con moderación en el lenguaje, con firmeza y lealtad absolutas, mirando solo a los grandes intereses del país que tanto han venido peligrando, con la mira no solo de salvar su responsabilidad en los desaciertos y atentados cometidos, sino también para que todos sepan que estamos en el lugar que nos corresponde, dispuestos a realizar todos los sacrificios y arrostrar todas las consecuencias para contribuir a la salvación de los grandes y sagrados intereses de la patria, que otros, y no nosotros, llevan por senda de perdición.

Habana, 10 de Octubre de 1929.

Por la UNION NACIONALISTA:

CARLOS MENDIETA; JUAN GUALBERTO GOMEZ; AURELIO HEVIA; ROBERTO MENDEZ PEÑATE; AURELIO A. ALVAREZ; FRANCISCO PERAZA; ALEJANDRO VERGARA; JUAN R. PINTADO; DOMINGO TAMARGO; C. M. A. TABIO; J. MUÑIZ VERGARA; ANTONIO BERUFF; ALFREDO FIGUEROA; JOSE GONZALEZ.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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DEPT. OF STATE
M.A. NEIL, DIV.
OCT 30 1929

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3520-a.

WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report.

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Government Toleration of Public Criticism.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. OCT 29 1929

1. On October 18, 1929, four Cuban citizens - Alfredo Avila, Pedro Valdes Fernandez, Dr. Antonio Beruff, Sixto Aquino Pedron - were arrested while in possession of several copies of the manifesto entitled, "Al Pais," copy of which was enclosed in report No. 3132, dated October 19, 1929.

2. It will be noted that one of the persons arrested - Antonio Beruff - is a signer of the above referred to manifesto.

3. These men were held on the technical charge of having in their possession a printed document for public distribution, the document not containing the name and address of the printer, as prescribed by law.

4. On October 19th these men were released on $1,000 bail. At the time of the hearing, all the signers of the manifesto appeared in court, presented a copy of the manifesto to the Judge, and stated that they were the authors of it. The Judge stated that no action would be taken at this time against these men, but that he would take the matter under advisement.

5. On October 20, 1929, four more Cubans - Mario Franquina, Miguel Rico, Augustin Rodrigues, and an individual known by the name of "Chivichano" - were arrested by the secret police in the offices of "El Sol," a small newspaper printed in Marianao, and charged with having several copies of the above referred to manifesto in their possession. Mario Franquina is the owner of this newspaper and has never been known to have been connected in any way with the opposition, his apparent connection with this group being a complete surprise.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Confidential.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3133. Date: October 19, 1929.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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2657-g-295

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WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Importance of Party Organization in the Political Life of the Country.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 18 1929

1. I am enclosing herewith an English translation of a manifesto signed by Colonel Carlos Mendieta. It will be noted that this manifesto is very similar to those previously reported, both in its form and in that it severely criticises the administration of President Machado and continues to insist upon the invalidity of the constitutional amendments adopted in May 1928. It is somewhat different from those previously sent in that it is signed by Colonel Mendieta only - the head of the Union Nacionalista -, whereas those previously issued were signed by several members of this party.

2. Copies of this manifesto have been distributed by mail only and as, far as is known, has caused no comment or action by the authorities.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Confidential

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3154. Date: Nov. 13, 1929.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

WAR DEPARTMENT

TO THE PEOPLE OF CUBA.

Repentant faces, incendiary speeches, cheap patriotism and anathemas against the Americans, such is the spectacle given in these days by the men who are usurping the power in the face of possible action by the Government in Washington, which is justly alarmed at the present political situation of Cuba, in which property and individual guarantees are at the mercy of the caprice and passion of a Government which is not the product of the public will, which does not owe its existence to the correct and orderly operation of the laws, but to the flouting and disregard of those which are most essential. These men, after carrying out their brazen coup d'etat, think it possible that their deeds may meet with the judgment which the United States metes out as its international duty by virtue of its treaties with Cuba; wherefore, they endeavor to mislead public opinion, to excite it against any action on the part of our powerful neighbors, who, in spite of all that is said, were the deciding help of our people in their struggle for independence. Such efforts are vain. Nobody can seriously deny, especially as the speeches made by our delegates at the last Pan-American Congress, that the United States has been authorized to take action against the ruling dictatorship and Cubans cannot fear that the United States will take any action inconsistent with the rights which they helped to conquer, nor that they will fail to reaffirm on this occasion the concept of our liberty which they proclaimed jointly with us and which someone, blinded by unhealthy desires is trying to corrupt, affronting that very American diplomacy of which we must always be the exact reflection if we wish to continue our existence. Our country cannot confront tyranny and overthrow it without exposing the life of the country to grave risks and the United States which, with its irresistible power, renders difficult the exercising of that right to revolt which Jefferson himself considered sacred and inaliemable, and which is obliged to maintain in Cuba a Government that gives full guarantees to human life, private property and individual rights cannot continue to ignore the grave conflict which a group of ambitious men are preparing for Cuba, nor permit any oligarchy to enthrone itself among us on the false claim of strengthening the orderliness which it alone is disturbing and undermining. It is impossible that the policy of the White House, which there is no reason to believe is inspired by anything other than love for our people, will lead to enchaining it or subjecting it to forms of government which debase society and lower the collective moral level. This impossibility is the thing which was disregarded by those who are now thundering against the Americans, who announce their intention of repelling every attack against the sovereignty of Cuba, of which in reality they themselves are the sole and exclusive enemies. The authors of the coup d'etat are then the bad patriots. With their repeated attacks upon public liberty they have challenged and are challenging intervention and they will not succeed with sophistical arguments in hiding the truth or awakening popular fervor.

We "Nacionalistas" are not guilty of the errors of an evil and impious administration actuated by a megalomania which is causing the ruin of the country and which is reducing the taxpayers to penury in order to satisfy the overwhelming expenses of the State. Nor are we responsible for a political behavior which sows consternation in men's minds as the best method of ruling. Nobody can call us false patriots because we do not join in approving the absurdity of the ruling dictatorship which has had the shameful virtuality of suppressing the right of suffrage and of concentrating all power in one single will as in the times of the Roman Emperors, nor because we try to restore the good order which has been disturbed by the dictatorship. On the other hand,

(Enclosure to Report No.5154, Nov. 13, 1929).

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NND 740058
By AJ NARS, Date 05/04/89

actuation of the United States in our domestic affairs can be due only to its own responsibility and its own most free decisions. The Government of the United States has the information which its diplomatic and consular representatives in our Island give it and this is more than enough to make it acquainted with the most intimate details of all the abominable mechanism of our politics and of our administration. It may even know who are the material and moral authors of the crimes committed against journalists and workmen and maybe it isn't ignorant of the calibre of the arms used and the number and color of the individuals who took part in each of these deeds, who had remained immune to the action of the Penal Law, as if the Cuban authorities and judges lacked the efficiency and ability and did not enjoy the resources and means necessary to discover the authors of these hideous crimes.

Moreover, it seems to us childish to think that every extra limitation of our power can pass unperceived and must merit from outsiders the respect which is imposed upon us by force, because in every civilized country, governments are set up not for the purpose of denying the rights of the collective whole and thus rendering impossible existence within the normal and precepts which every society demands as a material consequence of its essential prerogatives, but on the contrary to respect them without vacillation and to approve what is considered the intangibility of the regime on which rests the system of government which no one has the right to distort.

In this way the constitutional reform has undeniably been a source of great moral disaster because it does not respond to any proposition worthy of respect or praise, there being shown in its preparation that disregard of methods and the use which has been made of power to sacrifice improperly the most sacred interests of the collectivity. As the form in which the constitutional convention proceeded is illegal from every point of view, not only as to the manner in which the delegates were elected, but also as to its subsequent conversion into a deliberative body to discuss and alter the law adopted by the Congress, without taking into account the provisions of the constitution on the subject, which do not grant such a convention any other function than that of accepting or rejecting without any discussion whatever the law concerning the reform, it is undeniable that, not only from the moral but also from the juridical point of view said reform suffers from the defects of nullity as also it constitutes one of the greatest attacks against our constitutional rights. That monstrosity raised up a formidable protest on the part of public opinion, including that of sapient legislators who made known within the precincts of the Congress the impropriety of this unjustifiable step, although the arguments did not suffice to stop the selfish efforts of those who were subverting everything, believing that the Cuban people are not entitled to any respect and because of the fear of that people of losing its independence if it chastises with its own hands this horrible crime.

Those who commit acts contrary to those fundamental duties place themselves in open rebellion against what is ordered by the regime, it being clear that governments which are the product of such irregularities cannot aspire to the respectful consideration and natural respect merited always by those that spring from normal practices and faithful observance of the law.

Such is the present situation in Cuba where a Government, unconstitutional and arbitrary, seeks to justify its behavior and proceedings by having recourse to spectacular and coercive measures, striving, although vainly, to twist the truth and to keep in suspense public rights which cannot be destroyed, notwithstanding its repeated efforts

(Enclosure to Report No. 3154, Nov. 13, 1929).

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to make people believe that there exists a spirit of confraternity between governors and governed which marks in Cuba the happiest and most fortunate days of its life as a Republic.

Nothing is further from the reality than such a picture as that, in this hour when terror has taken out naturalization papers to impose the silence of death and in which it is a grave crime to express opinions and to give critical judgment concerning the dismal form in which our public life is developing. We have ceased to be a free people and have changed into a conglomeration of serfs because, if we cannot make use of our constitutional prerogatives, we have indeed fallen into that ignominious servitude which compels a citizen to convert himself into a being without any personality of its own, to respond to the decisions and will of him who imperatively compels him always to obey without the right to protest against his acts, however unjust and passionate they may be.

To say then, as has been said, that public liberty exists in Cuba today is the greatest of impostures. Never has this unfortunate people suffered harder oppression for even during the colonial period an air of greater civic breath was breathed than in these moments when we appear to be clothed with the attributes of self-government. In times gone by the Spanish authorities did not impose political propaganda in harmony and tendencies with those set forth by the Autonomista Party and even separatists' views expressed with the heat or ideals of emancipation made itself seen in the daily press. The present picture is different. The gentlemen who have retained the power do not wish a single one of their acts to be talked about or commented upon. Everybody must feel satisfied and approve the actions of General Machado to whom his panegyrists have conceded the virtue of never making a mistake or the even greater one of being just and wise even in his mistakes. As it is the strict watchword that every criticism of the acts of the Government just be silenced, there are heard only voices of praise and only the applause of the false chorus of favored ones who, united by their personal advantages, are those charged with this poetic task. And it is logical that in this mist colored picture it is desired to hide the reality of all our public and private misfortunes, giving the appearance, in foreign lands whose judgment and actuation are feared, of a progress and reconstructive labor both moral and material as is proper in a country wisely ruled by the liveliest incarnation of patriotism and honesty. But if all those who feel fear should begin talking, if the great contingent of those who suffer hunger as the result of the ill-judged measures and the lack of foresight of those who govern to remedy them instead of aggravating the intense economic crisis, should form in line they would be uncountable and it would undoubtedly be understood outside of Cuba that the situation is horrible and that misery is beating its hands together as in the unforgettable days of the "reconcentration" as if we suffered the terrifying presence of one of the hour horsement of the Apocalypse.

The sad reality of our present ills clearly tells us that we are travelling the rough road of national ruin and disasters, for to unrestricted dilapidation may be added for the darkening of the picture the open political disagreement which acts as a reagent to sad accommodations to a degree of interests and bastardy which constitutes the most eloquent negation of that which constitutes the most eloquent negation of that which should be public morals. When it is said that the Government of General Machado is constructive, we can affirm the contrary inasmuch as his work has not been educative nor has it strengthened the moral and material interests of the country. And let not the flatterers be officially

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surprised and indignant judging these words as a profanation of what they consider the insuperable work of the Government because it is irrefutable that the liberal Government has disobeyed those very dogmas and principles of the party which brought it into power in the belief that it would have to live up to its history with its writ of noble rebellions and the provisions of its statutes opposing any reelection. This is the reason why we have fallen completely into a dictatorship which means nothing else than the arrogation to himself of the executive power by a person who attributes to himself the supreme will to direct the destines of the country, converting the Congress and even sometimes the Judicial Power into mere instruments of his opinions and decisions. If those who arein public office complied strictly with their duties and every extra limitation of authority met with the vigorous and unanimous protests of the people of Cuba, dictatorship would not be possible in our country nor would we see such a situation as the present one in which no rights are really guaranteed. If the Congress, moreover, was not subordinated to the Executive, as it is, for reasons and advantages all too well known and if the Judicial Power recovered the full enjoyment of prerogatives which make it invulnerable to every attempt at persecution, the continuation of the state of affairs that has been created would surely be impossible as a contradiction of our normal public life.

We are doing our duty although others forget: it is for this reason we are silenced, we are persecuted and we are deprived of every means of making our protests heard. For this finally, we are accused of being bad patriots. When it is emphatically and maliciously maintained that the opponents of this political situation do not do their patriotic duty, when they fight the work of General Machado, we cannot help laughing with our jaws wide open because the arguments used could not be more ridiculous and do not even make an impression on the most credulous and ingenuous of our compatriots, fully aware as they are of all that goes on in our country to such an extent that nobody is unaware of what takes place in the most intricate labyrinths of official life.

The Cubans here and abroad commit no crime of disrespect for the country by telling the story about misfortune and by pointing out the enormities perpetrated in this country under the aegis of a Government which destroys all political rights. Fighting the Government of General Machado is not fighting the Republic nor attacking its institutions in any way; on the contrary, it is a patriotic task to point out errors, asking amendments to prevent a total eclipse of our sovereignty and our dignity. If General Machado has distorted the line of conduct which he should have followed as governor, no one but he is to blame. It is he who has converted himself from the high position which he occupies into a factor of public perturbation creating for the country days of uneasiness by acts contrary to his platform, and to the reiterated promises which he has made that he would be the most faithful servant of the interests of its citizens. Once more we repeat, so that our absolutely undeviating attitude towards the national problems which are being debated may be known, that it is our intention to continue to work in favor of Cuba without being guided in this matter otherwise than by our good will and never by the petty interests of office holding, sacrificing public for private welfare in personal struggles. We are inspired by the noble desire that our country should be redeemed from the yoke of dictatorship which, in the long run, enervates the free development of collective life. We wish Cuba to be free with respect for all rights and within the standards of political equality provided by the Republic regime which we have chosen and accepted as most in consonance with our anxious desires as liberators. We wish to live in the

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precincts of the country for which we have given all our energies with the moral repose of citizens who enjoy every consideration and not to be converted into inferior beings, the object of persecution, violence, and unspeakable injustice.

That is our position and if this constitutes a grave crime in the eyes of those who wish to convert us into slaves as they themselves fall away from liberty, we must declare that we shall never put our will and our conscience to any putlic work which separates us or places the distance between us and the duties which we have imposed upon ourselves under the authority of our patriotism and of our probity.

Habana, October 28, 1929.

(Signed) CARLOS MENDIETA.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Government Toleration of Public Criticism.

RECEIVED 6/2 W. D. NOV 18 1929

1. I have been reliably informed that two young men were arrested for distributing the manifesto signed by Colonel Mendieta and reported in despatch No. 3154 dated November 13, 1929. Both of these men were released promptly on bail when Colonel Mendieta appeared in court in their behalf. At the time of the court hearing, he admitted that he was the author of the manifesto, but was not arrested.

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J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3156. Date: Nov. 14, 1929.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

3520-a

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CUBA (Political)

Subject: Government Toleration of Public Criticism.

NOV 30
WAR DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 30 1929

2657-8-295/4

1. Supplementing my report No. 3133, dated October 19, 1929, all the signers of the manifesto referred to in the above named report have been arrested on the charge of publishing a document without giving the name and address of the printer, as prescribed by law. The arrests took place between November 15th and November 18th and all the men are out on bail, the amount of bail ranging from $100 to $1000. The bail of those men who appeared in court upon the notification of the judge that their presence was desired was fixed at $100; but for those who did not accept the invitation and waited until formally arrested, the bail was fixed at $1000. The time for the hearing of this case in court has not been set.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Confidential.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3172. Date: Nov. 26, 1929.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

DEC 10 1929
2657-g-285
3700-a
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Importance of Party Organization in the Political Life of the Country.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 9 1929

1. Enclosed herewith is an English translation of an open letter to General Machado written by General Francisco Peraza. General Peraza is a member of the Nacionalista Party and is one of the men recently arrested by the Government for distribution of the manifesto dated October 10, 1929, references to which were made in reports No. 3132 of October 19th and No. 3172 of November 26th.

2657-g-295/3 2657-g-295/7

J. J. O'HARE,
Major General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Confidential.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3177. Date: Dec. 2, 1929.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

DEC 10 1929
WAR DEPARTMENT
MIL. INTEL. DIV.

(Translation)

4-1

OPEN LETTER TO GERARDO MACHADO.

Little Gerardo:

You have had your judges indict me for the first time when I am 76 years old. I have been honored.... by you! To fight you in public when so many others are silent because of fear or villany, to avenge the prolonged agony of the Fatherland by tearing off your mask - enumerating your apostasies from the principles of the Revolution - to defy the ire of a Tyrant who considers himself omnipotent and who is served by an army "which kills whoever attacks it," is for me and will be for every honorable man an action as worthy as that which I performed for years and lustrums charging Spanish troops machete in hand. Maceo made me a Colonel, you have indicted me,..... not even he could confer a higher rank on me nor could anything more be expected of you by one who is not ready to bow his head nor applaud your clumsy violations of the law.

You have enriched yourself, you are building cities with your name which history will execrate, the courtiers of Weyler call you the Egregious and the Regenerator, you suppress the Judicial Power through terror and the Legislative Power through the cursed gold of the lottery collectorships, you deprive the citizens of the free exercise of their rights, you prepare in secret a revolution for the purpose of taking possession of the power, in the end you may a coup d'etat..... and you can tolerate neither the silent protest of your people nor that a group of citizens embody that protest and condemn you. You claim that the crime of disrespect for the country which you have committed is justified by the necessity of strengthening that order which is disturbed by nobody except yourself, and you are trying to deceive posterity and win its votes through the construction of the Capitol and the Central Highway: you will succeed in neither. Spain like you wanted unchangeable order in the Colony, and we Cubans shed our blood to throw it out of Cuba and there would have been no difference in our conduct if its Captains Generals - so very like you - had built palaces in Habana or criss-crossed the Island with highways while condemning its inhabitants to hunger. We did not desire a Republic of luxury. We dreamt of a modest and honorable country, without any applications of the "law of flight," without abuses, without providential chiefs, with a system of strict justice in which Liberty would not be unnecessarily subordinated to Order: You have spoiled that dream.

You have lashed the Republic, and you have deceived me, whom, in your electoral speeches, you called a relic of the Fatherland. I was living quietly in the country, far from political contests and you dragged me out of my retirement to make propaganda in favor of your candidacy. To obtain my help, you swore to me that you would not seek reelection, that you would suppress the Lottery, that you would surround the Assemblies with guarantees, that you would purify the suffrage and that you would call patriots to your assistance. You have sought reelection; you have made of the Lottery a perfect instrument of your dictatorship; you are surrounding yourself with traitors and wearers of decorations. You have broken the oath which you made to me, but this does not surprise me because you have violated even those which you made at the tomb of the Fathers of the Country.

I, who never swear, am going to make an oath before the face of my mal-treated country-men. Hear it: I swear by the memory of General Antonio Maceo to fight to the end of my days against the Hangman of our liberties. Now, if you want to, sink me in your prisons; Honest men ought to be in those prisons when blackguards are crowned in public places. Order your judges to indict me again. Histroy will indict you and them.

GRAL. FRANCISCO PERAZA.

Habana, November 19, 1929.

(Enclosure to Report No. 3177 of Dec. 2, 1929).

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

CANCELLED
Letter of Dec. 13, 1963, from AGO to Archivist
By
Date 6-24-69

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
2700-a

G-2 Report

JAN 8 1930
2657-J-295
WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political) 4-1

Subject: Importance of Party Organization in Political Life of Country.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 8 1930

1. Enclosed is a copy of a memorandum for the Ambassador prepared by the undersigned. Copies of the letters referred to in paragraph "a" have been withdrawn, as but one copy was furnished at the time.

2. With reference to paragraph "b" of the enclosure, I have learned from reliable sources that the meeting will be held in the near future. This will be especially interesting, as it will be the first demonstration of this type held in Havana since President Machado's inauguration on May 20, 1929.

J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3200. Date: Jan. 3, 1930.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

CONFIDENTIAL

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.

1-1 00 2657-9-295

January 5, 1930.

WAR DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM FOR THE AMBASSADOR:

On January 2, 1930, Dr. Antonio Pita called at my office in company with Mr. Waldemar Fernando Lee, an American. Mr. Lee had suggested my meeting Dr. Pita and I had told him, prior to our meeting, that I would be very glad to see him at any time, but in the same capacity that I was always glad to see any Cuban who cares to see me.

Dr. Pita remained in my office about an hour and proved to be the strongest oppositionist to the present Machado administration of any Cuban I have met to date. Among other things, he stated the following:

a. That prior to the recent meeting of the Medical Federation of Cuba held in the town of Pinar del Rio during December 1929, several of the members of the Federation had learned that a resolution was to be adopted by the Federation giving strong adherence of the Federation to the Machado Government; that on December 12th three other doctors and himself sent a resolution to the Executive Committee of the Federation stating that no such resolution should be adopted, in view of the fact that the Medical Federation of Cuba was a non-political party; that when the Federation met, no consideration was given to the resolution they had sent to the Executive Committee and that the resolution of adherence to the Machado administration was accepted; that on December 19th Dr. Alejandro Vergara, Dr. Juan Rodriguez Pintado, Dr. Eduardo Odio Perez and himself addressed a letter to the Executive Committee of the Federation calling attention to the fact that no consideration was given to their former request for non-consideration of their resolution of non-adherence to the present administration; that on December 20th letters were addressed to the individual members of the Federation, calling attention to the facts stated above (copies of the above referred to letters are enclosed herewith); that since the sending of the two above referred to letters, answers had been received from a large majority of

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

the members of the Federation, all of which have congratulated Dr. Pita and the other signers of the letters for their actions.

b. He stated that he was a member of the Union Nacionalista and that this organization was planning a demonstration against the government to take place in Havana some time in the very near future; that they expected to have 50,000 or 60,000 people at this demonstration and wanted to know what assurances they could have of receiving protection from assault by the police and the army; that he wanted to know my honest opinion of exactly what would happen under such circumstances. I replied that I did not know nor was I in any position to express any such opinion.

c. He stated that he had a list of over a thousand names of persons who had been assassinated because of opposition to the present government and that the most recent assassination was that of Luis Blanco. He asked me if I knew anything of this case, to which I replied that I had read of it in the newspapers. He then stated that the doctor who had pronounced him dead was a very good friend of his and that the circumstances under which Blanco was found made it impossible for him, Blanco, to have taken his own life; that a sheet had been wrapped around his neck and that it had been pulled by both ends by at least two other persons and that Blanco did not hang himself.

d. He stated that within a few blocks of the Capitolio his friends had over 600 rifles, to which number they were constantly adding, and that they would be ready in a very short time for any emergency.

e. He asked me if the Ambassador would receive members of the Nacionalista Party, to which I replied that the Ambassador would receive any prominent Cubans, irrespective of their political faith, at any appointed time convenient to both parties. He then asked me to state what the Embassy's attitude was to the entire problem in Cuba, to which I

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replied that the attitude of the Embassy was that it was here to function as a representative of the United States Government if Cuba; that all of its members had been accredited to the present government; that its principal interests were those of promoting good feeling and cordial relations between the United States Government and the Cuban Government and the protection of interests of American residents in Cuba. I then asked him what he thought the duties of the Embassy were, in reply to which he stated that he thought that the present Ambassador had come here for the purpose of correcting any wrongs in the present Cuban administration, to see that the freedom of the speech and freedom of the press were given to the Cubans and that in case these things were not done in the very near future, it would cause intervention in Cuba. I then repeated to him what my conception of the duties were for the American Embassy. Prior to his leaving, he stated that he would like to be presented to the Ambassador and would like to arrange for a meeting of the Ambassador with Colonel Mendieta and General Peraza. I told him that such meetings could be arranged at a time convenient to the parties concerned.

Dr. Pita impressed me as a man of above average intelligence, who actually believed all the things he had said to me, but that he is so carried away with his ideas of oppression by the present administration that his reasoning is greatly biased.

Dr. Pita is an osteopath with offices at 45 Avenida de la Republica. He joined the Union Nacionalista in September last and has been identified with them since that date. When he entered the party he stated that he would be able to get press dispatches to the United States through his friendship with Mr. Powell, of the Associated Press. Mr. Powell, however, did not live up to Dr. Pita's expectations in this regard. Dr. Pita is not one of the leaders of the Union Nacionalista, but he is a very enthusiastic member.

J. J. O'HARE.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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MAR 25 2657-g-285
3700-a 10
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Importance of Party Organization in Political Life of Country.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAR 24 1930

1. On January 13, 1930, an Executive Decree was issued forbidding meetings or gatherings of a political nature during the present cane-grinding season. This decree was aimed at the Union Nacionalista in order to prevent a large political meeting which was to be held in Havana about that time.

2. Immediately after the issuance of this decree, Dr. Cosme de la Torriente, acting in behalf of the Union Nacionalista group, appealed to the Supreme Court against the constitutionality of this decree. On March 16, 1930, the Supreme Court rendered a unanimous decision, declaring the decree unconstitutional because it infringed Act 28 of the Constitution, which provides that, "all inhabitants of the Republic have a right to assemble peacefully, unarmed and to associate for all lawful pursuits of life."

3. The decision of the Supreme Court is the first real victory for the Union Nacionalista. The President, in a statement published prior to the Supreme Court's decision, stated that he would be guided by whatever the court should decide. This decision will also be hailed by the supporters of the government as absolute proof that the Supreme Court has preserved its independence of judgment and is in no way subservient to the administration, as has so often been charged by the President's political opponents. However, it is of interest to note that the government accomplished its mission of not allowing any political gatherings at a time when Havana was well crowded with visiting American tourists and it is known that the Union Nacionalista group was especially anxious to hold meetings during this period.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Press, Embassy and Confidential.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3236. Date: March 21, 1930.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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3700-a

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Importance of Party Organization in Political Life of Country.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. APR 22 1930

1. Since the verdict of the Supreme Court on March 13, 1930, holding that the President's Decree of January 13, 1930, forbidding political meetings during the sugar grinding season was illegal, the activity of the Union Nacionalista has received considerable impetus. The leaders of this group immediately filed a petition for permission to hold open air meetings on April 19th in Havana and in the provincial centers. These requests were granted in all places where the requests were made except in Santa Clara, where the Mayor not only refused to approve the request but preferred charges of sedition against the leaders of the group in that city.

2. Since the initial victory of the Union Nacionalista, its leaders have been busily engaged in organizing units throughout the country, and due to the lack of reports to the contrary, it can be assumed that they have encountered no serious obstacles in the orderly carrying on of their activities.

3. While the press as a whole has devoted but little space to the activities of this organization, EL PAIS-EXCELSIOR, which since its change of ownership about two months ago has become the principal medium of expression of the oppositionists, has stated that the group's present activities would be limited to the formation of a "Political Association," rather than a political party. The leaders of the Union Nacionalista realize that no new party can be formed until the Emergency Electoral Law of 1928 has been rescinded or modified. As there is no intention on the part of the government to do this until after the November elections, the Union Nacionalista would, even if they were sufficiently prepared (which is doubtful) be precluded from engaging in the coming campaign as a political party. In addition to this, the present program of this group rejects all ideas of participation in elections until the Constitution of 1901 and the Crowder Electoral Law have been entirely reinstated.

4. No satisfactory estimate of the strength of this group can be made at this time. It is apparent, however, that its influence is increasing, not necessarily on account of the general acceptance of its ideas, but because this group now constitutes the only opposition element that possesses any kind of an opposition and this fact alone naturally attracts other malcontents to their standard. Furthermore, the present economic depression is most favorable to political opposition and it is believed that the Union Nacionalista will take advantage of this in order to derive every advantage possible from the existing labor unrest, the shortage of credit throughout the country and the general reduction of wages both by the government and by private enterprises.

5. Both groups (the Government and the Union Nacionalista) fear trouble at the meetings to be held on April 19. The meetings are being discussed freely and it is expected that they will be well attended. The attendance will not necessarily give any indication of the strength of the Union Nacionalista, however, as it is believed that a large percentage of the crowd will be curiosity seekers, due to the fact that

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3255. Date: April 17, 1930.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

these meetings will be the first public meetings where opposition to the present regime will be voiced. The government has stated that the meetings will be observed by its agents and that in the event any of Cuba's laws are violated, the offenders will be arrested. The Union Nacionalista, on the other hand, has stated that its leaders expect to conduct orderly public meetings and that if anything disorderly occurs, it will be the result of the acts of government agents who will be present for the express purpose of fomenting disorder. It can be seen that any slight disturbance may result in very serious consequences, and the opinions of many impartial observers are that riots will occur at those places where large meetings are held.

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6. The government is much more exercised over the situation than it appears to be on the surface. For the past ten days the Cuban Army Air Service has been making daily inspection tours of the whole island in order to locate a boat which, reports indicate, is loaded with arms and ammunition for the Union Nacionalista and is trying to land at some point on the Cuban coast prior to the meetings on April 19th.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Sources: Confidential, Embassy and Press.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3255. Date: April 17, 1930.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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4-1 APR 2657-g-295 12

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WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Importance of Party Organization in Political Life of Country.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. APR 28 1930

1. On April 19, 1930, the Union Nacionalista held its much advertised meeting in Central Park, Havana. A crowd estimated between 10,000 and 20,000 attended this meeting, and there were no disorders of any kind. The government did not increase the number of uniformed police usually attendant in Central Park, but the meeting was attended by practically all the detective force of the National and Secret Police.

2. All the leaders of the Union Nacionalista spoke, including Mendez Penate, Cosme de la Torriente, Aurelio Hevia, General Peraza, Aurelio Alvarez, Juan Gualberto Gomez and Colonel Carlos Mendieta, and the general theme of their remarks was that the present government was functioning illegally due to the manner in which the recent amendments to the constitution were adopted.

3. On the day of the meeting, Vasquez Bello, President of the Senate and leader of the Liberal Party, issued a long public statement condemning the leaders of the Union Nacionalista, stating in effect that most of the leaders were men who had sought political favor from the present administration and had been refused principally on the ground that they were not representative Cubans, but merely a group of mal contents. He further stated that a study of the political records of many of the leaders of this group would reveal that they were among the originators of the proposals for the amendments to the constitution. These statements were bitterly attacked by all the speakers at the meeting and I believe that the statement was issued by Vasquez Bello for the sole purpose of diverting the speakers from their main theme. If this was his aim, it certainly was accomplished.

4. The government can well claim a very decisive victory as a result of this meeting because, although the crowd was quite large, it is estimated that at least fifty per cent of it was there merely for the purpose of seeing what was going to happen and expecting to be amused by the possibility of a clash between the members of the Union Nacionalista and governmental authorities. That the government feared that there would be trouble at the meeting was evidenced by the fact that on the day prior to and the day of the meeting, all automobiles approaching Havana were stopped and searched by members of the Rural Guard. Furthermore, the President, who had intended to remain in Matanzas over the week-end, returned to Havana on the afternoon of April 19th and immediately called a Cabinet meeting, the members of the Cabinet remaining at the Palace until the end of the meeting. No passes or leaves were issued to the enlisted or commissioned personnel of the army on the day of the meeting.

5. The leaders of the Union Nacionalista claimed a huge success, however, and estimated the attendance as high as 50,000. They further state that this is but the first of many future meetings, the next one to be held within a month.

6. Similar meetings were held in Santa Clara, Camaguey and some of the smaller towns, but reports indicate that the attendance at these meetings was small, the crowds orderly, and that nothing of importance occurred. No thoughts, other than those previously expounded by the Union Nacionalista, were advanced at any of these meetings.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3275. Date: April 22, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

7. Now that the Union Nacionalista has demonstrated its strength, or lack of it, I believe that the President could very well allow the formation of this group into a political party. While all the members are now united on the common ground of being against the administration, this unity would dissipate as soon as a party was formed, due to the dissention that would necessarily come about in the naming of candidates for office. Each of the leaders of the Union Nacionalista has his own small following, but it is doubted if these small groups could be cemented into a strong homogeneous political party, so necessary in the politics of Cuba.

J. T. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Sources: Personal observation and Press.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3275. Date: April 22, 1930.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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2657-g-285
3700-b
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WAR DEPARTMENT
MAY 1930

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 24 1930

1. A widely advertised meeting of the Union Nacionalista at Artemisa in the Province of Pinar del Rio on May 18th ended in a riot in which four people were killed and many were wounded. Only accounts from biased sources are now available and their stories are so different that it is difficult to obtain an accurate account of exactly what occurred; the governmental sources indicating that the incident was caused by the Union Nacionalista group failing to disperse when the authorities demanded it, due to the inflammatory tone of the speakers, and the Nacionalista group accusing the Army of interfering with a peaceful political celebration, authority for which had been granted them by the civil authorities.

2. As near as can be learned, the sequence of events leading to the unfortunate occurrence was as follows: The Nacionalista group assembled in Havana about seven o'clock on May 18th and, with a crowd estimated to be about 8,000, proceeded by automobiles, trucks, omnibuses and various vehicles to Artemisa. Upon arrival there, they paraded through the streets of the town and were welcomed by the local committee of the Union Nacionalista. The meeting was attended by a large and enthusiastic crowd, the local police force of Artemisa being in attendance to preserve order. Shortly after the meeting started, a group of Rural Guards, commanded by Lieut. Alberto Silva, Cuban Army, arrived, the Lieutenant going immediately to the rostrum and stating that the meeting must stop. This action was protested by the Nacionalistas and after a short time, Lieut. Silva came down from the platform and allowed the meeting to continue. The Chief of Police at Artemisa protested against the action of Lieut. Silva, stating that the Army had no right to interfere in a meeting of this kind, for which authorization had already been granted, and that nothing had occurred up to that time which would warrant interference. Shortly after this, Dr. Juan Gualberto Gomez, an ex-senator, began his address and while speaking, Lieut. Silva again mounted the rostrum and ordered him to stop his speech. This order was protested by the Nacionalista leaders on the grounds that they were being deprived of their constitutional rights. While Lieut. Silva was still on the rostrum, shots were fired in the crowd and caused a riot which resulted in the death of Lieut. Silva, Captain Manuel Arozamena, Cuba Army (retired), and two civilians, and the wounding of scores of others.

3. It cannot be ascertained, and probably never will be, who fired the first shots. However, with the crowd at a very high tension, it was enough to cause the riot which immediately became a pitched battle between the civilians and the members of the Rural Guard. Apparently, the police took no action during the riot and their lack of action seems to indicate that their sympathies were more with the crowd than with the army authorities.

4. Lieut. Silva's actions were apparently the direct result of orders from higher authority to stop this meeting. Although the Government is making an investigation of the matter, it is a foregone conclusion that its findings will be a complete clearance of the Army in the matter and will condemn the leaders of the Union Nacionalista for inciting the crowd to riot. It is not beyond the realm of possibility that the Government will cause a revocation of the Supreme Court's decision which permits meetings of the Union Nacionalista and that the unofficial press censorship

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3310. Date: May 19, 1930.

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that was in force until a few months ago will be again restored. However, irrespective of the Government's actions, the net results will be that the administration will be greatly criticized for its actions, and the ranks of the Union Nacionalista will be joined by many hundreds who had heretofore been loyal to the present administration.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Confidential and Press.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3310. Date: May 19, 1930.

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NND 740058
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G-2 Report

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
3700-B

4-1 III 2657-q 295 1930

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups.

2657-q-295/13

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUN 9 1930

1. Immediately after the riot at Artemisa, on May 18, 1930 (see report #3310, index #3700-b, dated May 19, 1930), the government agencies started an investigation to determine its cause and to fix the responsibility for the death of Lieut. Silva and the others killed on that day. As a result of the investigation, some sixty men, all members of the Union Nacionalista Party, were arrested on May 24th on the charge of inciting a riot and were released on bail, their bail ranging from $500 to $5,000. An interesting feature of the riot is that nobody was arrested or held by the authorities on the day of the riot, although the government was well represented in police and soldiers.

2. Coincident with the investigation started by the government, the Union Nacionalista leaders began an investigation which resulted in their demanding the arrest and trial by the Supreme Court of Major General Alberto Herrera, Chief of Staff of the Cuban Army, on the grounds that he had issued an order for the termination of the meeting, despite the fact that authority for it had been granted by the Mayor of Artemisa, and that the Supreme Court had ruled that such meetings were constitutional. The Union Nacionalista had presented its case so well to the Supreme Court that there was little left for it to do than to order General Herrera's arrest and trial. However, on May 28, 1930, President Machado addressed a communication to the Supreme Court, English translation of which is enclosed, in which he assumed all responsibility for the orders issued by General Herrera on that date, stating that these orderr were, in fact, his own orders, which were merely carried out by General Herrera. As the President is not subject to trial for any of his actions, except by consent of the Senate, there is no likelihood that anything further will happen insofar as the Nacionalista's case against the government is concerned, this group realizing the futility of attempting to secure the Senate's consent to proceed against the President.

3. The comment created by the President's action in this matter has been, in general, favorable to him, the feeling being that he assumed this responsibility for the purpose of protecting one of his subordinates. The leaders of the opposition group, however, are going to make great capital of this, because they say that they now have a specific case wherein the President gave an order, well knowing it to be a violation of the constitutional rights of all Cubans, but at the same time knowing that he would be protected from any action that the opposition group might wish to bring against him.

4. On the same day that the President wrote the above referred to letter, all the leaders of the Union Nacionalista were arrested on the charge of publishing and circulating seditious literature and are now being held for trial, on bail of $10,000 each.

5. What the outcome of all the investigations and arrests will be, is problematical, for it is believed that it will be very difficult to prove a charge of homicide against any of the men who have been arrested in connection with the killing of Lieut. Silva. However, a legal battle will ensue which will practically ruin the depleted treasury of the Nacionalistas and will keep them so busy for the next several months defending their members before the Cuban courts that they will be unable to carry out their proposed program of spreading their doctrines throughout the island.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, Gen.Staff, Mil.Attache.

Sources: Embassy, Press
and Confidential.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3319. Date: June 2, 1930.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
WAR DEPT. DIV.

4-1 MID 2657-g-285 330
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

"To the Honorable President of the Criminal Section of the Supreme Court of Justice.

"Having been notified that before the section of the Supreme Court of Justice charges have been brought against General Alberto Herrera, chief of staff of the army, accusing him of having dictated an order to suppress the meeting that had been authorized by the Mayor of Artemisa (Province of Pinar del Rio) to be held on May 18, it is my honor to inform you, so that you may advise the rest of the court judges that said order was issued by myself in use of the powers vested on me by the constitution of Cuba, and that the order was transmitted to the chief of staff of the army in accordance with the law, and inspired by my duty to provide for the conservation of order in the interior of the country. (signed) Gerardo Machado, President."

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3319. Date: June 2, 1930.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

CANCELLED
By authority of Dec. 1st,
1963, from ONI to Archivist
By [illegible]
Date 6-24-69

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OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
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WAR DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUL 28 1930

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups.

1. The Union Nacionalista group has displayed no activity in the way of political meetings since the rendering of my last report. A number of meetings in various parts of the island had been planned, but these did not take place, the reasons being given that after the affair at Artemisa, they did not feel justified in exposing their adherents to injuries from soldiers and police.

2. While on the surface everything appears to be calm, the administration has come to the realization that it would be to their best interests to have the differences between themselves and this party reconciled. In fact, General Machado has had what appears to be an almost complete reversal of form in his dealings with the Nacionalistas and has expressed himself as ready and willing to make any reasonable concessions that they desire. To accomplish this, negotiations have been carried on for the last few weeks by the administration with the Union Nacionalista group and through the personal good offices of the American Ambassador, in order to try to bring the Nacionalistas and the government into agreement. However, the continued obstinacy of Colonel Mendieta and his associates in demanding President Machado's resignation has made it impossible to reach any decision. As examples of the President's conciliatory attitude, he was willing to ask Congress to enact legislation to provide for new census, to modify the electoral laws in such a way as to bring them into conformity with the spirit of the Crowder Code, and to permit the reorganization of political parties and the organization of new ones. In other words, he was willing to make it possible for the Union Nacionalistas to organize as a party and present candidates at the forthcoming elections. Naturally and quite correctly, he refused to admit any discussion of the constitutionality of his election.

3. In the face of this impasse, the President decided to go ahead with the above mentioned legislative program and to inform the opposition of his intentions. He felt that by doing this he would place this group in a very embarrassing position. He therefore sent for the Union Nacionalista's representative, Dr. Antonio Mendoza, but the latter stated that the group whom he was representing desired to add a stipulation to the concessions that the President was willing to make, and this was that the President should resign and call for a new presidential election, should the Nacionalistas return a majority of the 24 senators and 59 representatives to be elected in November.

4. President Machado agreed to accept these proposals and instructed Vazquez Bello, President of the Senate and leader of the Liberal Party, to draft an electoral law and appropriate coming legislation to Congress. It developed later, however, that the Union Nacionalista group would not accept Mr. Mendoza's proposal in this matter and took a firm stand on demanding the President's immediate resignation.

5. Without question, the President has proceeded in this matter in very good faith and has been animated by a real desire to compose the differences with his opponents. He was disposed to make very important concessions to them. He was even willing to take into his cabinet some of the leaders of this party and it is believed he could have even been persuaded

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 12. Date: July 19, 1930.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

to grant amnesty to the persons indicted in connection with the riot at Artemisa last May.

6. The Nacionalistas, however, have proven themselves to be very stubborn and uncompromising. They have made much of their so-called "ideals" and demands for electoral reforms and asserted that they represented a majority of the Cuban people. Yet, when offered practically everything for which their program called, except the actual resignation of the President, they declined. It seems that the inference from this is obvious: they want just one thing, to satisfy their personal ambition to get into office. Furthermore, it is my opinion that this group has come to about the end of their resources and if the President will honestly carry out the census and reform the electoral laws, the Nacionalistas will, in due course, be forced to cooperate with him on his own terms or to play their last card by attempting a revolution.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 12. Date: July 19, 1930.

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G-2 Report 3700-b

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2657-Z-295-16

CUBA (Political)

WAR DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED G/2 W.D. SEP 3 1930

Subject: Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups.

1. A summary of the political situation, especially as it refers to the negociations between the Government and the Union Nacionalista, from the rendering of my last report on the subject (report No. 3352 dated July 19, 1930) to date, follows:

(a) On July 29, 1930, President Machado transmitted to the Congress a project of law embodying certain electoral reforms. The avowed purpose of this bill was to afford the Union Nacionalista Association every possible facility to organize as a political party and vote for its own candidates at the Congressional elections scheduled for November 1st, 1930. This move on President Machado's part was a very astute one as it placed him in a position of being willing to grant extraordinary concessions to the opposition and would enable him to make great capital out of the failure of the Nacionalistas to take advantage of the opportunity offered them, in the event that the bill passed and became a law.

(b) The members of the Cuban House of Representatives were summoned by telegraph to hold a session on August 5, at which time they were to take cognizance of the President's message proposing modifications in the electoral law. In the interim between the publication of the message and the meeting of the House of Representatives it was predicted that the proposed bill would not receive a cordial reception either on the part of the Nacionalistas themselves or on the part of the Congressmen. All the newspapers, with the exception of the Heraldo de Cuba, of which President Machado's brother is director, were inclined to minimize the importance of the message and the proposed legislation. On the eve of the date of convening of the legislature one of the cabinet officers assured the Charge d'Affaires of the Embassy that the President would use all his influence to induce the Liberal majority in Congress to adopt the bill. He felt, however, that it would be useless to endeavor to persuade the Conservatives to vote for it, as they were unalterably opposed to allowing the Nacionalistas to compete with them in the election.

(c) On August 2, 1930, the Union Nacionalista issued its reply to the President's message to Congress. As predicted, the Nacionalistas rejected the offer of an amnesty for their part in the Artemisa affair and also the proposal for them to form a political party in the November Congressional elections. In rejecting the proposal the Nacionalistas stated that the message was merely a trap. They stated that this was merely an inducement for them to participate in the November elections, the Government well knowing that there was insufficient time for them to organize against the fraud which General Machado and his political henchmen were preparing for the coming elections. They further stated that the President had failed to live up to his agreement in his discussions with the Union Nacionalista to put into effect the Crowder Code as a whole and to have the electoral census completed before the elections of November 1st.

(d) On August 5, 1930, the Lower House of the Congress met and rejected by a vote of 86 to 1 President Machado's message and

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accompanying project of law providing for electoral reform. The practical unanimity of the vote against the message came as somewhat of a surprise. It had been predicted that at least the Liberal Congressmen would comply with the President's wishes as expressed in his message. It developed, however, that after the Nacionalistas issued their manifesto refusing to accept the President's offer, General Machado gave the Congress a free hand in voting on the bill. This is the first time that the Cuban Legislature has refused to assent to an executive message of President Machado. The decision to vote against it was taken by each party group meeting in committee prior to the session. Various reasons were given in the resolutions adopted by the committees. The Liberals announced that they were actuated by the rejection of the measure by the Nacionalistas. The Conservatives expressed the opinion that a measure which conferred special privileges on any single group of citizens was unconstitutional. The Populars were motivated principally by their opposition to a bill authorizing a merger of the political parties. The adverse vote on this message must not be considered as indicative of any lack of confidence in the administration. Debate on the bill disclosed antagonism toward the Government only on the part of a small majority of Congressmen who have habitually refused to co-operate with the Administration. Practically all the other speakers confined their remarks to the inadequacy and inutility of the bill, especially in view of the fact that the Nacionalistas had failed to accept it.

(e) Immediately after the rejection of the above referred to bill the Union Nacionalista group came forward with a new plan for an agreement between the President and themselves. This plan involved the postponement of the November elections until March 1, 1931, and an agreement by the President to resign on May 20, 1931, providing the Nacionalistas should return a majority of their candidates. When this proposal was made to the President he stated that he refused to continue any further negociations with the Nacionalistas on the ground that he had been willing to make far-reaching concessions to them and which they had rejected in an aggressive manner.

(f) In the meantime, the organized political parties have gone ahead with their nominations and campaign plans for the November elections. President Machado's relations with these organized parties entail many obligations and responsibilities which he cannot, in all fairness, disregard. He has decided to hold the elections on November 1st in spite of everything the Nacionalistas may do to obstruct them. The Nacionalistas, on the other hand, have announced their intentions to enter upon a very vigorous campaign against the President both in the press and at public meetings. It is generally believed that this group will do everything in its power to prevent the holding of elections in November and it is now quite freely expressed that they may not confine themselves to legal methods.

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(g) The Nacionalistas have taken advantage of the recent murder of Abelardo Pacheco, Nacionalista newspaper publisher (see report No. 3258, dated August 25, 1930) to bring before the public the fact that the Government is resorting to illegal methods to stifle opposition, and this incident has widened still further the breach between General Machado and his political opponents. It is believed that the President would now be pleased to see the Nacionalistas try to start an uprising so that he could deal with them with a

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strong hand and thus end their campaign against him. Whether or not this actually reflects his present attitude is not definitely known, but it has undoubtedly gained wide acceptance. In spite of the belligerent gestures of their more militant adherents, the leaders of the Union Nacionalista, with the possible exception of Peraza Hevia y Collaza, are too sensible of their lack of military force to permit themselves to be maneuvered into an armed rebellion. Just how far the President may be disposed to go toward driving his enemies to the point of exasperation is a question which no one but himself can answer. Until the present he has taken no aggressive measures since the Artemisa affair to curb the opposition in any of its legal attempts to secure recognition. Freedom of the press has been maintained in accordance with the Constitution and the laws and I believe that the President now feels that if this group is allowed to continue to say and publish what they please they will end by making fools of themselves.

2. From the above resume of the political activities in Cuba during the last month it would appear that the situation, instead of getting cleared, is becoming more and more involved. The regularly organized political parties are organizing for the November elections while the Union Nacionalista group is doing everything possible to prevent these elections. All possibility of a reconciliation between the President and the Union Nacionalista has faded away. The only means left for the opposition to gain recognition are by illegal ones. While any sane thinking person might see the absolute futility of such a move on the part of the Nacionalistas, it is not beyond the realm of possibility that an uprising of some kind might take place. The only hope that the opposition can possibly entertain is that of getting the support of at least a part of the armed forces. In my opinion, such support would not be given at this time.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Sources: Embassy, Press
and Confidential

From: M.A., Havana Report No. 3359 Date: August 25, 1930.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

C.I.D. Report

MAR 26 1931
WAR DEPARTMENT
M.I. INTEL. DIV.

3700-b.

4-1 2657-g-295 17

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups.

RECEIVED 8/2 W. D. MAR 2[illegible] 1931

1. The Central Electoral Board has recently authorized the organization of a new party called "Partido Progresista" (Progressive Party), whose President is Miguel Angel Campos, a well known Havana lawyer, and whose Secretary is Pedro Prendes Aguiar, a local solicitor.

2. This party's platform, which has attracted favorable Press comment, includes the following:

(a) The right of women to vote and to hold elective office.

(b) Revision of the Constitution, so as to:

1. Restrict the powers of the President.

2. Establish a parlimentary form of government with Ministerial responsibility.

3. Prohibit successive reelections.

4. Provide for the payment of salaries to members of the Congress only when they attend its sessions.

5. Restrict and regulate the immunities of members of Congress.

6. Assure the absolute independence of the branches of the Government.

7. Create a Court of Accounts to review the administrative actions of public officials.

8. Provide for publicity regarding all Government expenditures.

9. Prohibit the transfer of budgetary credits.

10. Require the compulsory reorganization of the political parties.

11. Make voting compulsory.

(c) Simplification of the Court procedure.

(d) Suppression of taxes on necessities; establishment of progressive income tax; profits from the sale of the Lottery colecturias to be turned into the Treasury, and consolidation of the public debt.

(e) Fostering of cooperative organization for the sale of national products; nationalization or expropriation of latifundia and their distribution among small farmers, and organization of a national bank and of agricultural credit banks.

(f) Nationalization of public services.

(g) Creation of a separate Department of Labor and the establishment of a minimum wage and a maximum working day.

3. It is too soon to know whether or not this comprehensive program for the improvement of political and economic conditions has succeeded in enlisting

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many adherents in the new party ranks, but at least it will be interesting to watch its developments.

J J O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy.

From M. A., Havana No. 3495 Date: March 18, 1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report 3700-a.

4-1 2657-g-295

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Importance of Party Organization in Political Life of Country.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. FEB 17 1932

1. Activities preliminary to party organization in accordance with the Crowder Electoral Code have been carried on successfully by the Liberal and Popular Parties. The Conservative Party continued, however, to be seriously affected by the internal dissension which has prevailed in its ranks since the defection of the so-called Orthodox faction last spring. The always existing lack of harmony in the councils of this party were increased by the death during the past month of its President, Senator Juan Cabada. The Vice President, next in succession to the presidency, was Felix del Prado, a member of the Orthodox group. There was some doubt whether his friends would permit him to assume the presidency, but he did so. As a majority of the other members of the party directorate are Cooperating Conservatives, there is little hope of anything approaching party unity, pending, or even after the process of reorganization has been completed.

2. Registration returns showing the number of voters who have inscribed themselves as affiliates of the several parties have been practically completed by the five western provinces, except in a few districts where, in the case of one or more of the parties, irregularities were reported which either prevented or nullified the inscriptions. In Oriente Province the inscription of party affiliates was deferred for a week, because of alleged interference by the local military authorities. The registration returns for that Province will, consequently, not be available until shortly before February 28th, the date on which elections are to be held for members of the executive committees of the several parties and delegates to the municipal assemblies.

3. According to the census figures which have thus far been released, the number of electors in Cuba is 708,796, or about 18 percent of the population. The Census Bureau recently announced the following more or less complete returns of party registrations in the provinces, other than Oriente:

Liberal.....	245,618
Conservative.....	93,837
Popular.....	43,680
Total.....	383,135

The number of voters in the five provinces being 534,829, the proportion of persons entitled to exercise the franchise who have inscribed in the party registers is thus about 70 percent, a fact which has been hailed by the Government and its supporters with great satisfaction, as tending to prove that there is no basis for the oft repeated assertion that, under the existing regime, the majority of the voting population is completely apathetic to party politics.

4. The Liberal leaders professed to be highly gratified by the success of the party in enrolling almost twice as many affiliates as the other parties combined. It is doubtful, however, whether this achieve-

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ment is in any way remarkable when one considers that almost all the national and Government positions are held by Liberals, and that they were probably ordered not only to inscribe themselves, but to see that their relatives and friends did likewise. It is also true that many Conservatives, especially those of the Menocalista or Orthodox persuasion, abstained from registration. While these considerations may detract somewhat from the claim of the Liberals that they can control sixty percent of the voters, they do not, of course, imply that there is any doubt of a Liberal victory in the November elections, unless unforseen circumstances should impair that party's grip on the Country's electoral machinery.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and Press.

From M. A., Havana No. 3696 Date: February 12, 1932.

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAR 13 1933

Death of Juan Gualberto Gomez.

1. Dr. Juan Gualberto Gomez, Cuban patriot, and one of the Conservative leaders of the Opposition, died on March 5th, at his home in Havana, after a brief illness.

2. It will be remembered that Dr. Gomez was one of the founders of the Union Nacionalista, and, while openly opposed to the present Cuban Administration, he was equally opposed to the terroristic activities of the radical elements opposed to President Machado.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache

Source: Press

From M. A., Havana No. 4020 Date: March 6, 1933

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G-2 Report 3700-b

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WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups.

Cuban Political Secret Societies.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. OCT 21 1933

1. The following is a summary of the various political secret societies or organizations in Cuba:

(a) O.C.R.R. (Order Celular Radical Revolutionaria)
Present leaders Miguel Hernandez Trujillo, Nicasio Silverio and Jose Grau. Organized in September or October of 1932 by separation from the A.B.C. of Oscar de la Torre, who was a member of the directorate of the A.B.C. It is believed that de la Torre schemed to place several of his friends in the directorate for the purpose of assisting General Menocal. He and a number of his friends were put out of the A.B.C. and founded the O.C.R.R. Among these organizers are Jose Grau and Alfredo Noguiera. Later on, due to certain differences of opinion respecting the management and policy of the magazine "Adelante", Oscar de la Torre quit the organization and Jose Grau and Alfredo Noguiera became its leaders early in 1933. The organization went through a difficult situation because Grau was charged publicly with treason and Noguiera was persecuted by the Machado Government because of his terrorist activities. The latter went to the United States - returning for the Mediation Conferences last July. The society was represented in these Conferences by Nacasio Silverio, who was named Secretary of Communications under the Cespedes Government. The society refused to support the revolutionary government of September 5th. At the present time the society is in opposition to the Government and its leader is Miguel Hernandez Trujillo.

(b) U.C.R.R. (Union Celular Radical Revolutionario)
Organized after the fall of Machado, it first helped Dr. Cespedes and later San Martin. My informant insists that the leaders are a gang of robbers and racketeers who live on contributions of small commercial firms under the promise of protection or threat of destruction to their property.

(c) U. R. (Union Revolutionaria)
This secret organization was organized in January of 1933, following a speech by Representative Hamilton Fish in the U.S. House of Representatives, recommending intervention in Cuba. Dr. Jorge Lopez and Juan Pedro Funtes conceived the idea of mobilizing the revolutionary elements from the revolution of 1931, in order to wage a guerrilla warfare in the interior of the Island, as well as create disorders in Havana, with the intent of arousing the Cuban people to overthrow Machado and avoid the possibility of U. S. intervention. Some members of the A.B.C. and other organizations opposed to Machado joined the U.R., retaining membership in their own organizations. This society lacked a leader who could arouse the people of the interior to follow him. Last April it changed its program and took the name of "Union Revolutionaria." It was represented in the Mediation Conferences, leaning toward the Student Directorate. On the 13th of July, with the inauguration of the Cespedes Government, all of the principal organizers of the society, with the exception of Jorge Lopez, left it.

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(d) Students' Directorate.

This was the first group in Cuba to denounce publicly the machinations of Machado. In 1927 many of their members had been given sentences that barred them from their studies for periods of from one to twelve years for having claimed certain rights within the University. For reasons not to be analyzed now, the students bore this injustice in silence until 1930, when certain other reforms they requested had been refused and, as a consequence, a directorate was formed, the same directorate that is still in existence. It consisted originally of thirty members. This directorate was authorized by the students, in October 1930, to carry on the fight until the requested reforms would be granted; but when in a clash between the students and the police, the student Rafael Trejo lost his life, the students authorized the directorate to continue the fight until the overthrow of Machado. Since then the members of this directorate have fought a great fight against the Machado regime, at first alone, but later together with the A.B.C. society. The intensity of this fight can only be duly appreciated by those who have lived with those boys during that period. At present there is a deep division between them because the directorate, having obtained its goal, that is, the overthrow of Machado, should be dissolved or at least subordinated to a new assembly, because it is not authorized to form part of the Government; but some members of the directorate have managed to prevent the convention of the great assembly, knowing that they would be disavowed, as in all the minor assemblies held there was a deep feeling against the acts of those who have established themselves as the SAVIORS OF CUBA. About half of the members of the directorate itself do not agree to form part of the government. Relations among the directorate's members have become so tense that some of them have resigned. Their resignations have not been accepted, but they abstain from collaborating with their companions. It may be said without risk of being mistaken, that at present the students' directorate is handled by not more than a dozen individuals who, in turn, are handled by five - with Ruuben de Leon as the chief one.

(e) A. B. C.

An organization that aspires to effect a total renovation of the public life of Cuba, and it was an important factor in the overthrow of Machado. The following excerpts from the pamphlet "Manifest-Program of the A.B.C" (Third edition, La Habana, 1933) are some of the aims and desires of this organization:

Economic Measures

1. To develop and protect the small rural land owner by colonizing the interior.

2. To cause the gradual disappearance of the vast estates by means of progressive land taxes or others; to urbanize tracts of sugar plantations; to convert railroads of private use to public use; to prohibit the immigration of labor - later to be substituted by families duly selected - and to make regulations for the minor ports.

3. To limit the acquisition of land by companies and to adopt measures tending toward its nationalization.

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4. To form a national census of real property.

5. To create the homestead exempt from responsibility for debts, and to protect the peasant against all depredation.

6. To facilitate the formation of cooperative associations of producers, giving them financial backing by the creation of a land bank.

7. To recover mining property that is not being exploited.

8. To nationalize the public services that have a tendency to monopoly.

9. To take steps against the trusts.

10. To promulgate a monetary legislation in accordance with the economic situation of the country.

11. To promulgate bank laws for the protection of the depositors and of the credit.

12. To develop national banking and national saving institutions; to create an organization for the issue of currency; to constitute adequate metal (gold) reserves; to procure greater elasticity of credit, making it available to the small producers, stimulating the production and consumption of agricultural products and commercial transactions.

13. To stimulate the cooperation in production, consumption and credit.

14. To reduce the taxes on commercial transactions and to organize a progressive tax on income.

15. To protect the small industry and the small commerce.

16. To adopt advanced social legislation for the protection of labor; insurance against disability, old age, death, and unemployment; to protect the corporations and syndicates (of laborers); an eight-hour working day; periodic rest; to regulate the work of women, children and men; to regulate industrial contracts; the right to strike; conciliation and arbitration.

17. To promulgate laws for the preferential employment of Cuban labor in commerce and industry.

Political Measures: To offset the evils caused by the tyranny of Machado, it is proposed to limit the faculties of the President, to establish a system of responsibility for those in power, and to foment, popularize, and nationalize culture. With this purpose in view, the following measures are deemed necessary:

1. To set up a system of government that will elude the inconvenience and deficiencies of the presidential system and will adopt the innovations and useful experiences of other systems.

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2. To prohibit all delegation of functions by Congress.

3. To substitute the Senate by a corporate council (Camara corporativa").

4. To limit the immunity of Congressmen to legislative opinions and acts.

5. To deprive the illiterate of the right to vote.

6. To reestablish woman suffrage.

7. To establish shorter terms for officers in public service, in order to consult more frequently the electorate.

8. To suppress the Provinces (i.e. to centralize the Government).

9. To hold elections by districts.

10. To reorganize and give more power to the municipalities, to enable them to render more adequate public service.

11. To define constitutionally the crimes against public freedom and against the right to vote, and to prohibit pardons or amnesties for those crimes.

12. To restrict in general the right to grant amnesties.

13. To annul constitutionally any amnesty or any law that may directly or indirectly benefit those who approve of it.

14. To suspend the period of prescription for the prosecution of crimes committed by elective officials for the period of their active service.

15. To create courts of political responsibility before which the elective officials will have to respond for any contravention they may have committed against the program upon which they had been elected.

16. To reorganize the accounting system of the State and the Municipalities and to create auditing offices.

17. To suppress the Lottery.

18. To create Obligatory Military Service and to de-militarize the Rural Guard. To prohibit the extension of Military Rights to civilians.

19. To make the Judiciary Power independent. To substitute the Municipal Courts by courts whose decisions may be appealed.

20. To foment and diffuse public instruction.

21. Autonomy for the University.

From M. A., Havana No. 4268 Date: October 17, 1933

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

(f) A.B.C. Orthodox
This organization composed of about 300 members left the A.B.C. on September 7th, because they believed that the A.B.C. should have supported Grau San Martin's government. Many of its members have since returned to the A.B.C.

(g) A.B.C. Radical
This secret society was organized last May immediately following the arrival of the present American Ambassador. The A.B.C. believed that with the arrival of the Ambassador they should stop their terrorist activities and it asked its members to comply for fifteen days. However, believing that the Ambassador was more interested in the Cuban economic situation rather than the political situation, some of the members wanted to renew terrorist activities. Most of the society followed the instructions of the A.B.C. directorate to not renew terrorist activities, but others refused to follow the directorate's instructions, and organized a new society known as the A.B.C. Radical, which had the same program of reform as the A.B.C., but a different method of obtaining results. When Oscar de la Torre was released from prison he joined the A.B.C. Radical and successfully exerted his influence to have the society oppose the A.B.C. He established a radio station which broadcast statements opposed to the A.B.C., and it was from this station, on August 7th, that it was announced that Machado had resigned, causing thousands of people to go into the streets rejoicing, with the result that the crowds which appeared at the Palace were fired upon. This society is actively supporting Grau San Martin and, following the Army revolt of August 4th, it has taken into its organization a low class of negroes and mulattoes and the riffraff of the white population.

(h) A.B.C. Radical Revolutionario.
Nobody seems to know when or why this organization was formed, which occurred after the revolt of September 4th. Its leaders are outcasts from the A.B.C. It has 115 members supporting Grau San Martin, and thirty of them are enlisted in the revolutionary army.

T. N. Gimperling,
Lieut. Colonel, Infantry,
Military Attache.

Source: Personal Contacts
and Documents.

From M. A., Havana No. 4268 Date: October 17,1933

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NND 740058
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G-2 Report 3700-b 7

CUBA (Political)
Subject: Political Parties and Groups
(b) Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. OCT 27 1933

1. The political association ABC RADICAL that on October 20 officially changed its status as a secret organization and came out in the open as a political party under the name of PARTIDO RADICAL NACIONAL has already suffered a rupture among its members, as appears in a pamphlet distributed October 23 which submits "TO THE PEOPLE OF CUBA A PROGRAM-MANIFEST of the LEFT OF THE ABC RADICAL". The pamphlet itself does not indicate who wrote it. It is only signed: "CELULA DIRECTRIZ OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE".

2. In this pamphlet the LEFT ABC RADICALS declare that the present government of Ramon Grau is not better than that of Cespedes which they helped to overthrow, that it fosters communism, that it favors relatives and personal friends, and that among those there are even some Machadista elements.

3. Among the specific demands made in this pamphlet are the following:

a concentration cabinet;
a president not pertaining to any political party nor originating from any of the revolutionary sectors;
dissolution of the army and all armed forces;
organization of a Rural Guard and formation of a Security Corps in substitution of the National Police.

4. It is reported that three of the four armed companies of the ABC Radical group turned over their arms, ammunition and equipment on the night of October 23 - 24 to the ABC Group. This would mean approximately 375 rifles and sets of equipment, of a total of approximately 500 that were issued to the ABC Radical group by the present government. This is believed to be a correct report.

T. N. Gimperling,
Lieut. Colonel, Infantry,
Military Attache.

Sources: ABC Radical (Left Wing) Manifesto
Press
Personal contacts

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M. A. Cuba Report No. 4283 October 24, 1933

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~~Confidential.~~ The Military Attache,
Havana, Cuba.

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G-2 Report

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CUBA (Political)

Subject: Political Parties and Groups.
Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUN 2 1934

Organization of the "Afirmacion Nacional".

1. There is given below a summary of the objectives of the recently organized "Afirmacion Nacional", as contained in a confidential mimeographed pamphlet, which is understood to have been written by Jose M. Lopez Ona, Vice President of the National Sugar Export Corporation. It appears at the present time that this new society is not intended to be a political organization. Its general stated purpose (point 25 of the summary) is "to develop the vigorous growth of Cuban nationalism."

"(1) Stimulate civic consciousness, awakening interest in political, economic, and social problems.

"(2) Demand that public officials fulfil their duties and be responsible for their actions.

"(3) Implant a due respect for life and property, reaffirming the principle of authority "at present so broken."

"(4) Curtail the issue of amnesties and pardons, whose effect has been to create disrespect for laws "on the part of those who break them with impunity."

"(5) Demand honest elections so that "the will of the people may not be mocked."

"(6) Demand honesty in the handling of public funds, with severe penalties for graft.

"(7) Establish an independent Judicial Power, free from political influence and the spoils system.

"(8) Establish civic and political equality for women.

"(9) Establish a Civil Service so that the national budget may cease to be regarded as "political booty."

"(10) Support all means to bring about the economic independence of Cuba, awakening interest in agriculture, commerce and industry.

"(11) Develop the diversification of Cuban products, 'reasonable protection' for industry, exploitation of mineral wealth, and stimulation of the search for new markets for Cuban products.

"(12) Bring about 'mobilization of national riches.'

"(13) Develop small rural property holding, accompanied by the limitation (and eventually the abolition) of 'latifundismo', so that Cubans can gradually regain possession of the land.

From M.A., Havana No. 4635 May 28, 1934.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

~~Confidential.~~ The Military Attache,
Havana, Cuba.

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G-2 Report

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
By authority letter of Dec. 18, 1933, from TAGO to Archivist
By
Date 6-24-69

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Political Parties and Groups.
Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUN 2 1934

Organization of the "Afirmacion Nacional".

1. There is given below a summary of the objectives of the recently organized "Afirmacion Nacional", as contained in a confidential mimeographed pamphlet, which is understood to have been written by Jose M. Lopez Ona, Vice President of the National Sugar Export Corporation. It appears at the present time that this new society is not intended to be a political organization. Its general stated purpose (point 25 of the summary) is "to develop the vigorous growth of Cuban nationalism."

"(1) Stimulate civic consciousness, awakening interest in political, economic, and social problems.

"(2) Demand that public officials fulfil their duties and be responsible for their actions.

"(3) Implant a due respect for life and property, reaffirming the principle of authority "at present so broken."

"(4) Curtail the issue of amnesties and pardons, whose effect has been to create disrespect for laws "on the part of those who break them with impunity."

"(5) Demand honest elections so that "the will of the people may not be mocked."

"(6) Demand honesty in the handling of public funds, with severe penalties for graft.

"(7) Establish an independent Judicial Power, free from political influence and the spoils system.

"(8) Establish civic and political equality for women.

"(9) Establish a Civil Service so that the national budget may cease to be regarded as "political booty."

"(10) Support all means to bring about the economic independence of Cuba, awakening interest in agriculture, commerce and industry.

"(11) Develop the diversification of Cuban products, 'reasonable protection' for industry, exploitation of mineral wealth, and stimulation of the search for new markets for Cuban products.

"(12) Bring about 'mobilization of national riches.'

"(13) Develop small rural property holding, accompanied by the limitation (and eventually the abolition) of 'latifundismo', so that Cubans can gradually regain possession of the land.

From M.A., Havana No. 4635 May 28, 1934.

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"(14) Nationalize public service utilities, and establish laws for the dissolution of monopolies.

"(15) Reform the tax system, so that the amount of taxation shall not exceed that strictly necessary to cover the public expenses required by the nation .

"(16) Restrict immigration, exclude undesirables, and gradually repatriate undesirable aliens already in Cuba.

"(17) Revise Cuba's commercial treaties and negotiate new treaties on the basis of reciprocal benefits.

"(18) Promote necessary public works, especially sanitation, the beautifying of cities, and port improvements, under a plan which will assure the existence of work during the 'dead season'.

"(19) Construct highways supplementary to the Central Highway to connect ports and other cities therewith.

"(20) Improve public education and initiate a campaign against illiteracy by increasing the number of primary schools and making attendance compulsory; reorganize vocational education and modernize all higher education.

"(21) Establish laws for the welfare and protection of labor, regulating the conditions and hours of work, minimum wages, et cetera.

"(22) Give preferential attention to regulating and improving conditions of labor by women.

"(23) Eliminate child labor.

"(24) Promote infant and child welfare, including the establishment of playgrounds.

"(25) In general support all means which will tend to develop the vigorous growth of Cuban nationalism and restore faith in the destinies of the Cuban nation and the immortality of the Republic."

T. N. Gimperling,
Lieut. Colonel, Infantry,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy

TNG:vm

From M.A., Havana No.4635 May 29,1934.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Political Parties and Groups.

Recent Decisions of A.B.C. Society

1. The Central Council of the A.B.C. at its last session adopted the following decisions, which are contained in an official note, and which signed by the General Secretary of the A.B.C. was given out to the press:

"FIRST: To prohibit the acceptance of members from the armed forces.

"SECOND: To prohibit the purchase of firearms and materials for the revolutionary struggle.

"All acts done in contravention to the foregoing prohibitions shall be subject to punishment by the National Disciplinary Tribunal, which can impose penalties involving loss of A.B.C. honors and of expulsion.

"THIRD: That since the principal cause of our separation from the Government was the incompatibility of ideals between the members of all other sectors and of the A.B.C. (which is struggling for the complete "renovation" of Cuban public life with its postulates of new men, new ideas and new proceedings, and for the creation of a reserve force outside the Government which at a given time may render to our country a proper service) each founder of a sub-branch should increase the membership in our ranks so that each one should have at least two thousand affiliates within a period of not less than two months counted from the date of this resolution, but without losing sight of the selective character of the organization.

"FOURTH: That the causes which determined the A.B.C. to assume a revolutionary attitude in the past having disappeared, it is resolved to dissolve the A.B.C. Militia, ordering its members to return to their cells and branches.

For the Central Council of the A.B.C.
(Signed) E. de la Llera de Sanchez Govin,
Secretary General."

L. V. H. Durfee,
Captain, Infantry,
Assistant Military Attache.

Source: Embassy

From M.A., Havana No. 4676 July 5, 1934.

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups.

Platform of Autenticos, Etc. RECEIVED G/2 W. D. OCT 30 1934

1. At the present time there are six major political parties in Cuba, with two additional parties in the process of organization which present possibilities of being included among the major parties. There are also a number of minor political organizations not of sufficient importance to be included in the following summarization, and, in fact, so vague in nature and insignificant in size that efforts to obtain concrete data on them have been without result.

2. From a standpoint of voting strength, the largest party is perhaps the Autenticos (Partido Nacional Revolucionario), headed by Dr. Grau San Martin and Carlos Hevia. Their platform is decidedly anti-imperialistic and caters to the Cuban masses. The English translation of the Autenticos' political platform covers twenty pages of legal size sheets. It starts by reviewing the struggle of the Opposition against the dictatorship of Machado, stressing the predominant participation in the contest against the dictator by the youth of Cuba.

It demands the convocation of a sovereign Constitutional Assembly composed of a genuinely popular representation, to which shall be submitted all the provincial powers of the present government, and that popular representation shall be the foundation of the construction of the future government.

It stresses the loss of Cuban economic sovereignty and the need of liberation thereof; it deplores the economic intervention of foreign capital, estimating it at more than $1,500,000,000, which includes foreign ownership of sixty per cent of the arable land, the railway lines, the public services, and the mining industry; and the fact that small business enterprises are likewise in the hands of foreigners. (This refers chiefly to the control of small business concerns such as grocery stores and other mercantile houses by Spaniards, and to a lesser extent by Chinese). It states that a third part of the Budget is set aside for the external debt and that the high posts in private companies are held by foreigners. It protests against the importation of foreign labor in competition with native labor; it criticizes the indifference of the Cuban sugar industry, controlled by foreign capital, toward the Cuban worker, alleging that not the slightest effort has been made to improve the condition of the worker or the country; it alleges that the replacement of the Cuban laborer by foreigners has left the Cuban no other activity than to walk from door to door demanding from foreign hands the most humble job, or to struggle for public positions in shameful and disreputable political contests.

The Autentico Party believes that its principal task is the recuperation of Cuba's economic status without carrying out a policy of confiscation, but through laws and economic measures to obtain a more equitable participation by Cubans in the economic resources of their own country, and that this can only be accomplished by a political power independent of foreign interference and by a Constitution which is consecrated to the supreme right of the masses over that of private interests. It asserts the absolute sovereignty of the Cuban State - all power emanating from the people; forbidding any treaty or agreement of any kind which limits the exercise of Cuban soverignty or permits the use of national territory or its

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waters by a foreign power. (This is evidently intended as a protest against the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo). It states that every Cuban who requests or accepts foreign intervention in the internal affairs of Cuba shall be considered a traitor and condemned as such.

With respect to citizenship, all persons born in Cuba and those born abroad of Cuban parents are considered to be Cuban. Citizenship can be acquired by five years residence in Cuba, but exempted from this requirement are nationals of Mexico; the countries of Central America, except British Honduras; all countries of South America, except the three Guianas; and Santo Domingo, Haiti and Porto Rico. Double nationality is only admitted in the case of nationals of the above mentioned countries.

It demands the equality of rights, regardless of color, social class, wealth or political beliefs, and equal civil and political rights for men and women; rights for illegal as well as legal children and forbids any statement on birth certificates referring to the legitimacy or illegitimacy of the child, or to the civil status of the parents or their race.(Color). It advocates easy facilities for contracting and dissolving the marital tie, as well as complete religious freedom. It acknowledges the right of every Cuban to a decent life and honest work, holding the State obliged to assist in the exercise of this right through the adoption of necessary measures.

Among the minimum and inalienable rights of labor are the following: The requirement to employ a majority of native Cubans; eight-hour day; minimum wage; employment of minors of less than 14 years of age is prohibited; equal wages for equal work regardless of sex; double wages for overtime; adequate houses for agrarian workers; accident and pension legislation; establishment of government employment agencies; wages and household goods not to be subject to embargo; prohibition of any immigration tending to reduce the standard of living of native laborers; every enterprise employing laborers elsewhere than in established population centers to be obliged to provide homes, schools, infirmaries, public markets, recreation centers and such other services as may be necessary to the community; the right to form labor unions, syndicates, etc., and the right of the laborer to strike and of the employer to force a lockout regulated by legislation, but the right of the employer to force a lockout is limited and exists only when excessive production makes it necessary to suspend work in order to maintain prices above cost of production.

The legal guarantees of the individual are very similar to our own; free speech is guaranteed, but newspapers may be suppressed by judicial sentence. It prohibits extradition for political or social crimes; it prohibits the death penalty for political crimes; it guarantees the right of suffrage; it provides for the establishment of a Superior Electoral Tribunal charged with organizing the elections and the census and the reorganization of political parties. The President is to be elected, according to this platform, for four years and is to be ineligible for reelection. To be eligible for the presidency a person must be a Cuban citizen by birth and at least forty years of age; for a Cabinet member, a Cuban citizen by birth and at least 25 years of age; a member of the Legislature, a Cuban by birth or nationalization and at least 18 years of age. It advocates reorganization of the Supreme Court and grants certain powers to the President for the purpose of dissolving the Lower Chamber, but not more than twice for the same reason. It advocates the establishment of Civil Service; the maintenance of the present

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provinces, and the governing of provinces by governors elected by direct suffrage for four years, and a Provincial Chamber composed of one Representative from each municipality, elected for the same period, but without pay.

As to education, it demands that the autonomy of the University of Havana shall be maintained; all education to be under the supervision of the State; primary education to be free; higher education aided by the State.

Provision is made that the Lower Chamber shall draw up the National Budget and that no tax can be levied and no payment made except by vote of the Legislature. Extraordinary appropriations are prohibited except in case of war or public calamity; every loan to be approved by public referendum. One of the most important provisos in regard to the national resources is that only Cubans may acquire real estate,and foreign property owners shall be obliged to accept the laws of the nation without requesting any intervention in the affairs of Cuba on the part of a foreign government. Every individual who owns real estate must actually live in Cuba. The State will have the right to regulate and fix,in the case of public services, their tariff, their maximum profits, and the right to nationalize these services after paying for them.

No communication system shall be of a private character, nor shall any port. The State shall have the right to examine and, if necessary, annul all concessions, sales, donations, etc. made by former governments.

In conclusion, the Autentico Party informs the Cuban people that"the revolutionary laws passed by the Grau San Martin Government have for the first time in Cuban history made a breach in the walls of foreign exploitation and that against that breach today are struggling all the agencies hostile to the interests of Cuba and attempting to block their march to the future and their rightful place under the sun."

In the summary of the economic platform of the Party is stressed the premise that labor constitutes the primary source and functioning of natural wealth.

2. A new political party known as the "Partido Constitucional Socialista" (Constitutional Socialist Party) is being organized. Carlos Manuel de la Cruz, former President of the Council of State, is the leader in the organization of this party. He was also one of the leaders of the former Orthodox Conservative Party, and is a fluent and fiery orator. It is understood that he and Martinez Fraga, another enthusiastic member of the new Party, expect to obtain Cabinet posts in the near future.A number of former Menocalistas have also thrown in their lot with this Party, among them Fausto Menocal, brother of General Mario Menocal, former President and head of the Menocalista Party.

Some of the principal bases or planks of their political platform are the following: Universal suffrage; equality of the sexes; compulsory free education; equality as between legitimate and illegitimate children; admission to social use of all the economy of the country under laws governing the intervention of the State in production, consumption, distribution and credit; nationalization

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of public services; protection of "native property" in connection with the creation of a class of small land holders whose property shall not be subject to embargo; prohibition against the acquisition by one person of more than 100 caballerias (335 acres) of land; protection of labor, and recognition of the right to form labor organizations, to strike, etc.

Our present information on the objective of this Party is that it aims to form a sufficiently advertised political nucleus to warrant consideration and receive some patronage from the Government, and specifically, as previously stated, it is expected that Carlos Manuel de la Cruz and Martinez Fraga will be given Cabinet posts.

3. The former O.C.R.R. Party is now known as the "Partido Liberal Agrario". Its leaders are Rogelio Hernandez, Pepe Grau, Hernandez Trujillo and a Dr. Silverio. Some of the principal bases of its political platform are the following:

Professed respect for the soverignty of the people; this signifies that the Party rejects all doctrines which wish to divide the Cubans into privileged classes and which gives to one group of Cubans more rights than to another as regards public life; objection to the trial and conviction of men for crimes except by means of legal Courts.

The Party objects to the theory that minorities may rule if they are better or stronger, by any means which are not those of conforming to the public conscience and of obtaining the majority by means of suffrage.

It advocates democracy "such as the revolutionists of 1868 conceived it in the manifesto of Monte Christi, Jose Marti and others and as it was announced by Maximo Gomez upon sheathing his sword when Cuba became free."

As regards presidential order, the Party is in favor of a regime of government in which the president is a moderate power, but never a dictator or the sole director of public administration and of Cuban politics.

As regards public instruction, it is believed that it should be varied radically from the present Cuban system, changing the primary school to an "educative" school, Cuban in character, and instructive in the arts and sciences. It is believed that farmers should be taught agriculture. Regarding University instruction, it is believed that those who have the necessary capacity and talent should receive it, opportunity being given to the poor by means of tests to receive gratuitous instruction; those able to do so paying for such instruction.

With regard to public health, the Party is against the present system of public sanitation, which is thoroughly bureaucratic; farmers are said to be without doctors and without medical assistance; paralysis and malaria are destroying the agrarian population, and the houses of the man of the fields are in as miserable and unhygienic a state as were those of the Indians during the epoch of the "Conquistadores". The Party is of the opinion that medical service should be nationalized in order that it may be available

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not only to the well-to-do class, but also to the poor, and that the poor class should have the advantages of scientific treatments, which today are indispensable.

As regards public finances, the Party is in favor, first of all, of a service of"perfect statistics"; without statistics, they claim, government is useless. It is believed that a national bank should be immediately founded, creating in this respect farm banks and those of "rediscount". They state that "Cuba cannot continue without being able to convert its riches into money; the country is in the same sad condition as is China, in that neither country has its national bank; this constitutes a real dishonor for the economic capacity of the Cubans."

With respect to social order, the line the Party intends to follow is to foment in the soul of the proletariat the creation of federations of workmen with ideas thoroughly democratic. The Workmens Federation of Cuba will be the sole representative of the national proletariat, and it will be that, with the intervention of the Government, which will attend to the problems which arise between capital and labor.

It is believed that the Secretaryship of Agriculture should be transformed into an organization which shall have a technical character; the Department to be the director of Cuban farm production and a place where the farmer may find assistance and protection. At present the Party believes this Department to be inefficient and in practice worthless. They state that Cuba's high agrarian wealth, which is the basis of the national economy, should be scientifically cared for by creating farm leagues which shall regulate production and care for the equitable distribution of that wealth.

It is believed that a consultative organization , composed of farmers, proprietors and workers,should be formed, in order that they may decide on the most urgent problems which really will produce benefits to the public, not forgetting those works which also result in the beautifying of the country.

With regard to international politics, the Party is in favor of reciprocity treaties,and of maintaining industries which correspond to our climate, without provoking artificial wealth which may demand an excessive protection.

As regards political order, the Party believes in the formation of large parties which will severely punish all who attempt to impede the free propagation of ideas and to coerce citizens in their own political ideas. They state that political parties are the educators of the people, and, in order that they may be such, it is necessary, they state, to give them ample liberty and the utmost guarantees, both those of radical ideas as well as those whose ideas are more conservative.

With regard to suffrage, the Party is against amnestying those guilty of electoral crimes and is in favor of perfecting an electoral system which shall be unsusceptible to fraud. The Party has socialistic tendencies in the sense of admitting the intervention of the State in anything which may tend to destroy individual initiative. It believes in obligatory old-age insurance as well as in unemployment insurance. It is believed that the peasant should have

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cooperative organizations protected by the State, in order to insure against the ruinous sale of his crops and in order that he may be able to obtain money necessary for his agrarian operations.

In summarization, the Party advocates a political government which shall take from modern legislation those things which are compatible with Cuba's social and actual state and peculiar economic system.

4. It is understood that Sergio Carbo is forming a new party which he has named the "Partido Revolutionario Cubano" (P.R.C.) We have no information on this party and it is not being taken seriously. Carbo has announced that he is not a communist but that he is a revolutionist. His weekly journal, La Semana, which was a source of considerable income to him during the last months of the Machado regime, lost so many subscribers during the Grau regime, because of its radical nature, that it finally ceased publication. It is understood that Carbo has very little, if any, funds, and that he has tried to enter Mendieta's Cabinet as Secretary of State. As Carbo expressed it, he wants to become Prime Minister. It is probable that he hopes to receive enough newspaper advertising through his new Party to obtain a Cabinet position. It is not believed that his Party will achieve any political importance.

5. The Union Nacionalista, of which the actual head is President Mendieta, although the titular head is Justo Luis del Pozo, is the predominant political party. There appears to have been no change in its policies or in its platform.

6. The Marianista Party (Accion Republicana) is still headed by Miguel Mariano Gomez, the Mayor of Havana. It is not a large party, but many of its more prominent members hold Government positions, including several Cabinet positions. It is the only party, other than the Nacionalista, which is supporting Mendieta and his Government. Although not large, as stated above, it is of considerable importance.

7. The Menocalista Party (Conjuncion Nacional Democratica) remains under the leadership of General Mario Menocal, although the titular head is Cuerbo Rubio. This party is strongest in the provinces of Oriente and Camaguey. General Menocal himself, because of ill health, can no longer be considered as a presidential possibility. His Party has suffered because of internal dissension and recently a number of the leaders deserted the General for Carlos Manuel de la Cruz' new party. (See paragraph 2). The General's brother, Fausto Menocal, and the brother of Cuerbo Rubio were among those going over to the new Party. Since the chief aim of all Cuban politicians, and, in fact, most Cubans, is to get on the Cuban Government pay roll and especially to hold Government positions by which privileges and financial perquisites may be obtained, in addition to the generally modest government salaries, it is only natural that a Party which has not participated in the Government for a long period of time, would continue to lose supporters, unless, of course, there should appear to be a possibility that the Party may again gain control of the Government. General Menocal's party has not participated in the Government for many years, except for a short time following the inauguration of the present Mendieta Government. With practically no patriotism in the Cuban breast, and with no platform in the Party, except the desire for Government control and consequent Government jobs, which appears almost impossible of achievement at the present time, it is believed that the Menocalista Party will continue to disintegrate.

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8. The A.B.C., formerly a secret society and now a political party, continues under the control of Joaquin Martinez Saenz. It is now preparing a new Constitution and political platform. It is believed that this organization has lost many of its supporters during the last three months, among them Carlos Saladrigas and Alfredo Botet, two of the several original directors. Notwithstanding the fact that I have been assured by several prominent members of the Party that it is continually gaining strength. It has been persistently rumored during the past several days that the A.B.C. organization may form an alliance with the Autenticos on the grounds that both revolutionary organizations have many ideals in common. These rumors cannot be confirmed; however, assuming that an honest election could be held, it is believed that Grau San Martin and the Autenticos would sweep into power, in which case the participation in the Government by the A.B.C. would probably act as a levening element or brake against the more irrational and radical ideals of the Autenticos. Undoubtedly, Martinez Saenz' chief desire is to obtain the presidency and the desire of his Party is to obtain as many political offices as possible, which is true of all Cuban political parties, and, to a somewhat lesser degree, applies to the political parties of our own country.

T. N. Gimperling,
Lieut. Colonel, Infantry,
Military Attache.

Source: Personal Contacts.

TNG:vm

From M.A., Havana No. 4786 October 25, 1934.

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Political Parties and Groups.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 15 1934

Old Liberal Party Dissolved.

1. On November 30th, the Cabinet passed a Decree dissolving the old Liberal Party, to the intense indignation of the members of that Party. Guillermo Tapia, speaking in the name of Ramon Vasconcelos and other leaders of the Liberal Party in conferring with the Ambassador, stated that the Liberal Party has secured more signatures and affiliations of voters than any other political sector and that the recently increasing strength of the Party had been worrying the leaders of the other old line political parties.

2. Because of the Cabinet's action in dissolving the Party, the leaders will be compelled, at great disadvantage, to organize a new party.

T. N. Gimperling,
Lieut. Colonel, Infantry,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy files.

TNG:vm

From M.A., Havana No. 4828 December 11, 1934.

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CUBA (Political)

Subject: Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAR 31 1937

1. I am reliably informed that a movement is under way to unite all opposition sectors into a national party for participation in the election of members of the Constituent Assembly, under the initial joint leadership of Miguel Mariano Gomez and General Mario Menocal, both former Presidents and at present leaders of the Accion Republicana and the Conjunto Nacional Democratico parties, respectively.

2. The above named leaders, while seeking to gain strength from all the revolutionary elements, including the Autenticos and the ABC's., are, at present, loath to be tarred by the Grau San Martin and Saenz brush. The Cuban Government has issued invitations and guarantees to both Grau and Saenz (who are now issuing manifestos approving of this coalition from the safety of the United States) to return to Cuba and participate in the election of the members of the Constituent Assembly. The return of these men is scheduled for May, when the sugar grinding season will have spent itself and the public at large will be free to indulge in politics.

3. I am reliably informed that this return is causing little concern in the Batista "camp" at the present time, as Grau San Martin, believing that he has a chance to win, will not resort to drastic communictic and terroristic action until he sees defeat imminent and, at that time, corrective action can be taken by the authorities.

4. The political party situation at present is kaleidoscopic, with parties and party members/changing position daily, with the majority of the members of same joining the Batista "bandwagon" -- even the most bold being hesitant to court political suicide by joining a party whose strength, policies and future is most problematical.

5. While a coalition of the "Outs" may eventually lead to a strong national party in opposition to the "Ins", the Government is counting on the personal animosities and jealousies of the leaders of the above mentioned parties, with resultant disorganization, to prevent any serious threat.

6. The fact that an invitation has been extended to Grau and Saenz is, to my mind, a most important indication of the security of the Batista regime, as well as an indication of his sincere intention at the present time to further, within the sphere of his duties and functions, the genuine consolidation of the Cuban Nation through a real Constituent Assembly.

E. W. Timberlake,
Major, GS., CAC.,
Military Attache.

Source: Personal Contacts
and Embassy files.

EWT:vm

From M.A., Havana Report No.5337 Date: March 25,1937.

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Political Parties and Groups.
(b) Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 11 1937

1. Conjunto Nacional Democratico

Organized by General Mario G. Menocal and Dr. Cuervo Rubio in 1935. Composed chiefly of former members of the Conservative and Liberal parties, and had sufficient strength in the elections of January, 1936 to elect twelve Senators out of a total of 36 and seventy Representatives out of a total of 162. The party lost the presidential election by reason of a coalition of three other parties - the Accion Republicanas, Liberals and Nacionalistas. Recently, following a fight for control between Santiago Verdeja and Mario Menocal, the loser, Menocal, withdrew from the party on April 29, 1937, and, accompanied by Senators Cuervo Rubio, Pedro Cue, Ricardo Dolz, Pedro Goderich and Miguel Coyula, is busily reorganizing a new Conservative party with former president Gomez's Accion Republicana. The future strength of this party depends largely upon what additional followers Menocal can wean from the established organizations, particularly the Conjunto Democratico.

Majority leaders (with the Government) of the Conjunto as of May 3, 1937, are Senators Santiago Verdeja, Guillermo Alonso Pujol, Carlos Saladrigas and Representatives Antonio Martinez Fraga (President of the House) and Marejon Ferra.

2. Liberals

The oldest active party in Cuba; organized in 1908, by Jose Miguel Gomez and Alfredo Zayas, was a dominating power in Cuban politics until the downfall of Machado, when it was disorganized by the incarceration and exile of its most prominent leaders.

In 1935, when the political waters became more or less calm, Ramon Vasconcellos and Enrique Recio gathered the fragments of the old organization together to participate in the January 1936 elections, and, forming a coalition with the Accion Republicana and Nacionalista parties, elected Miguel Mariano Gomez to the presidency, as well as ten Senators and 35 Representatives. Recently in the scramble for patronage, following the downfall of Gomez, this party became divided, the majority adhering to the Government - under the leadership of Senators de la Pena, Jose Casanova, Alfredo Hormedo, and Representatives Marcelino Garriga, Sebastian Beltran; the minority in opposition to the Government, under the leadership of Senators Ramon Vasconcellos, Enrique Recio, Capastany, and Representative Eduardo Suarez Rivas.

3. PARTIDO UNION NACIONALISTA.

Organized in 1927 by a group of men from the Liberal and Conservative parties, under Colonel Carlos Mendieta, to oppose Machado. After the downfall of Machado, this party became quite powerful and placed Mendieta in the provisional presidency in 1935. In the January, 1936, elections, this party elected nine Senators and thirty Representatives, and, in conjunction with the Liberals and Accion Republicana, elected Gomez to the presidency. Recently, in the scramble over patronage, their councils became divided and Mendieta retired temporarily - the majority adhering to the Government under the leadership of Arturo Illas, President of the Senate; Agustin Acosta and Mario Lopez Blanco - and the minority attached themselves to the new Partido Social Democratico. (I am reliably informed that at the psychological moment, Mendieta, assisted by Batista, will reenter the political scene).

From M.A., Havana Report No. 5356 Date: May 3, 1937.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

4. Accion Republicana -(Marianistas)
The weakest of the parties represented in Congress, was organized by Gomez after the revolution against Machado. This party having little strength within itself, by clever manipulation was able to form a coalition with the Liberals and Nacionalistas, and, being assisted by Colonel Batista, was successful in electing Gomez as President in the January 1936 elections, as well as five Senators and twenty-five Representatives. This coalition disintegrated with the fall of Gomez and its membership became embroiled in the consequent fight for patronage. The remnants of this party, under the guidance of Gomez and Senator Ramon Zaydin and Representatives Jose Quintana and Radio Cremata forms the nucleus of the present opposition to the Government. Ex-President Gomez has been diligently seeking allies and after discarding the ABC's, Autenticos, Izquierdo Revolucionarios, etc., did, on April 29, 1937, join with Menocal in his new Conservative party.

5. Partido Revolucionario Cubano (Grau's Autenticos)
Organized in 1934 by Dr. Grau San Martin, but has never been able to gain political effectiveness because of its leftist tendencies and the opposition of the armed forces. Upon the forced resignation of Grau in 1934 and the exile of the majority of its leaders, the party did not participate in the January 1936 elections. Recently, under the local leadership of Sr. Emilio Alvarez and Miguel Guiterrez and the absentee leadership of Grau, this party has held its national assembly and has invited Grau to return to Cuba. They have formed a tentative amalgamation with the ABC's, the Izquierdo Revolucionarios and other leftist elements into a so-called "frente popular," and, in view of the disorganization existing in the other parties at the present time, give every promise of becoming a predominant element in the Constituent elections scheduled for the Autumn of 1937.

6. Social Democraticos (Independientes)
A party now in the throes of formation by deciduous members of the Union Nacionalistas, under the leadership of Senator Justo Luis del Pozo (former President of the Senate) and Senator Jose Casabuena, is already showing signs of an early demise.

7. A.B.C. 's.
Originally organized as a secret cellular party to harass Machado, under the leadership of Martinez Saenz and Alfredo Botet, incurred the displeasure of Colonel Batista for their participation in the general strike of 1935. They refused to participate in the elections of January 1936, and have practically ceased to exist. The leader, Martinez Saenz, is in permanent exile and its A-2 (accion) Alfredo Botet, isnow National Collector of Customs and one of the right-hand men of Colonel Batista. The remaining elements of this party have rallied around the Autentico banner.

8. Cuba en Marcha.
A theoretical party organized by Dr. Francisco de Varona, paymaster of the National Tuberculosis Council, who claims support of the Army, but has as yet to present tangible evidence of its existence. While it is within the bounds of reason to conceive of such a party uniting all the militaristic groups behind Batista sometime in the future, it is believed that Colonel Batista has no present intention of discarding the framework of a democratic government by disorganizing the present recognized political parties.

From M.A., Havana Report No.5356 Date: May 3, 1937.

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9. It is impossible in present day Cuba to distinguish between the political parties because of platforms or statements of national principles. Election campaigns of recent years have been contests of personalities rather than issues, and platforms have been analogous; consequently, the parties follow the dictates of their leaders, and members thereof feel free to change parties indiscriminately.

These leaders at present are loudly proclaiming the Constituent Assembly, a desire to uplift the social condition of the masses by a decrease of working hours and an increase of pay for same. However, the present confusion and differences of opinion reigning within the councils of all parties, the scramble for political patronage and the lack of definite programs and objectives on the part of these leaders has deadlocked present constructive legislative activity - a condition broken on occasion by the personal intercession of Colonel Batista. Bills pending 367. Bills enacted calendar year 1937 -16.

Hereunder the present day party alignments, which are, at best, transitory and subject to change without notice:

For the Government:

	Senate	House
Conjunto Nacional Democratico	5	31
Liberals	5	20
Union Nacionalista	5	21
Accion Republicana	2	11
Social Democratico	2	4
T o t a l	19	87

For the Opposition:

Conjunto (new Conservative)	6	26
Liberals	4	17
Nacionalista	2	8
Accion Republicana	3	19
Social Democratico	2	5
T o t a l	17	75
Grand Total -	36	162

It will be noted that many Senators and Representatives have deserted the parties which originally elected them - a quite normal procedure in Cuban politics. Further, that the present slight majority of the Government forces can be seriously disarranged by the activities of General Mario Menocal.

Source: Personal Contacts and Press.

E. W. Timberlake,
Major, GS., CAC.,
Military Attache.

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From M.A., Havana Report No. 5356 Date: May 3,1937

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups.

General Mario G. Menocal

Picture attached to original

General Mario G. Menocal, perennial "viewer with alarm," war-horse of Cuban politics and former President of Cuba, was born in the little town of Jaguey Grande, Matanzas Province, on December 17, 1866, of one of the Island's leading families.

Educated in the United States, a civil engineer graduate of Cornell University, Menocal took an active part in the Cuban revolution which broke out in 1895, rising to the rank of General of the Fifth Revolutionary Division, operating in Havana and Matanzas. After the close of the revolution and establishment of the Republic, Menocal became the nation's first Chief of Police under President Tomas Estrada Palma.

When Estrada Palma sought reelection in 1906, Menocal, supported by the Moderado party, which he founded, played an instrumental part in the revolution which brought about the intervention of the United States under the Platt Amendment. Toward the close of the intervention period, Menocal reorganized his Partido Moderado and re-christened it Partido Conservador Nacional. The "Conservadores" nominated him for the presidency in 1908; however, he was defeated by the Liberal Party's candidate, General Jose Miguel Gomez, father of the recently deposed Miguel Mariano Gomez. At the close of Gomez's term, Menocal was again nominated and elected President in 1913. On April 7, 1917, his government declared war on Germany, and in 1918 he negotiated a $50,000,000 loan from the United States. He was reelected in 1916, entering his second term in 1917, crushing, after a bitter three months struggle, a revolt headed by General Jose Miguel Gomez, the defeated Liberal candidate.

For a long time one of the leaders in Cuba's sugar industry, his financial resources have dwindled considerably in recent years. His fortunes were striken a further blow in 1931, after he was captured by loyal troops while attempting to lead a revolution against the Machado regime. With him at the time were his son, Mario, and Colonel Carlos Mendieta, later Provisional President. After a brief imprisonment, the three were released and fled to the United States where they remained in exile until the fall of the Machado regime in 1933.

Menocal founded the present Conjunto Nacional Democratico Party after the fall of the Machado Administration, and was nominated candidate for the 1936 elections. He was defeated by Miguel Mariano Gomez, who was backed by a coalition of three parties. Following his defeat, Menocal retired temporarily from politics but only recently resigned from the party he founded. His resignation, he said, was due to the influence Colonel Batista brought to bear on the president of the party, Senator Santiago Verdeja. A number of Representatives and Senators of the Democratic Party followed Menocal's example and announced their intention of joining the new Conservative party he intends to organize. General Menocal speaks English perfectly; possesses a vacillating personality, a prepossessing appearance, great poise, and is a confirmed chauvinist.

Source: Personal Contacts

FROM M.A. Havana No. 5360

H. W. Timberlake,
Major, G.S.C.
Military Attache May 12,1937

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups.

Carlos M. Pelaez y Gomez

Picture attached to original

Sr. Carlos M. Pelaez was born in Havana on March 29,1899. He was educated in the San Francisco de Paula schools and in the Institute of Habana.

Before entering politics Pelaez was a retailer and newspaperman. He collaborated on the newspapers La Prensa and Heraldo de Cuba, specializing in gossip on political activities.

In 1930, Pelaez launched himself on the political sea and defended with youthful enthusiasm the candidacy of General Jose Miguel Gomez. In 1932, he was one of the directors of the campaign for the election of Miguel Mariano Gomez to the mayoralty of Habana, and since then he has fought shoulder to shoulder with Miguel Mariano Gomez against political headwinds. During Gomez's term as Mayor, Pelaez was one of his principal assistants.

Pelaez took an active part in the fight against the government of Machado and was exiled. In New York he was a member of the Junta Revolucionaria, which was presided over by Carlos de la Torre. Gomez and Pelaez represented the newly founded Accion Republicana party in the Junta Revolucionaria.

After the fall of the Machado regime, Pelaez was named Assistant Secretary of Agriculture by President de Cespedes. He was Assistant Secretary of Commerce during the provisional administration of President Carlos Mendieta.

Pelaez is President of the Municipal Assembly and first Vice-President of the National Assembly of the Accion Republicana party. He was Secretary of Interior during the short-lived Gomez administration, and when Gomez was impeached and ousted from office, Pelaez resigned. He has recently been most active in opposition to the Government.

Pelaez speaks English with difficulty.

E. W. Timberlake,
Major, GS., CAC.,
Military Attache.

Source: Personal Contacts.
EWT:vm

From M.A., Havana Report No. 5362 Date: May 12, 1937.

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CUBA (Political)

Subject: Political Parties and Groups
(b) Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups.

RUBEN DE LEON
Secretary Partido Revolucionario Cubano

Picture attached to original

Ruben de Leon, Secretary of the Partido Revolucionario Cubano (Grau's Autenticos) was born in Manzanillo, Oriente Province, September 3, 1907. He attended grade schools in his home town and later Havana University, from which he is still to graduate. He is a leader of the "Directoria Estudiantil Universitario," and is a radical communist.

In 1930, de Leon at the head of the students, began a bitter and bloody campaign against the Machado regime and was an important factor in the downfall of the latter.

In August, 1933, de Leon was prominent in founding the Partido Revolucionario Cubana; was influential in putting Grau in the presidency, and was and is one of Grau's closest advisers. He practically ran the government during the administration of Grau and converted the latter from a moderate to a radical Leftist. He followed Grau into exile in Miami in January 1934, and helped direct the rehabilitation of the Autenticos from that haven until January, 1937, when he returned to Cuba to actively take part in the preparation for the return of Grau to participate in the forthcoming Constituent Assembly, and to take the necessary action to disrupt attempts to open the University in March, 1937. (See reports Nos. 5335 and 5341, I.G. No. 2500-c).

Ruben de Leon is a "rabble-rouser" of the first water; is greasy and unkempt in appearance, wears his hair six inches long and appears to have never taken a bath. He is more anarchist than communist and will stop at nothing to attain his ends. He speaks English with difficulty.

E. W. Timberlake,
Major, GS., CAC.,
Military Attache.

Source: Personal Contacts.
EWT:vm

From M.A., Havana Report No. 5384 Date: June 10, 1937

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups.

GUILLERMO MARTINEZ MARQUEZ

Martinez Marquez, Director of Publicity for the Partido Revolucionario Cubano (Grau's Autenticos), lawyer and prominent newspaperman, was born in Havana, March 9, 1900.

After his graduation from Havana University, he practiced law until 1921, when he began his journalism career. He has held prominent positions in the following newspapers: La Prensa of New York; Heraldo de Cuba; El Pais; El Sol; El Mundo and Ahora. He was city editor of El Sol and El Mundo. He was founder and director of the newspaper AHORA, the organ of the revolutionaries that fought against the Machado regime, the paper being published from 1933 until 1935, when it was banished by the Mendieta Administration.

Martinez Marquez was exiled with Dr. Grau, and, living in Miami and Tampa, collaborated in the propaganda campaign for the Partido Revolucionario Cubano (followers of Grau) until July of 1936, when he returned to Havana. At present, he is, as stated above, Director of Publicity for the party, and a member of the executive committee of that party.

During the Grau regime, Marquez was of the inner-advisory circle, and co-author with Grau of the 50 Percent Nationalization Labor Law. He is a capable, though idealistic, follower of Karl Marx, prone to bombastic oratory, and well suited to his present job as publicity man.

Marquez has written and produced several plays, and has also written a book-length novel. He speaks English.

E. W. Timberlake,
Major, GS., GAC.,
Military Attache.

Source: Personal Contacts.

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From M.A., Havana Report No. 5398 Date: June 16, 1937.

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CUBA (Political)

Subject: Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups.

Aurelio Alvarez de la Vega,
Former President of the Autentico Party

Aurelio Alvarez was born in Camaguey, August 18, 1868. He joined the revolutionary forces of General Maximo Gomez when only thirteen years of age. After the close of the War of Independence, Alvarez became employed in the Ferrocarril de Cuba Railway Company.

In 1910 Alvarez joined the National Conservative Party under General Menocal, and was elected to the House of Representatives from the Province of Camaguey. He was re-elected continually until 1920, when he was elected Senator from Camaguey. He was then elected president of the Upper House. He was also president of the National Assembly of the Conservative Party, and the author of Cuba's first social laws on labor. He resigned from the Conservative Party in June, 1928, due to its support of the Machado administration, and was one of the founders of the oppositionist Partido Union Nacionalista. After Machado's downfall, Alvarez became one of Grau San Martin's most valued collaborators. When Grau's Partido Revolucionario Cubano was founded, Alvarez was elected president of the party. He resigned recently, however, due to Grau's "lack of patriotism, faulty knowledge of practical politics," and to "the confusion in Cuba's political world."

This resignation was a serious setback to the "Autenticos", as Alvarez is known above all as a "practical" politician, and his desertion gave pause to the many political "outs" that saw in the Grau movement an opportunity to ride into power.

At present Alvarez has withdrawn temporarily from politics and devotes his time to his sugar plantation and to the National Association of Sugar Cane Planters, of which he is president.

Alvarez is an excellent orator, with strong communistic leanings. Lacking the polish and finesse of his Chief, he is, nevertheless, thoroughly conversant with the essential factors of Cuban politics, and is never daunted by ideals.

E. W. Timberlake,
Major, GS., CAC.,
Military Attache.

Source: Personal Contacts.
EWT:vm

From M.A., Havana Report No.5434 Date: July 20,1937

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Political Parties and Groups.
(b) Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. AUG 24 1937

Resume of Political Parties

1. The various political parties of Cuba have, in spite of continued confusion of policies and division of internal counsel, heeded the popular acclaim accorded Colonel Batista's Three-Year-Plan, and have seized this plan as an opportunity to unite in a peaceful solution of Cuba's ills. However, each of the five major parties (paragraphs 2 to 6 herewith) represented in the present Congress continues to furnish a strong minority in opposition to the Government. Herewith resume of the respective parties since the rendition of report No. 5356 (3700-b). dated May 3, 1937.

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2. CONJUNTO NACIONAL DEMOCRATICO:
Since the desertion of General Mario G. Menocal in May, 1937, this party has "girded/its loins" under its new president, Senator Santiago Verdeja, and the inspiration of Batista's Three-Year-Plan, and has held its losses, due to the above disaffection, to three Senators and eight Representatives. The party, as a whole, has gained strength and solidarity since General Menocal's desertion.

General Menocal, the erstwhile leader of this party, has made little progress with the organization of his new Conservative Party, mainly because of unwise manifestos, his own frustration by the publication of the Three-Year-Plan, and lack of funds and political rewards for distribution to his followers.

3. LIBERALS:
After much preliminary ballyhoo, the Liberal Party - greatly augmented by the return of former Machado supporters, inaugurated its National Convention at the National Theatre on August 1st., before a large and enthusiastic attendance. The recently returned Machadista leaders seized control of the convention from the men who had reorganized and led the Party since the fall of Machado, and Guas Inclan (former President of the House in Machado's regime) and Cesar Madrid, opened the convention by a greeting to Machado, a eulogy to the absent Machado leaders and a declaration that the revolution was a failure and that nothing constructive had been done since the departure of Machado. Further, that the Three-Year-Plan was a direct steal of Machado's ideals. Colonel Batista, who listened to the proceedings of the convention by radio, took offense at the enthusiasm with which the above declarations were received, and his censure to the leaders was followed by the Cabinet's censure on the next day. When the convention attempted to reopen on Aug. 3rd., they found that the management of the National Theatre had closed the building to them. Guas Inclan, Cesar Madrid, and other of the most ardent Machadista supporters, immediately departed for foreign shores, and most of the minor provincial leaders returned to their homes. While the convention is indefinitely postponed and a break between the old Machado leaders and the new Liberal leaders developed, it is generally believed that this incident will eventually lead to a closer union of the Party, under the banner of Batista's Three-Year-Plan and the leadership of forward-looking politicians, of whom Juan Mendieta (nephew of former President Mendieta) and Marcelino Garriga are most prominent.

4. PARTIDO UNION NACIONALISTA:
Since the temporary withdrawal of Colonel Carlos Mendieta and the resignation of Arturo Illas (former President of the Senate), this party has done little but fight over patronage. However, recently, under the leadership of Agustin Acosta and Mario Lopez Blanco, the Party has attained new life by the inspiration of the Three-Year-Plan, and, with the return of former members of the Social Democratico (Independientes), the Party is looking forward to holding its National

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Convention in the near future and is vociferously supporting the Three-Year-Plan.

5. PARTIDO REVOLUCIONARIO CUBANO (Grau's Autenticos):
Undaunted by the resignation of its local leader, Aurelio Alvarez, and the continued absence, financially and personally, of Grau San Martin, this party continues to show cohesion, organizing ability, and to gain allies. It has recently admitted "Joven Cuba" (a radical Leftist group) to the party, with forty-five delegates in the National Executive Committee; the Revolucionario Inteligencia with thirty: Izquierdo Revolucionario with twelve, and Leftist elements with the obsolescent A.B.C. with twelve, under the heading of the Partido Nacional. It has appointed Sergio Carbo (former member of "El Cinco") to replace Aurelio Alvarez, and has announced itsself as being 100 per cent behind Colonel Batista's Three-Year-Plan, which it alleges was a direct steal from Grau San Martin. All recent manifestos issued by this Party are most conciliatory towards the United States, the present regime in Cuba, and have announced the renunciation of communistic trends. It is the belief of the undersigned that the policies mentioned above have been adopted as a means to an end and will be immediately and diametrically changed if and when this Party comes to power.

6. ACCION REPUBLICANA (Marianistas):
The recent refusal of Menocal to accept the fusion of this Party with his new Conservative organization sounded the "swan song" of ex-President Miguel Mariano Gomez and his ineffectual policies. While a small nucleus of the Party remains loyal to Gomez, various members are deserting the sinking ship and looking around for more advantageous political connections.

7. SOCIAL DEMOCRATICO (Independientes):
This Party practically died at birth, and, although abortive attempts have been made at organization throughout the Island, many members have jumped back into the Nacionalista fold and on to the Batista "bandwagon" - 100 per cent for the Three-Year-Plan.

8. A.B.C.
The Leftist members of the rapidly disappearing A.B.C. party have joined the Autenticos, and the Rightist members have rallied to the governmental policies of the regularly constituted Liberal, Conjunto and Nacionalista Parties. This party - under the name of the A.B.C. - no longer exists.

9. CUBA EN MARCHA:
This hypothetical party, given much political newspaper publicity as being capable of uniting all the Batista elements, during the late Spring of 1937, has never materialized.

10. Thus it may be seen that the Three-Year-Plan, offering, as it does, an opportunity for all parties to unite in a peaceful solution of Cuba's ills, and receiving enthusiastic acclaim from the Cuban masses, has, undoubtedly strengthened Colonel Batista's political hand. The initial step of this Plan - coordination of the sugar industry - has been "steamrollered" through the Senate and gives every indication of receiving similar attention in the House. Bills for the second, third and fourth steps have been prepared, and I am reliably informed that they will be approved by the Congress.

11. The above, in comparison with the dilly-dallying manner in which the Constituent Assembly, debt settlement, and other legislation is handled, provides an accurate indication as to what Colonel Batista, backed up by popular applause, can do with Congress when he so desires. It is

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impracticable to tabulate at this time the party alignments, as the action of various members varies with the legislation introduced, and may be divided into the general catalogue of the Three-Year-Plan--Batista supported legislation, and Other legislation.

E. W. Timberlake,
Major, GS., CAC.,
Military Attache.

Source: Personal Contacts.

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From M.A., Havana Report No. 5456 Date: August 18, 1937.

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By 6-24-69

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Political Parties and Groups.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. AUG 24 1937

Partido Revolucionario Cubano

1. Dr. Sergio Carbo (publisher and poet), present leader in Cuba of the destinies of the Partido Revolucionario Cubano (Grau's Autenticos), aided and abetted by Dr. Mendez Penate (Assistant Director of Havana University), First Vice-President; Ruben de Leon (ex-radical student leader), Secretary of Correspondence; Eusibio Mujals (convicted murderer), Secretary of Action; Martinez Marquez, Secretary of Propaganda; Dr. Jose Portuondo, Secretary of Justice; Engineer Pablo Boola, Secretary of the Treasury, has furnished me with the following information as to the doctrines, platform and organization of the Autentico Party:

(a) Complete renunciation of all terrorist activities.
(b) Complete renunciation of the Party's anti-American policy of 1933 and 1934, with the devotion of every means to encourage American business and American capital in Cuba.
(c) Payment of the entire Public Works Debt by liquidating bonds at prices paid by present holders.
(d) 100 per cent support of Batista's Three-Year-Plan, which embodies en toto ideals of Grau San Martin.
(e) Return of the military to their proper sphere.
(f) Early calling of the Constituent Assembly, with full sovereignty guaranteed, as well as unrestricted organized propaganda and the adoption of an electoral code without reserve or trickery to favor certain tendencies.
(g) "Cuba for the Cubans," without conflict with "b" above.

2. I was informed that the student and labor leaders who had labored so long and shed so much blood in the struggle to oust Machado, were mentally and physically unprepared to assume the control of Cuba when they unexpectedly came to power on September 10, 1933, having no experience or organization as a governing body, and that they acted hastily and unwisely during the Grau regime in an attempt to create a governmental organization attuned to the whims of a suddenly hysterical and uncontrolled populace. However, I was further informed, in the ensuing years they had learned wisdom in the school of hope deferred, and that as a result, they have today a governmental setup fully capable of maintaining order and receiving the necessary popular support to accomplish the economic and social reforms necessary for Cuba. It was further stated that without the support of the Autentico Party, Colonel Batista's Three-Year-Plan was a "bridge of paper from the frying pan into the fire." That without the guidance of an electoral code, the Party had organized under the general classifications listed below, and contained the most intelligent and competent men of Cuba in its setup:

Executive and Cabinet:

President.....Dr. Ramon Grau San Martin.
First Vice President.....Dr. Mendez Penate, Asst.Dean, Havana University.
Second Vice President.....Sergio Carbo, Publisher.
Third Vice President.....Felix Lancis, Physician.
Fourth Vice President.....Gustavo Moreno, President of the Artichets' Association of Cuba.
Fifth Vice President .....Armando Roddas.
Sixth Vice President.....Dr. Gonzalez Rubiera, Professor of University
Seventh Vice President.....Carlos Algugaray, attorney and ex-Pres.of the Merchants Assn. of Havana, and ex-Pres., of the Rotary Club.
Eighth Vice President.....Oscar de la Torre, Civil Engineer.
Ninth Vice President.....Felix Hurtado, Professor of University and leader of the Physicians' Association.

From M.A., Havana Report No.5458 Date: August 19, 1937

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Secretary of Correspondence.....Ruben de Leon, radical student leader - out of a job.
Asst.Sec'y of Correspondence..... Alfredo Gonzalez, radical student leader.
Asst.Sec'y of Correspondence..... Jose Villalobas, radical student leader.
Secretary of Action..... Eusebio Mujals
Asst. " " " ..... Eng. Mario Clasencia
Asst. " " " ..... Mario Rodriguez Abreu.
Secretary of Propaganda..... Martinez Marquez
Asst. " " " ..... Eddy Chibas
Asst. " " " ..... Luis Perez Espinosa
Sec'y of Justice..... Dr. Jose Portuondo
Assistant..... A.Gonzalez Lopez
Assistant..... Dr. M. Menendez
Social Secretary..... Antonio Penichet
Assistant..... Otilia Andre
Assistant..... Rodolfo Leon
Secretary of the Treasury..... Eng. Pablo Beola, a Boston Tech.graduate, owner of the Gibara & Holguin Railroad, and sugar planter
Assistant..... Dr. Eduardo Castell
Assistant..... Lolo Soldeville
Secretary of Public Works..... Dr.Jose R.Garcia Pedroso, ex-Asst. Secretary of Labor.
Assistant..... Manuel Pino
Assistant..... Benjamin Rodriguez.

Directors

Carlos Felipe Armenteros
Dr. Santiago Alvarez
Dra. Clara Luiz
Dr. Mario Pascual
Dr. Jose Fredneda
Pablo Le Riverau
Dr. Rene Muni
Dr. Juan de Dios Perez
Dr. Jose Afont
Dr. Jose Hernandez
L. Diaz
Nicasio Trujillo.

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The above named men, with the exception of Dr. Mendez Penate, Assistant Director of Havana University; Felix Lancis, and Dr. Gonzalez Rubiera, professor (added as window-dressing), are all listed by the police as communists and have a most interesting record, ranging from minor political offenses to murder, kidnapping, mayhem and rape.(These men would have been carried as communists on my report No. 5446 (3020-d) dated Aug. 4,1937, had they not at that time been members of a recognized political party - controlling the largest vote of any in present day Cuba - which had publicly disowned all communistic tendencies). The intelligence of these men as individuals may be rated, with certain reservations, as superior, and they have undoubtedly shown great organizing ability and cohesion as a party, under most disadvantageous circumstances. However, I give it as my fixed opinion that the declarations contained in par. 2 of this report have been adopted as a means to attain an end, and will be forgotten and repudiated if and when this party comes to power.

E. W. Timberlake,
Major, GS., CAC.,
Military Attache.

Source: Personal Contacts.
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From M.A., Havana Report No. 5458 Date: August 19,1937.

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G-2 Report

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Population and Social)

Subject: Propaganda of Domestic Origin.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. OCT 9 1929

1. Dr. Carlos Miguel de Céspedes, Secretary of Public Works, was the guest of honor at the weekly luncheon of the Directors of the American Chamber of Commerce of Cuba on October 2, 1929. The occasion of Dr. Céspedes's presence was a form of appreciation of his having given the American Chamber of Commerce a link of the anchor chain of the battleship MAINE, joining the shield of the United States of America and Cuba, symbolic of the brotherly relationship existing between the two countries.

2. During the course of his remarks at luncheon, he stated as follows:

> "I wish to avail myself of this opportunity to say to our American friends in Cuba, particularly to the members of this chamber of commerce, how highly we appreciate the emphatic denial you have given to the unjust and slanderous statements which were made in your country, by misinformed American citizens, who were incited, perhaps, by traitorous citizens of my own country.
>
> "The Cuban people feel friendship and gratitude towards the American people. But gratitude, strong as it may be, could never silence the cry of protest or grief which is produced by injustice, nor could it compel us to abandon our rights. There can be no friendship where mutual respect does not exist. The rich and the poor, the strong and the weak, can be friendly, notwithstanding those material differences, if all breathe the same atmosphere of respect, consideration, right and justice; but if this atmosphere is lacking, or, if it is poisoned by evil, by slander or ambition, then friendship is impossible."

3. In view of Dr. Céspedes's strong alliance with the present administration, these remarks may be considered as having emanated directly from President Machado and express fairly well the official opinion of Cuba toward the United States.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3121. Date: October 3, 1929.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report 3200-b

4-1 2657-G-287

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Organization and Functional Powers; Cuban Congress.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 9 - 1929

1. After four months of recess, the Cuban Congress began its second legislative period of the year at three o'clock November 4, 1929, the constitution of the republic fixing the date as the first Monday in November. The bi-annual presidential message was read in the House of Representatives before a full quorum, Dr. Rafael Guas Inclan, the Speaker, presiding.

2. President Machado's message dealt with the general conditions of the country, the progress made by the Republic during the last four months that the legislators have been in recess, the requirements of each of the government departments for the efficient fulfillment of their respective duties. The press summarizes the message as follows:

"Department of State: Refers to the international relations of Cuba with other nations; stating that 32 special ambassadors and missions visited the republic to witness the inauguration of the President to a second term of office May 20, 1929; speaks of the various congresses and expositions in which the country has been represented and gives full information in everything related with the League of Nations and the Pan American Institute.

"Department of the Interior: Deals with the maintenance of public order throughout the country; the betterment of the morale; the deportation of undesirable aliens, and gives a full report of the business transacted in this department.

"Department of Justice: Requests congress to modify several articles of the organic law of the judicial power; reiterates all the credits solicited of congress in previous messages for the improvement of the judicial power and requests the creation of various courts which are considered indispensable in various sections of the country.

"Department of the Treasury: A full report is given on the results of the new laws that have been placed in effect as well as of the revenues obtained throughout the custom houses; revenues collected by the 1-1/2 per cent tax; special public works funds as well as other forms of taxation; speaks of the amortizations of the various liens negotiated at times by the government with foreign institutions; solicits congress to create a special corps of public solicitors and speaks of the necessity to modify the present law regulating the pension of war veterans.

"Department of Public Works: Speaks of the various works that have been constructed by this department in accordance with the general plan of public works as approved by congress in 1925; mentions those works that are now under construction and also makes reference to those that are in a process of study, thus completing the entire program for the general improvement and embellishment of the country.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3148. Date: November 5, 1929.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

"Department of Sanitation and Public Charities: The message speaks of the excellent sanitary condition prevalent throughout the republic; gives a full description of all of the new services that have been created for the assurance of health and those that are in process of organization and which greatly add to maintain the excellent sanitary conditions of the present.

"Department of Communications: Stress is made of the progress made for the rapid and efficient transportation of national and international mail by means of concessions already granted and to be granted in the future to airway companies; the message also makes reference to the various conventions, including in its scope first class mail as well as parcel post, which have been negotiated by this government with foreign countries, such as Santo Domingo, Spain, Guatemala, Panama and Costa Rica.

"Department of Agriculture, Commerce and Labor: According to the President's message, this department is carrying on a work of general exploration of all the agricultural activities of the republic, as well as industrial and commercial enterprises. It explains in detail the various functions of each section and bureau of the department; it makes reference to the corn prize competition carried on by this department for the first time this year; requests congress to modify order No. 70 of July 8, 1899, (enacted during the occupation of Cuba by the government of the United States) referring to weights and measures; speaks of the closing law, governing the closing of establishments in working and holidays and the convenience of exempting from the effects of this law those establishments engaged in the sales of gasoline and automobile parts. Requests the modification of order 181, September 27, 1899, which deals with the regulations of insurance companies in Cuba.

"Department of Public Instruction and Fine Arts: The message speaks of the functioning of the department under Secretary José B. Aleman; the establishment of the technical and industrial school; the increase in the number of students attending the public schools of Cuba, which totals 454,724; and solicits of congress the necessary funds for the establishment of similar industrial and agricultural schools in various sections of the island.

"Department of War and Navy: The President's message makes reference to the guarantees given by the armed forces of the republic in the maintenance of peace and order throughout the country, as well as the guarantee given each individual citizen for his property and life; requests congress to appropriate sufficient funds for the purchase of more airplanes and seaplanes; credits for the purchase of horses and mules for the army; and the appropriation of funds for the purchase of several men-of-war to be destined to the development of the Cuban Navy in accordance with the plans already submitted to the consideration of congress."

3. Upon the termination of the President's message, the House adjourned.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attaché.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3148. Date: November 5, 1929.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
NOV 11 1929
WAR DEPARTMENT

2657-g-28 1

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY AND CONCILIATION

BOLIVIA AND PARAGUAY

October 29, 1929.

Dear Ford:

In looking up some pertinent papers for Herman Hagerdon, who is engaged in writing an authoritative life of General Wood, I found these semi-official papers which have such an important bearing on the close relationship existing between this country and Cuba that they might be of interest to you. They were exchanged between Mr. Root and General Wood at which time the former was Secretary of War and the latter Military Governor of Cuba.

With best wishes,

Faithfully yours,

Frank McCoy

Colonel Stanley H. Ford,
War Department,
Washington, D. C.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ITEM I

encl
OFFICE OF CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
NOV 11 2657-8-28 1929
WAR DEPARTMENT

WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON.

January 9, 1901.

My dear General:

Your letter with the petition relative to the tariff has been received and the petition has been formally transmitted to the President. He has been too ill to see any one since Saturday, and Rixey and Sternberg say that he has a well defined case of grip. He certainly will not be able to attend to business before next week. The Diplomatic Reception which was to have been tonight has been called off, and Mrs. Root is about withdrawing her invitations for a Cabinet dinner which we would have given Saturday night. It makes no difference, however, so far as this petition goes for you might as well ask a foot-ball team in full play for their autographs as expect to get legislation on any important new subject from Congress at present; nor do I think that at the present stage of Cuban affairs it is desirable. In the fall of 1899 I was in favor of legislation giving special advantages to Cuba during our occupation, but matters have gone so far now that I think any action on that subject must necessarily wait until after the presentation to Congress of the whole subject of the relations between the two countries, which will come up on the transmittal of the proposed constitution and of such expression as the convention may make on the subject of relations, or upon their refusal to make any expression. When that time comes I think we are in great danger of finding ourselves in a very awkward and untenable position. It seems clear enough to me that we can not justify the demand that Cuba shall treat us as a kind of foster-mother, on whose benevolent protection she is to rely and to whom she is to give special privileges in the way of naval stations and rights of supervision and intervention while we treat her commercially at arms length just as we do our most unfriendly competitors, and grant her absolutely no privileges or advantages in her intercourse with us. It is, however, exceedingly doubtful whether Congress can be induced to make any abatement whatever in the United States tariff on Cuban sugar and tobacco. The Senate has not ratified any of the reciprocity treaties providing for the reduction of duties upon the products of other West Indian islands, and the present indications are that they will not be ratified. The proposition to reduce the duties on Cuban sugar and tobacco would be met by a great outcry and a strong pressure on the part of the cane sugar, beet sugar and tobacco people, and it is doubtful whether in view of the democratic tendency to unite with any republican minority for the purpose of embarrassing the republican administration, any such measure could be carried. It certainly could not be except after a long protracted and heated discussion. I hope that the convention will not take it into their heads to present any such proposition as a part of a scheme under which they will consent to such rights and powers as we think we ought to have in Cuba. I

hope

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hope that the whole subject of commercial relations may be postponed for future consideration.

Under all the circumstances I have come to the conclusion that the sooner the convention finishes its labors and sends its conclusion to the President the better. I think they should be promptly confronted with the proposition that we desire as soon as possible to be relieved from the burden and annoyance of their government, and the expense of maintaining troops there which must be about a half million dollars a month. They have been talking about getting their constitution here by the first of February. I think they should be urged to do so, and we will get it before Congress as soon as possible. I am led to this view by several considerations. First, as to the situation in Cuba. It is utterly hopeless to expect any relief from Congress in regard to the Foraker resolution. Nothing could be more reasonable than your letter to Foraker, but it will be wholly ineffective. I have been trying to accomplish something on the same line and everybody is afraid to touch it. I do not think that this is fair towards Cuba, or that we ought to prolong our government there and at the same time prohibit Cuba from developing her own resources. We ought not to say that Cuba shall not, and that we will not offer the necessary opportunities for the introduction of capital and the inauguration of such great private enterprises as have built up this country.

It seems to me, moreover, that the people of Cuba will never come to a realizing sense of what is before them, or of what the relations of this country mean, until they are brought face to face with the prospect of being abandoned to their own devices, and I think the sooner we have the round up the better.

Second, as to the situation here. I am getting pretty tired of having Congress on the one hand put us under independence of Cuba resolutions, and Foraker franchise resolutions and resolutions of hostile inquiry and criticism, and on the other hand shirk all responsibility; and I do not relish the prospect of having the Cuban constitution and proposals as to our relations just too late for Congress to act, compelling us to go on and govern for another year with the Cubans howling at us to do something and the democratic press abusing us because we do not do something, and with the certainty that we will be met by a denial of our lawful authority if we undertake to do anyghing, and with a possibility of a change for the worse in Cuban conditions. I have talked it over with the President and he agrees with the views that we should get the conclusions of the convention before Congress as speedily as possible, and he is prepared, when the subject is once fairly before Congress, to urge prompt action, which he thinks can be secured. At all events, if it should not be, the responsibility will be upon Congress and it will be plain to everyone that, failing Congressional action, the administration will be dealing with a situation for which it is not responsible.

I do not think that the plan of having a Cuban Legislature while the Military Governor continues and exercises the veto power over their acts, is safe. I think matters should be shaped so that we can make a clean cut between

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the military government and the new Cuban government, turn over the administration and get out, except in so far as we may keep some troops in place until the stability of the government is assured; and this should be clearly understood to be not a favor to us but a favor to them.

Of course, you are taking special care not to permit anyone with whom you talk to have the opportunity to say that you are making demands, or even official suggestions. It seems to me important that the convention shall be required either to take the initiative in stating what they want the relations to be, or to distinctly refuse it. It might be wise for you, in talking with such members of the convention as come to you, to disabuse their minds of the idea that they are certain of being protected by the United States no matter what they do or refuse to do. If Cuba declines to accord to this government the authority and facilities for her protection, she will have to look out for herself in case of trouble with any other nation, and we will deal with that other nation. And we should probably deal with the other nation not on account of Cuba but on our own account. If the American people get the impression that Cuba is ungrateful and unreasonable they will not be quite so altruistic and sentimental the next time they have to deal with Cuban affairs as they were in April, 1898.

Another fact which the Cubans should consider is that in international affairs the existence of a right recognized by international law is of the utmost importance. We now have by virtue of our occupation of Cuba and the terms under which sovereignty was yielded by Spain, a right to protect her which all foreign nations recognize. It is of great importance to Cuba that that right, resting upon the treaty of Paris and derived through that treaty from the sovereignty of Spain, should never be terminated but should be continued by a reservation, with the consent of the Cuban people, at the time when the authority which we now exercise is placed in their hands. If we should simply turn the government over to the Cuban administration, retire from the island, and then turn round to make a treaty with the new government, just as we would make a treaty with the new government, just as we would make treaties with Venezuela, and Brazil, and England, and France, no foreign State would recognize any longer a right on our part to interfere in any quarrel which she might have with Cuba, unless that interference were based upon an assertion of the Monroe Doctrine. But the Monroe Doctrine is not a part of international law and has never been recognized by European nations. How soon some one of these nations may feel inclined to test the willingness of the United States to make war in support of her assertion of that doctrine, no one can tell. It would be quite unfortunate for Cuba if it should be tested there.

Whenever you consider that matters have reached such a point that a conference would be useful, cable for an order and come up.

With kind regards to Mrs. Wood,

Faithfully yours,

ELIHU ROOT.

Major-General Leonard Wood,
Military Governor of Cuba,
Havana, Cuba.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ITEM II

MIL. INTEL. DIV.
NOV 11 1929
WAR DEPARTMENT

WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

January 11, 1901.

CONFIDENTIAL.

My dear Mr. Hay:

I wish to bring the question of the ultimate relations of this country to Cuba to a point as soon as possible, and, that being determined, to organize the permanent Cuban Government to take the control of the island out of the hands of the present military authorities without any avoidable delay. I have directed General Wood to urge the Constitutional Convention, now in session in Havana, to bring its labors to a conclusion in time to lay them before Congress at the present session. When that is done, it is of course desirable that the policy which in a general way we have agreed upon should be made as definite as possible. Will you turn over in your mind, until our next meeting, the advisability of requiring the incorporation into the fundamental law of Cuba of provisions to the following effect: 1. That in transferring the control of Cuba to the Government established under the new constitution the United States reserves and retains the right of intervention for the preservation of Cuban independence and the maintenance of a stable Government, adequately protecting life, property and individual liberty. 2. That no Government organized under the constitution shall be deemed to have authority to enter into any treaty or engagement with any foreign power which may tend to impair or interfere with the independence of Cuba, or to confer upon such foreign power any special right or privilege without the consent of the United States, and that the United States shall be entitled to be a party, in the first instance, to any negotiations having in view any such provision. 3. That to facilitate the United States in the performance of such duties as may devolve upon her under the foregoing provisions and for her own defense, the United States may acquire and hold the title to land, and maintain naval stations at certain specified points. 4. That all the acts of the Military Governor, and all rights acquired thereunder, shall be valid and be maintained and protected.

I recall that there was at one time a great deal of discussion over the effect which the vesting in England of a right of intervention in Egypt would have, and my impression is that some good authorities were of the opinion that it would enable England to retire and still maintain her moral control, and prevent the backsliding of the Egyptian Government. Perhaps some of your people in the State Department have that subject at their fingers' ends. It is important now to consider and reach sound conclusions upon the scope and effect which the reservation of a right of intervention in Cuba would have.

I send

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

I send you a copy of a confidential letter which I have recently sent to General Wood, which further explains what I consider to be the present situation.

Faithfully yours,

ELIHU ROOT

Secretary of War.

Hon. John Hay,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ITEM III

NOV 11 2657-3-238 1 1900
WAR DEPARTMENT

WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

January 19, 1901.

My dear General:

A certified copy of the opinion of the Supreme Court in the Neely case was sent you yesterday. Neely will probably get down by Wednesday's steamer, and I hope you will be able to carry off the trial promptly and successfully, and then wind the other cases up in short order. Considering that it will have taken nearly a year for American justice to get Neely back to Cuba, I do not think we can throw many bricks at the Cubans, although our delay is in favor of individual liberty rather than against it.

Senator Platt has sent me your letter to him of January 12th, relative to the reduction of duties on Cuban sugar and tobacco, and expressing the opinion, which I presume he has expressed to you, that the favored nation clauses in our treaties with a great number of countries, including some from which we are importing sugar and tobacco, will prevent such a reduction, and saying "If Cuba comes to be independent, and is so recognized by our Government, then we can make reciprocity treaties with it in which we can reduce duties on products from Cuba in consideration that Cuba reduces duties on products from the United States. This is probably so, but there is another difficulty which the Senator does not mention, that is, the incapacity of Congress under its present rules to deal promptly and effectively with important questions outside of the ordinary routine, unless it be under the pressure of the most imperative necessity. There are many matters of great importance in the Philippinesupon which I have been trying to get some action, but am met always by the proposition, "it would lead to endless debate, and it is no use in trying to get it taken up." I have met the same obstacle in attempting to get the Foraker franchise resolution modified. Many of the important features of the bill for the reorganization of the army were brought before Congress at the last session, and I urged action upon them because of the serious exigency which would confront us at the present session requiring the promptest kind of action to avoid abandoning large portions of the Philippines on the expiration of the term of service of the volunteers. These questions were discussed ad nauseam in both Committees, and were reported and acted upon by the Senate at the last session. I had an organization bill, trimmed down to the narrowest range of subjects, in the hands of both Committees before the opening of the present session, and got it reported and through the House and actually in the hands of the Senate within four days after the opening of the session. After sitting up day and night with the Senate Committee, we got a unanimous report, and the Senate has now been a month discussing the most trivial and absurd details with the full knowledge that the delay means millions of dollars of expense and the impossibility of getting the new forces to the Philippines by the time the volunteers have been discharged. The proposition to

reduce

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reduce the duties 10 per cent, or any other percentage, upon Cuban sugar and tobacco, if introduced tomorrow, would probably be discussed until next October, if the session lasted so long; but this session ends on the 4th of March. In the meantime the thirteen great appropriation bills which are necessary to the conduct of our own Government remain to be considered and passed, and a lot of other bills in which Senators and Members are especially interested are struggling for a hearing. As a result, the men who are responsible, so far as any body can be called responsible, for seeing that Congress performs its elementary duties, - that is, the Chairmen of the great committees and the presiding officers, - are naturally unwilling to assent to the introduction of propositions which will lead to the direful results I have described. If the Cuban constitution comes up with some expression from the Convention as to the relations between Cuba and this country, and they are sent to Congress with a message from the President, that body will be compelled to take the subject up and bend every energy to its solution. If you will turn back to my annual report of November, 1899, you will see that I discussed at length this subject of United States duties on Cuban products, and took then the same view that you are taking now regarding the duty of the United States and the importance to Cuba. It was from a firm belief in the soundness of these views which you press upon Senator Platt in your letter to him that I was led to the conclusion, in which the President fully concurs, that we ought to bring matters to a point in Cuba without any avoidable delay. I am willing to hold on in Cuba and stand all sorts of misrepresentation and attack so long as we are right and doing what is best for the Cuban people, and, in fact, pursuing in good faith the resolution of Congress, but if we once get into a position where we are retaining our hold in Cuba, to the injury of the Cuban people, doing them an injustice, refusing to properly care for them while we prevent them from caring for themselves, the position will be untenable, and I am not willing to occupy it.

I have just sent to the Lieutenant-General, for his recommendation, your request for the detail of two additional officers on your staff. I do not recall the names, as I am dictating this letter at home during an attack of the grip. When the paper comes back I shall authorize the detail. Can you spare any officers from Cuba? We are going to need every available man here to organize our new forces when the army bill passes, if it ever does.

If you are ready to make a civilian treasurer in Ladd's place, send up his name and I will appoint him. If you can put civilians in the places of any other persons, and let us have the officers without injury to your service, please do so.

There has been some correspondence about the KANAWHA and VIKING. Of course you can have them just as long as you want them and are willing to pay the expense of running them and the ordinary repairs. I have given oral directions to the Quartermaster General to this effect.

No report has yet reached me regarding the results of Baker's inquiry into the quantity of native forage that could

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be used. What was the result? No matter what the result was, I want your recommendations as to the least amount of forage from this country our animals in Cuba can get along with.

Faithfully yours,

ELIHU ROOT

Major-General Leonard Wood,
Military Governor of Cuba,
Havana, Cuba.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ITEM IV

DEPT. OF STATE
NOV 11 1920
WAR DEPARTMENT

WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

January 21, 1901.

Sir:

Your recommendation for the reduction of export duty on Cuban tobacco 50 per cent is approved. You will have drafted, and forwarded here for submission to the President, such order as is deemed appropriate to accomplish the result.

I observe some talk in the newspapers regarding the transmittal of the work of the Constitutional Convention to the President, as if the Convention expected, when it had framed a constitution, to send it directly to him. This is manifestly undesirable, and would result merely in the President sending it to me and my sending it to you, in order that it might be returned with such remark and recommendations as you see fit to make. The Convention should be required to transmit its work to you, and you will send it through military channels in the ordinary way, with such communication regarding it as you deem proper.

Very respectfully,

ELIHU ROOT

Secretary of War.

Major-General Leonard Wood,
Military Governor of Cuba,
Havana, Cuba.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

M.I. INTEL. DIV.
NOV 11
WAR DEPARTMENT

ITEM V

WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

February 7, 1901.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of February 5th as follows:

> "The President of the Constitutional Convention believes that the Constitution will be ready to forward to Washington on or before the twentieth of February. Every proper effort is being made to complete the work."

The terms of the dispatch do not indicate whether the President of the Convention anticipates that by that time the convention will have performed the second part of its duties in formulating what, in its opinion, ought to be the relations between Cuba and the United States. It should perhaps be assumed that the Convention will have done this, and will place in your hands the result of its deliberations on that subject, as a part of, or at the same time with, the constitution which it adopts. In that case you will transmit the record of the Convention's conclusions to this Department, with such remarks as you see fit to make regarding the adequacy of the provisions made to secure a stable and efficient Government which shall maintain order, protect life and property, and discharge the international obligations of the new sovereignty. In case the Convention should, however, transmit to you a proposed constitution which does not include, or is not accompanied by, a formulation of the relations which, in the opinion of the Convention, ought to exist between Cuba and the United States, you will refrain from transmitting the constitution to the Department until you have communicated with me and received specific instructions, unless such instructions shall have been given you in the meantime.

Very respectfully,

ELIHU ROOT

Secretary of War.

Major-General Leonard Wood,
Military Governor of Cuba,
Havana, Cuba.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
NOV 11 2657-2-28 1
WAR DEPARTMENT

ITEM VI

MEMORANDUM.

This letter to General Wood was placed in an envelope, sealed and handed to Colonel Scott, Adjutant General, Division of Cuba, to be delivered to General Wood upon arrival in Havana.

February 9, 1901.

(The attached letter cabled General Wood, Havana, February 14, 1901. (11 P.M.) Also copy sent by mail 2/14/1901. W. S. C.)

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ITEM VII

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February 9, 1901.

Sir:

As the time approaches for the Cuban Constitutional Convention to consider and act upon Cuba's relations with the United States, it seems desirable that you should be informed of the view of the Executive Department of our government upon that subject in a more official form than that in which they have been communicated to you hitherto. The limitations upon the power of the Executive by the Resolution of Congress of April 20th, 1898, are such that the final determination upon the whole subject may ultimately rest in Congress, and it is impracticable now to forecast what the action of Congress will be. In the meantime, until Congress shall have acted, the military branch of the government, is bound to refrain from any committal, or apparent committal, of the United States to any policy which should properly be determined upon by Congress, and, at the same time, so far as it is called upon to act or to make suggestions bearing upon the course of events, it must determine its own conduct by reference to the action already taken by Congress, the established policy of the United States, the objects of our present occupation, and the manifest interests of the two countries.

The Joint Resolution of Congress of April 20, 1898, which authorized the President to expel the Spanish forces from Cuba, declared

> "that the United States hereby disclaims any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction or control over said Island except for the pacification thereof and asserts its determination, when that is accomplished, to leave the government and the control of the Island to its people."

The Treaty of Peace concluded at Paris on the tenth of December, 1898, and ratified by the Senate on the 6th of February, 1899, provides in the First Article that

> "as the island is, upon its evacuation by Spain, to be occupied by the United States, the United States will, so long as such occupation shall last, assume and discharge the obligations that may under international law result from the fact of its occupation, for the protection of life and property."

It contains numerous obligations on the part of the United States in respect of the treatment of the inhabitants of the territory relinquished by Spain, such as the provision of the Tenth Article, that the inhabitants shall be secured in the free exercise of their religion; of the Eleventh Article, that they shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the courts, pursuant to the ordinary laws governing the same, and of the Ninth Article, that they shall retain all their rights of property, including the right, to sell or dispose thereof, and the right to carry on their industry, commerce and professions. The Sixteenth Article of the Treaty provides that

the obligations

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

the obligations assumed in the treaty by the United States with respect to Cuba are limited to the time of its occupancy thereof, but that it shall, upon the termination of such occupancy, advise any government established in the Island to assume the same obligations.

Our occupation of Cuba has been under the binding force both of the Resolution and of the Treaty, and the pacification mentioned in the Resolution has necessarily been construed as co-extensive with the occupation provided for by the Treaty, during which we were to discharge international obligations, protect the rights of the former subjects of Spain and cause or permit the establishment of a government to which we could, in good faith, commit the protection of the lives and property and personal rights of those inhabitants, from whom we had compelled their former sovereign to withdraw its protection. It is plain that the government to which we were thus to transfer our temporary obligations should be a government based upon the peaceful suffrages of the people of Cuba, representing the entire people and holding their power from the people, and subject to the limitations and safeguards which the experience of constitutional government has shown to be necessary to the preservation of individual rights. This is plain as a duty to the people of Cuba under the resolution of April 20, 1898; and it is plain as an obligation of good faith under the Treaty of Paris. Such a government we have been persistently, and with all practicable speed, building up in Cuba, and we hope to see it established and assume control under the provisions which shall be adopted by the present Convention. It seems to me that no one familiar with the traditional and established policy of this country in respect to Cuba can find cause for doubt as to our remaining duty. It would be hard to find any single statement of public policy, which has been so often officially declared by so great an array of distinguished Americans authorized to speak for the Government of the United States, as the proposition stated, in varying but always uncompromising and unmistakable terms, that the United States would not under any circumstances permit any foreign power other than Spain to acquire possession of the Island of Cuba. Jefferson and Monroe and John Quincy Adams and Jackson and Van Buren and Grant and Clay and Webster and Buchanan and Everett have all agreed in regarding this as essential to the interests and the protection of the United States. The United States has, and will always have, the most vital interest in the preservation of the independence which she has secured for Cuba, and in preserving the people of that Island from the domination and control of any foreign power whatever. The preservation of that independence by a country so small as Cuba, so incapable, as she must always be, to contend by force against the great powers of the world, must depend upon her strict performance of international obligations, upon her giving due protection to the lives and property of the citizens of all other countries within her borders, and upon her never contracting any public debt which in the hands of the citizens of foreign powers shall constitute an obligation she is unable to meet. The United States has, therefore, not merely a moral obligation arising from her destruction of Spanish sovereignty in Cuba, and the obligations of the Treaty of Paris, for the establishment of a stable and adequate government in Cuba, but it has a

substantial

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

substantial interest in the maintenance of such a government. We are placed in a position where for our own protection we have, by reason of expelling Spain from Cuba, become the guarantors of Cuban independence and the guarantors of a stable and orderly government protecting life and property in that Island. Fortunately, the condition which we deem essential for our own interests is the condition for which Cuba has been struggling, and which the duty we have assumed towards Cuba on Cuban grounds and for Cuban interests requires. It would be a most lame and impotent conclusion if, after all the expenditure of blood and treasure by the people of the United States for the freedom of Cuba, and by the people of Cuba for the same object, we should, through the constitution of the new government, by inadvertence or otherwise, be placed in a worse condition in regard to our own vital interests than we were while Spain was in possession, and the people of Cuba should be deprived of that protection and aid from the United States which is necessary to the maintenance of their independence. It was, undoubtedly, in consideration of these special relations between the United States and Cuba that the President said in his message to Congress on the 11th of April, 1898:

> "The only hope of relief and repose from a condition which can no longer be endured is the enforced pacification of Cuba. In the name of humanity, in the name of civilization, in behalf of endangered American interests which give us the right and the duty to speak and to act, the war in Cuba must stop.
>
> "In view of these facts and of these considerations I ask the Congress to authorize and empower the President to take measures to secure a full and final termination of hostilities between the Government of Spain and the people of Cuba, and to secure in the Island the establishment of a stable government, capable of maintaining order and observing its international obligations, insuring peace and tranquility and the security of its citizens as well as our own, and to use the military and naval forces of the United States as may be necessary for these purposes."

And in his message of December 5, 1899:

> "This nation has assumed before the world a grave responsibility for the future good government of Cuba. We have accepted a trust the fulfillment of which calls for the sternest integrity of purpose and the exercise of the highest wisdom. The new Cuba yet to arise from the ashes of the past must needs be bound to us by ties of singular intimacy and strength if its enduring welfare is to be assured. Whether those ties shall be organic or conventional, the destinies of Cuba are in some rightful form and manner irrevocably linked with our own, but how and how far is for the future to determine in the ripeness of events. Whatever be the outcome, we must see to it that free Cuba be a reality, not a name, a perfect entity, not a hasty experiment bearing within itself the elements of failure. Our mission, to accomplish which we took up the wager of battle, is not to be fulfilled by turning adrift any

loosely

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

loosely framed commonwealth to face the vicissitudes which too often attend weaker states whose natural wealth and abundant resources are offset by the incongruities of their political organization and the recurring occasions for internal rivalries to sap their strength and dissipate their energies."

And it was with a view to the proper settlement and disposition of these necessary relations that the order for the election of delegates to the present Constitutional Convention provided that they should frame and adopt a constitution for the people of Cuba, and as a part thereof provide for and agree with the Government of the United States upon the relations to exist between that Government and the Government of Cuba.

The people of Cuba should desire to have incorporated in her fundamental law, provisions in substance as follows:

1. That no government organized under the constitution shall be deemed to have authority to enter into any treaty of engagement with any foreign power which may tend to impair or interfere with the independence of Cuba, or to confer upon such foreign power any special right or privilege without the consent of the United States.

2. That no Government organized under the constitution shall have authority to assume or contract any public debt in excess of the capacity of the ordinary revenues of the island after defraying the current expenses of Government to pay the interest.

3. That upon the transfer of the control of Cuba to the Government established under the new constitution Cuba consents that the United States reserve and retain the right of intervention for the preservation of Cuban independence and the maintenance of a stable Government, adequately protecting life, property and individual liberty, and discharging the obligations with respect to Cuba imposed by the Treaty of Paris on the United States and now assumed and undertaken by the Government of Cuba.

4. That all the acts of the Military Government, and all rights acquired thereunder, shall be valid and shall be maintained and protected.

5. That to facilitate the United States in the performance of such duties as may devolve upon her under the foregoing provisions and for her own defense, the United States may acquire and hold the title to land for naval stations, and maintain the same at certain specified points.

These provisions may not, it is true, prove to be in accord with the conclusions which Congress may ultimately reach when that body comes to consider the subject, but as, until Congress has acted, the Executive must necessarily within its own sphere of action be controlled by its own judgment, you should now be guided by the views above expressed.

It is not our purpose at this time to discuss the cost of our intervention and occupation, or advancement of money

for

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

for disarmament, or our assumption under the Treaty of Paris of the claims of our citizens against Spain for losses which they had incurred in Cuba. These can well be the subject of later consideration.

Very respectfully,

ELIHU ROOT

Secretary of War.

Major-General Leonard Wood,
Military Governor of Cuba,
Havana, Cuba.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ITEM VIII

2-1 265-2-28

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
WAR DEPARTMENT

Copy of Cablegram received in cipher February 11, 1901, 8 P.M.

Havana, Feb. 11, 1901.

SecWar

Washington.

Your letter February seventh received. Will proceed accordingly. Constitution completed today final conditions passed render candidacy of Gomez possible.

WOOD

Military Governor.

Cipher:

Havana, Feb. 11, 1901.

SecWar

Washington.

Coeur Dalene manifest freshet snorted reprover anapolis quartering alters period constitution completed to-day final conditions passed render candidacy of Gomez possible.

WOOD

Military Governor.

Copy of Cablegram received in cipher.

Havana, Feb. 12th, 1901.

Secretary of War,

Washington.

President convention informs me committees designated last night to take up work on relations.

WOOD

Commanding.

Cipher:

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Cipher:

Havana, Feb. 12th, 1901.

SecWar,

Washington.

President convention informs me continent distributed Lucre overpowered unparalled trunk whether madison pavior rime.

WOOD

1:06 P.M. Commanding.

Received in cipher 4:07 P.M.

Havana, February 14, 1900.

Elihu Root, Secretary of War,

Washington.

Confidential.

Have you any special instructions as to relations, other than those already discussed, which desire suggested? Understand foreign consuls advising quietly in line foreign interests.

WOOD

Cipher:

Havana, February 14th, 1901.
(Subject correction.)

Elihu Root, Secretary of War,

Washington.

Confidential Immolated Coerd Alene availing Supper Killings Because Unparalleled Rime Comma Perennial Uncovering Unerring Artichoke Effrontery Comma Kickapoo Distrustingly Title Period Voluptuous Glitter Croakss Anxiety Refuted Intact Masticating Glitter Kneadss Period.

WOOD

Copy

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Copy of Cablegram sent February 14, 1901.

Wood,

Havana.

Letter containing full and definite instructions was placed in Colonel Scott's hands last Saturday afternoon to be delivered to you. I mail a copy to you tonight.

ROOT

SecWar.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ITEM VIII

Copy of Cablegram received in cipher February 11, 1901, 8 P.M.

Havana, Feb. 11, 1901.

SecWar

Washington.

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WOOD

Military Governor.

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Havana, Feb. 11, 1901.

SecWar

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Military Governor.

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Havana, Feb. 12th, 1901.

Secretary of War,

Washington.

President convention informs me committees designated last night to take up work on relations.

WOOD

Commanding.

Cipher:

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Cipher: Havana, Feb. 12th, 1901.

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Cipher: Havana, February 14th, 1901.
(Subject correction.)

Elihu Root, Secretary of War,

Washington.

Confidential Immolated Coerd Alene availing Supper Killings Because Unparalleled Rime Comma Perennial Uncovering Unerring Artichoke Effrontery Comma Kickapoo Distrustingly Title Period Voluptuous Glitter Croakss Anxiety Refuted Intact Masticating Glitter Kneadss Period.

WOOD

Copy.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Copy of Cablegram sent February 14, 1901.

Wood,

Havana.

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ROOT

SecWar.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ITEM IX

Copy of Cablegram.

RECEIVED CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV
NOV 11
WAR DEPARTMENT

WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

February 14, 1901.

Wood,

Havana.

Following letter of instructions placed in Colonel Scott's hands Saturday, ninth, to be delivered to you:

"War Department,
Washington, February 9,1901

Sir:

As the time approaches for the Cuban Constitutional Convention to consider and act upon Cuba's relations with the United States, it seems desirable that you should be informed of.....". (See Item marked VII, of this series of correspondence.)

WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

February 14, 1901.

My dear General:

Confirming the Secretary's telegram to you of this date, I enclose herewith a copy of his letter to you of February 9th. The original of this letter was placed in Colonel Scott's hands last Saturday afternoon, the 9th, to be delivered to you. The entire letter was also cabled to you today.

Very truly yours,

W. S. COURSEY

Private Secretary.

Major General Leonard Wood
Military Governor of Cuba,
Havana, Cuba.

Copy of Cablegram received February 15, 1901.

Havana, February 15th, 1901.

SecWar,

Washington.

Instructions received Will act accordingly.

4:32 P.M. WOOD

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 04/89

WAR DEPARTMENT

Office of the Asst. Secretary.

Washington, D.C.

February 16th, 1901.

Memorandum for Mr. Coursey:

In re direct Havana service, on the evening of February 14th, it may be of some little interest to the Secretary to know that on that occasion we established a record-breaker, working direct from this Division to the Signal Office in Havana.

The circuit as made up represented a distance of about 2,340 miles, as follows: Washington to New York; New York to Jacksonville, Fla.; Jacksonville to Miami, Fla.; Miami to Key West, and Key West to Havana, with eight repeaters in the circuit.

The message contained 2,319 words, was started at 8:50 p.m., and OK received at 10:56 P.M., and was altogether a remarkable piece of work.

CHAS. O. PIERSON

Chief Telegrapher.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ITEM X

NOV 14 1901
WAR DEPARTMENT

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
Military Governor Island
of Cuba, Havana.

February 19, 1901.

The Honorable

The Secretary of War

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your communication of February 9th which was transmitted to me first by cable and later under the personal care of Colonel H. L. Scott.

On receipt of the instructions by cable I immediately assembled the Committee on Relations to exist between Cuba and the United States and made known to them the five articles or provisions which, in the opinion of the Executive branch of the Government, represent the wishes of the United States in all that pertains to the proposed relations between the Government of the United States and the people of Cuba.

I was particularly careful to impress upon them that Congress might in its wisdom insist upon different conditions or relations, but that the proposition submitted embodied those which in the opinion of the Executive branch of the Government should exist and that they were the only ones which they could at present consider.

There seemed to be no serious objection to any of the conditions excepting the Fifth; that in reference to Naval Stations. There was also some apparent objection to the terms of the Third Article in reference to the intervention and maintenance of a stable government to protect life and property, etc., as provided for by the Treaty of Paris. I informed them that this condition was one which, in my opinion, could not be modified as it embodied the obligations which the United States had assumed under the above mentioned Treaty. I do not think the opposition on this point will be serious. The matter is now under discussion and I believe the committee is canvassing the Convention as to the acceptability of the different provisions.

In my opinion the demands are liberal, equitable and just and should be insisted on throughout. It is very probable that we shall have to exercise directly the intervention provided for under the Third Article and it is certain that we should were it not known in Cuba that in case of lack of stability and failure to observe the provisions imposed by the Treaty of Paris the United States would promptly intervene. Such knowledge will probably act as a check on the government to come.

In reference

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

In reference to the Naval Stations; the objections to this seems to be a matter principally of sentiment combined with a certain amount of selfishness. Among the element now dominating in the politics of the Island there is little or no gratitude for what has been done by the United States. Among the bulk of the people there is a feeling of appreciation and gratitude.

There is another phase of this Cuban situation which seems to be of vital importance; that is the sanitary conditions which will probably exist in Havana and other large cities under a Cuban government. As I understand it the purpose of the war was not only to assist the Cubans, but, in a general sense, to abate a nuisance. It is probable that if we leave the island of Cuba without a definite agreement with the government to come in reference to the maintenance of good sanitary conditions, that we shall soon find Havana and all other large cities in practically the same condition of sanitation as during the Spanish War and a menace to our Southern seaports and the consequent interference with commerce will continue. As a rule, the people of the island are immune to yellow fever and, consequently, take little interest in the elaborate sanitary precautions which have been instituted under the American rule and which have resulted in reducing the death rate in Havana alone, from 45 per 1,000 as an average death rate in times of peace to 24 and a fraction. If possible, I think that there should also be some provision in reference to the exercise of proper control and supervision over the construction of the new system of sewers and pavements for the City of Havana. It is highly probable that after the withdrawal of the Americans this work will be carried out in anything but a complete and perfect manner.

This question of control of sanitation of Cuban ports is, in my opinion, of vital importance to the United States.

Very respectfully,

LEONARD WOOD

Major General,
Military Governor.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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M.I. SEC. DIV.
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WAR DEPARTMENT
7

November 5, 1929.

Major-General Frank McCoy, U.S.A.,
Commission of Inquiry and Conciliation
Bolivia and Paraguay,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

Dear General:

I acknowledge with sincere appreciation your letter of October 29th, transmitting semi-official papers bearing on the close relationship existing between this country and Cuba.

I have directed that these papers be referred to our Latin American Section where I feel sure they will serve as a most interesting addition to its files.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Stanley H. Ford.
Colonel, General Staff,
A. C. of S., G-2.

hcm

nov. 6, 1929
mailed
ncp.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

WAR DEPARTMENT 1929

ITEM XI

Copy of Cablegram received in cipher February 21, 1901.

Havana.

SecWar,

Washington.

Constitution being copied. Fair copy will probably be delivered Saturday or Sunday morning. Question of relations probably take some time. General opinion that this matter can not be hurried too much without danger of hasty action by extreme element. Universal desire for extra session of Congress. Can any assurance concerning this be given?

WOOD

Cipher:

Havana, February 21st, 1901.

SecWar,

Washington.

Cringe Brace Dancer Period Foretelling Diare Annapolis Quarreled Bolus Disguise Shove Pelf Tonsil Obliterating Period Refractive Pate Rimes Quarrelled Trunk Substantive Unlike Period Handwriting Pecked Undecided Undying Monomaniac Childless Paint Bolus Indoctrinate Unremitting. Occupying Gerogetown Devolve Pate Immaculately Analogist Chaplaincy Foolery Exclusions Period Wariness Distrustingly Glacis Follow Smoker Pate Coverture period Childless Availing Bemoaning Core Undying Bolus Paw.

4:33 P.M. WOOD

Copy of Cablegram received February 21, 1901.

Havana.

Honorable Elihu Root,

Rhode Island Avenue, Washington.

Committee of Convention just informed me will deliver Constitution tomorrow forenoon will immediately make translation.

WOOD

Military Governor.

HEADQUARTERS

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF CUBA
Havana.

February 21, 1901.

TELEGRAM
Sent 9 P.M.:

Honorable Elihu Root,

Rhode Island Avenue,

Washington.

Committee of Convention just informed me will deliver Constitution tomorrow forenoon. Will immediately make translation.

WOOD

Military Governor.

Official copy respectfully furnished by mail:

H. L. SCOTT

Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
WAR DEPARTMENT TELEGRAM.

February 21, 1901.

To Wood, Havana.

Your dispatch February twenty-first shows that it will be impossible for Cuban constitution to reach here in time to be considered by the present Congress, or even to be considered by the President in time to send to Congress before adjournment. A few days more or less is therefore of no consequence, and nothing will be gained by undue or inconsiderate haste. The President can well appreciate that the question of relations will require time and he has no wish that the Convention shall act without the deliberation they consider necessary. Question whether an extra session will be called will be determined when the constitution has been received, with such provisions as the Convention may adopt regarding relations between Cuba and the United States. They should be forwarded at the same time.

ROOT, SecWar.

Sent in cipher.

Copy of Cablegram received February 22nd, 1901.

Havana.

SecWar,

Washington.

Constitution formally delivered this morning at ten

o'clock

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

o'clock have directed translation to be made immediately your cipher dispatch of twenty-first received will be governed accordingly.

WOOD

Commanding.

12:53 P.M.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ITEM XII

1-1 2657-g-78

WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

February 23, 1901.

PERSONAL

My dear General:

Do not think because I do not answer your letters specifically that they are not satisfactory and comforting. The President and I both feel that matters are going just as well as they possibly could and that you are handling the situation admirably. We are in constant consultation upon the Cuban situation and I do not think that we would change any step that has been taken. Do not think that the expression of a wish to bring the Cuban Convention to a point is designed to interfere with the regular working out of your programme. It is to prevent our getting into a situation which would interfere with that.

I enclose a letter which I have just written to Albert Shaw on that subject. You see Congress will never pay any attention to anything until it has to. Public opinion will never form on any question until discussion commences. Of course the Cuban situation cannot be disposed of in a minute, but the only way to get the country behind us in disposing of it is to bring it up; insist upon disposing of it; make it a matter of present interest. More good, sound, sensible, public opinion has formed regarding American relations with Cuba during the past three weeks than had formed during the preceding two years. Everything here is getting into beautiful shape, and if you have the United States solidly behind you, you can stand firmly and immovably upon the reasonable propositions which concern our interests and the real interests of Cuba, until the gentlemen who have gone to the Convention with the idea that they are all there is of it have discovered their mistake.

There was no trouble about your nomination except a little out-cropping of the idea that age and seniority are sacred, with a little feeble assistance from some men who wanted to embarrass the administration.

Of course neither of the gentlemen whom you mentioned as talking so much after their visit here had any authority to speak for me; nor had they any message from me; nor did I make any expression regarding your nomination.

Your letters of February 19th have been received. The official one, acknowledging my communication of February 9th, and treating of the sanitary question, has been read to the President and also to Senators Platt and Spooner. Any sanitary control involves so great an infringement of the independence and internal government of Cuba, it is difficult to say how that can be dealt with consistently with the Teller Resolution of April 20, 1898; that is to say, how it can be dealt with except by Congress. It will not be lost sight of in the treatment of the subject here. I should be

glad

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

glad of any suggestions from you as to the practical form of any provisions on that subject. I assume that you will probably be able to finish the Havana work before transferring control.

The other letters I have not yet been able to take up. The Dady settlement of course will be approved. I am in favor of a settlement of the Church claims, but it is too important to dispose of without consulting the President, and I may have to send to you for some further information. I think there should be as great a body of Cuban approval as can be obtained for such a settlement.

I am afraid Mrs. Root and Edith will not be able to go to Havana this spring. I wish they could, and I wish I could go with them. Edith is so dragged out by the season here that her mother has taken her off this afternoon to New York to get away from society, and rest. Edith says she has been taken away to be "immured". The career of a young girl in Washington society for the past three months has been a good deal like your campaign, with which I have recently become familiar, for when your nomination was held up I got out all the old papers prepared to show what you had done, and I read Lawton's letter describing your share in the expedition with very great interest. Has it ever been published?

Please give my kind regards to Mrs. Wood.

Faithfully yours,

ELIHU ROOT

Major General Leonard Wood,
Military Governor of Cuba,
Havana, Cuba.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ITEM XIII

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1-1 2657-g-28 1929

WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

February 23, 1901.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL.

My dear Mr. Shaw:

Your views about Cuba, in the advance sheets of the Review of Reviews which you sent me, seem to me, almost without exception, just and discriminating. There is one thing about which I will make a suggestion. It is the one as to which you express some mystification, - the talk about the probable necessity of an extra session of Congress in order to pass upon the Cuban Constitution. Of course there has been a great deal of loose and irresponsible talk on this subject and a great many people, both in and out of the newspapers, have given explanations of the supposed necessity quite wide of the mark. There is, however, underlying it all, a real and present difficulty which it has been impossible to state officially and publicly and which I do not think your article takes fully into account. It is that the resolution of Congress of April 20, 1898, commonly known as the Teller Resolution, appears in its terms to ignore all questions of special relations between the United States and Cuba and has been commonly accepted in both countries as imposing upon the President the duty of withdrawing from Cuba absolutely as soon as a government can be established there capable of maintaining internal order and leaving to the President no authority to negotiate, to impose terms, to make demands, to require or agree upon any provisions as to special relations between the two countries. This view has been generally accepted in Cuba, and many of the men who are liable to control the Convention have taken the position that the Convention should not take any action of any kind regarding relations with this country, but should adopt a Constitution providing solely for domestic affairs and dissolve; and that any requirement by the President that they should do anything else would be a usurpation of power on his part and a violation of the obligations imposed upon him by Congress. Some very important leaders of opinion in Congress have expressed the same view. The language of the resolution is:

> "That the people of the island of Cuba are, and of right ought to be, free and independent." * * *
>
> "That the United States hereby disclaims any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction, or control over said island except for the pacification thereof, and asserts its determination, when that is accomplished, to leave the government and control of the island to its people;"

We are told that this means what it says and that we have no legal right to do anything but to allow the Cubans to establish a government under any reasonable Constitution which they may adopt; turn over the control of that government, withdraw our troops, and then in the ordinary course,

take

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

take up the subject of relations between Cuba and the United States by negotiation of a treaty with the new government just as we negotiate treaties with Brazil and the Argentine and England and France. That does, indeed, seem the most obvious meaning of the resolution, yet it is plain that such a course would leave the United States in a worse position as to her own interests than she was when Spain held the sovereignty of Cuba and would be an abandonment both of our interests and the safety of Cuba herself. It is plain that some of the provisions essential to both of those objects can receive effect only by way of constitutional limitations which would never be put into the Constitution except upon our insistence or suggestion, and it is plain that other necessary provisions relating to the subjects which you refer to in your article must necessarily be the subject of constitutional grants of power to the new government or be kept in mind in the making of the constitution so that the new government shall not find itself without power to make them. Congress has thus so tied the hands of the President by its resolution that, unless the Cubans themselves can be induced to do voluntarily whatever we think they ought to do against the expressed determination of the Cuban leaders to whom I have referred, the President must either abandon American interests by a literal compliance with the obvious terms of the resolution or must engage in a controversy with Cubans in which they shelter themselves under the resolution of Congress against the Executive, while he has a probably divided country behind him, one part of which is charging him with usurpation and supporting the adverse claims of Cuban extremists. I do not say that the obvious interpretation of the resolution is the correct one; I do not say that a careful historical argument does not lead to a broader construction; I do not say that if there were no other course I would not advise such a broader construction, but I do say that before such a dilemma, as I have described, has to be solved the legislative branch of the government which has undertaken to limit and control the Executive by its resolution should declare unequivocally whether it means to abandon the rights of the United States in regard to Cuba, or whether it desires that the negotiations, for the objects referred to in your article, should be included in, or added to, the pacification which now stands as the sole object of American occupation.

If we have to insist upon provisions essential to our interests and to the maintenance of international obligations and the protection of property and life in Cuba, to an extent which the men now in control of the Cuban Convention are not willing voluntarily to concede, we should do it not by a divided government or in the exercise of a doubtful right or as the subject of an internal dispute, but with the whole united power of the nation, in its different branches of government, standing behind the demands. Just and reasonable requirements made in that way will find immediate assent. The settlement of the question of national policy and executive authority must be dealt with now but that does not mean that all of the results of the settlement are to be reached now; it does not mean that the negotiations are to be concluded now; it does not mean that all the time which you suggest in your article for working out the problem may not be taken in that process. There will be no undue haste. Neither

Wood

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Wood nor the Cubans will be hurried. The natural course in the development of results in public affairs will be followed.

You will be glad to know that there has been, and is constantly, full consultation with leading men in Congress and that there is entire harmony and agreement upon the views which I have expressed. It may be that no extra session will be required; it may be that Congress will still do, in the present session, all that will be necessary.

I beg you to believe that we appreciate very highly the well-informed interest and spirit with which you are treating this and other important questions with which we have to deal.

Faithfully yours,

ELIHU ROOT

Albert Shaw, Exq.
Editor, Review of Reviews,
13 Astor Place,
New York, N. Y.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ITEM XIV

Copy of Cablegram received in cipher February 24, 1901.

Havana.

Root,

SecWar, Rhode Island Avenue, Washington.

Relations Committee drafting relations. Expect present them and complete discussion middle of this week. Good evidence English and German consuls have attempted to defeat relations unsuccessful to date. American agitators of whom I have written have made every effort influence Convention refuse relations stating U. S. bound yield to their demand if insisted upon. Expression sentiment by members of Convention indicates easier to yield to request or demand of U. S. than suggest relations. Fear loss of popularity latter case hence if desirable may be well to give provisions more character of request than suggestion. Every thing here quiet.

WOOD

Rec'd 11:06 P.M.

Copy of Cablegram received Feb. 25th, 1901.

From Havana:

15/24th Secwar. 60th. text Smiled our copy, your sve amended and forwarded.

Co,

New York, Feb. 25th, 1901.

12:47 P.M.

Copy of Cablegram received Feb. 24th, 1901.

Havana.

ROOT,

SecWar, Rhode Island Avenue, Washington.

Rimes continent entomb rimes period Flatulency pure underlet astonished convergence effulgent myrrh undying rappahannock period herding ferment exterminate astonished harmonist crooks immolated bestowing unparalleled disband rimes welt unparalleled dialect period assailant approvals pate sancarlos inequality immolated trenton immolated mis-advised fenced exaction jestingly curvature revertive rimes tampered vetoes shabbiness capacitated bliss (fort) unparalleled underground dishonesty infantry keelsoned whim period floweriness sailed chaplaincy mucuss pate curvature invigorated ethics unparalleled bliss (fort) unparalleled sacked pelf dirge pate vetoes shabbiness uncovering tissue rimes period freely merino pate promotive luminary clattering imposed infantry distrustful moor bolus tennessee unparalleled havoc rawness oblique colony pate sacked uncovering suggestive period fenced undismayed imprecation refusing.

WOOD

11:06 P.M.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

February 25, 1901.

CONFIDENTIAL

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I enclose a copy of a confidential dispatch from the Military Governor of Cuba, and ask your attention to the clause relating to the action of the English and German Consuls. I have had some intimations before that those gentlemen were acting upon the theory that it was a part of their duty to their countries to prevent any special relations between Cuba and the United States, but this is the first authoritative statement on the subject. I should be glad if proper steps could be taken to secure either a change of conduct or a change of residence on their part.

Faithfully yours,

ELIHU ROOT

The Honorable
The Secretary of State.
Enclosure.

11:30 A.M.

WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

February 25, 1901.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Referring to my letter of this morning. I beg to enclose herewith a corrected copy of the confidential dispatch from the Military Governor of Cuba.

Very truly yours,

ELIHU ROOT

The Honorable
The Secretary of State.
Enclosure.

WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

February 25, 1901.

Sir:

I beg to confirm the sending and the receipt of the following cable dispatch since February 7, 1901:

Havana, February 11, 1901.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

SecWar,

Washington.

Your letter February seventh received. Will proceed accordingly. Constitution completed today. Final conditions passed render candidacy of Gomez possible.

WOOD, Military Governor.

Received 8 P.M.

- - - - - - -

Havana, February 12, 1901.

Secretary of War,

Washington.

President convention informs me committee designated last night to take up work on relations.

WOOD, Commanding.

Received 1:06 P.M.

- - - - - - - -

Havana, February 14, 1901.

Elihu Root,

Secretary of War, Washington.

Confidential. Have you any special instructions as to relations, other than those already discussed, which desire suggested Understand foreign consuls advising quietly in line foreign interests.

WOOD

Received 4:07 P.M.

- - - - - - - -

War Department,

Washington, Feb. 14, 1901.
Sent 8:50 P.M.

Wood,

Havana.

(Copy of this cablegram was sent to General Wood by mail February 14, 1901.)

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DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Havana, February 15, 1901.

SecWar,

Washington.

Instructions received. Will act accordingly.

WOOD

Received 4:32 P.M.

- - - - - -

Havana, February 21, 1901.

SecWar,

Washington.

Constitution being copied. Fair copy will probably be delivered Saturday or Sunday morning. Question of relations probably take some time. General opinion that this matter cannot be hurried too much without danger of hasty action by extreme element. Universal desire for extra session of Congress. Can any assurance concerning this be given?

WOOD

Received 4:33 P.M.

- - - - - -

War Department,

Washington, Feb. 21, 1901.
Sent 8:50 P.M.

Wood,

Havana.

Your dispatch February twenty-first shows that it will be impossible for Cuban constitution to reach here in time to be considered by the present Congress, or even to be considered by the President in time to send to Congress, before adjournment. A few days more or less is therefore of no consequence, and nothing will be gained by undue or inconsiderate haste. The President can well appreciate that the question of relations will require time and he has no wish that the convention shall act without the deliberation they consider necessary. Question whether an extra session will be called will be determined when the constitution has been received, with such provisions as the convention may adopt regarding relations between Cuba and the United States. They should be forwarded at the same time.

ROOT, SecWar.

- - - - - -

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Havana, February 21, 1901.

Honorable Elihu Root,

Rhode Island Avenue, Washington.

Committee of convention just informed me will deliver constitution tomorrow forenoon. Will immediately make translation.

WOOD

Military Governor.

Received 10:41 P.M.

- - - - - -

Havana, February 22, 1901.

SecWar,

Washington.

Constitution formally delivered this morning at ten o'clock. Have directed translation to be made immediately. Your cipher dispatch of twenty-first received. Will be governed accordingly.

WOOD, Commanding.

Received 12:53 P.M.

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Havana, February 24, 1901.

Root,

SecWar, Rhode Island Avenue, Washington.

Relations Committee drafting relations. Expect present them and complete discussion middle of this week. Good evidence English and German Consuls have attempted to defeat relations unsuccessful to date. American agitators of whom I have written have made every effort influence Convention refuse relations stating U. S. bound yield to their demand if insisted upon. Expression sentiment by members of Convention indicates easier to yield to request or demand of U. S. than suggest relations. Fear loss of popululatity latter cause hence if desirable may be well to give provisions more character of request than suggestion. Everything here quiet.

Rec'd 11:06 P.M. WOOD

Very respectfully,

ELIHU ROOT

Secretary of War.

Major General Leonard Wood,
Military Governor,
Havana, Cuba.

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DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Copy of Cablegram received February 25th, 1901.

Havana.

Pierson,

Di.

General Wood will be on hand at six o'clock, Washington time.

VARONA

4:13 P.M.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ITEM XV

WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington, D. C., Feb. 25, 1901.

TELEGRAM

General Wood,

Havana.

The Senate Committee on Cuba has reported favorably to the Senate an amendment to the Army Appropriation Bill providing:

"That in fulfillment of the declaration contained in the joint resolution approved April twentieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, entitled, 'For the recognition of the independence of the people of Cuba, demanding that the Government of Spain relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba, and to withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters, and directing the President of the United States to use the land and naval forces of the United States to carry these resolutions into effect', the President is hereby authorized to 'leave the government and control of the island of Cuba to its people' so soon as a government shall have been established in said island under a constitution which, either as a part thereof or in an ordinance appended thereto, shall define the future relations of the United States with Cuba, substantially as follows:

I

"That the Government of Cuba shall never enter into any treaty or other compact with any foreign power or powers which will impair or tend to impair the independence of Cuba, nor in any manner authorize or permit any foreign power or powers to obtain by colonization or for military or naval purposes or otherwise, lodgment in or control over any portion of said island.

II

"That said government shall not assume or contract any public debt, to pay the interest upon which, and to make reasonable sinking fund provision for the ultimate discharge of which the ordinary revenues of the island, after defraying the current expenses of government shall be inadequate.

III

"That the Government of Cuba consents that the United States may exercise the right to intervene for the preservation of Cuban independence, the maintenance of a government adequate for the protection of life, property, and individual liberty, and for discharging the obligations with respect to Cuba imposed by the Treaty of Paris on the United States, now to be assumed and undertaken by the Government of Cuba.

IV

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

IV

"That all Acts of the United States in Cuba during its military occupancy thereof are ratified and validated, and all lawful rights acquired thereunder shall be maintained and protected.

V

"That the Government of Cuba will execute, and as far as necessary extend, the plans already devised or other plans to be mutually agreed upon, for the sanitation of the cities of the island, to the end that a recurrence of epidemic and infectious diseases may be prevented, thereby assuring protection to the people and commerce of Cuba, as well as to the commerce of the southern ports of the United States and the people residing therein.

VI

"That the Isle of Pines shall be omitted from the proposed constitutional boundaries of Cuba, the title thereto being left to future adjustment by treaty.

VII

"That to enable the United States to maintain the independence of Cuba, and to protect the people thereof, as well as for its own defense, the Government of Cuba will sell or lease to the United States lands necessary for coaling or naval stations at certain specified points, to be agreed upon with the President of the United States.

VIII

"That by way of further assurance the Government of Cuba will embody the foregoing provisions in a permanent treaty with the United States."

Chairman of Committee informs me that this was result of consultation between members of both parties, and there is no dissent by minority of Committee. It will therefore probably not be a party question and the prospect of its passing seems good although there is but little time left before the close of this session.

What is the present attitude of the Convention Committee on Relations? What will be the effect of these resolutions on them?

ELIHU ROOT

Secretary of War.

Sent 7:40 P.M. Direct Wire.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Copy of Cablegram.

Havana, February 25, 1901.

Root,

Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.

General attitude friendly as far as can be learned. Naval stations principal objection to date. As I wired you they are timid about suggesting anything but prefer to stand as yielding to a request or demand. Will see Committee and wire you in morning. Very little apparent interest or discussion among masses. I believe steady pressure will be successful. They have been advised by those desiring immediate withdrawal to refuse any relations but Tamayo says advice of these persons understood by committee. General expressed sentiment of educated and conservative favorable to provisions suggested in your letter. Many expressions for protectorate out and out. Talk of withdrawal produces alarm. Tamayo who is president committee on relations stated yesterday would require at least one and one half years to put government provided for by constitution into operation. Talk of radicals does not indicate desire for immediate action. The more sensible members of convention speak frankly of a protectorate, but all want to proceed in such a way as to appear to defend the independence of the Island. Nothing has been said or done up to date indicating bad feeling or serious opposition. Debate in convention may develop it however. Will have unofficial translation of constitution as amended mailed you tomorrow.

WOOD

Received 8:07 P.M. Direct Wire.

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TELEGRAM:

WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington, Feb. 25, 1901.

General Wood,

Havana.

I am informed from private source that Committee were offended by your calling on them to go to Batabano with you and they are therefore less inclined to be reasonable. It seems improbable but is worth your inquiry.

ROOT

Sent 8:10 P.M. Direct Wire.

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DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Copy of Cablegram.

Havana, February 25, 1901.

Root,

Washington.

Absolutely no truth in it. They were delighted and expressed their thanks. All these reports come from the Americans here who are making every effort to defeat relations. Papper is one of this party and is now in U. S. Others here are those I wrote you about. Policy these to circulate false reports from each end of line to produce distrust. Will write you in detail. They are pretty well discredited however.

WOOD

Received 8:20 P.M. Direct Wire.

- - - - - -

Copy of Cablegram received February 27th, 1901.

Havana.

SecWar,

Washington.

Convention expected to deliver result of their work on relations this evening. Were in session up to two AM this morning period. Apparently anxious to get them in before amendments to Army bill are finally acted on period. Opinion here that convention may have attempted avoid all responsibility by making general indefinite propositions Period. Opinion generally favorable among persons seen concerning amendments period. No excitement in press period. Passage of proposed amendments, will in my opinion do much to settle matters here. If statement of relations received sufficiently early tonight will wire it period. Have completed translation constitution as finally adopted a good many changes. Shall I cable them period. Will mail translation tomorrow.

WOOD

5:26 P.M. Direct Wire.

- - - - - -

Copy of Cablegram sent February 27, 1901.

To Wood,

Havana.

We have not kept track of the constitution in its different forms sufficiently to make it useful to cable changes. Wire statement as you propose.

ROOT

Sent 5:45 P.M. Direct Wire. SecWar.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ITEM XVI

HEADQUARTERS
Military Governor
Island of Cuba
Havana.

February 27, 1901.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I saw the President of the Committee on Relations yesterday morning and gave him a correct copy of the proposed amendments to the Army Appropriation Bill as announced in your telegram of night before last. The Committee and the Constitutional Convention understand that communications of this kind must be considered as semi-diplomatic and discussion of them be in private session, at least until their decision has been reached. I think the proposition to rent the naval stations for an indefinite period rather than purchase, will reduce somewhat the objections raised in reference to naval stations.

The relations between the Committee and myself are of the most friendly character imaginable and any statement to the contrary is without foundation in fact. The trip to Batabano was one which pleased them very much. They went down on a special car, had an excellent dinner and a long talk on board the Kanawha in the evening, returning to Havana the same night. The trip as you know is only a short one, thirty miles.

The danger which confronts us is the moral cowardice of all these men, even as good ones as Tamayo. They are emotional and hysterical. Their frankness is rather amusing. They will individually assure me that the relations proposed are just, with the possible exception of the naval stations and ought to be accepted without question; collectively they are timid. They are unwilling to be responsible for anything, but say that they are willing to accept pretty much whatever we propose if the United States insists upon it. This lack of frankness and courage is what renders the situation so difficult; at the same time it minimizes the possibility of any serious opposition or resistance in carrying out our ultimate demands. They know perfectly well that the great mass of intelligence and material interests in the country cordially supports the proposed relations. They are also aware of the fact that this support is silent, whereas on the other hand the ultra-radical element representing perhaps ten per cent of the people are going to make a good deal of noise and to their way of thinking the best road is to either say little or nothing and accept conditions as proposed or perhaps draw up a statement of what in their opinion should be the relations making this statement such a one as to clear their future record of any charge of having favored the United States which in their hearts they really favor. All of this is indicative of a contemptible disposition, but still it is what we are dealing with. It is also probable that they will attempt to play small political tricks in the interpretation of the opening address of November 5th. This I gather from an interview with Tamayo which has just concluded. He informs me that the Committee and the Convention

were

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

were in continuous session until two o'clock this morning and that they have decided upon what in their opinion should be the relations. From his embarrassment I inferred that he was on the whole rather ashamed of what had been done. I expect to receive the statement this afternoon or tonight and will immediately transmit it to you. I believe that they will attempt to maintain that they are not empowered to agree upon relations with the United States. I have assured them repeatedly in the last two weeks that the order under which the elections were held was mandatory in character and that it has in no way been modified excepting that the Relations would not form a part of the Constitution, but would be independent thereof as indicated in that address; that their power to draw up and agree upon the Relations to exist was undiminished and that they could not in any way avoid that responsibility inasmuch as they had become candidates, been elected and come to Havana and assembled under that order tnd that if they felt that the duty of agreeing upon the Relations was inconsistent and improper and that it should be left to the government to be established they should not have accepted the nomination and election or presented themselves in the Convention, that it is now too late to attempt to escape the responsibility. That their argument is fallacious and simply an effort to escape responsibility before the people and is apparent when it is remembered that they propose to now proceed to draw up an electoral law, which if the opening address is to be considered as in any way supplanting or modifying the order directing the election of delegates except in the manner already referred to, must be considered as having excluded or removed all power to make an electoral law. This they know is not a fact. They are simply writhing under the responsibility and attempting to wiggle out in any way, honorable or otherwise. What is wanted is absolute firmness in dealing with the situation. You can be assured that the real interests and the real people of Cuba will support any reasonable demands and if the rascals in the Convention who are attempting to make trouble succeed even to a small extent they will, before the world, absolve us from any responsibility in reference to resolutions (Tellers) or other matters hitherto agreed upon. I do not contemplate anything of this sort, but it is better to have it than to destroy the island by surrendering it as I have written you, to the class of people whom I have always characterized as unprincipled and irresponsible.

It is deplorable to see this moral cowardice so apparent. The agitating element in the Convention has been largely fed and strengthened by reports circulated by the men concerning whom I have written you, to the effect that all that was needed was a show of resistance to secure their ends. I have told them flatly, but of course unofficially, that the United States felt that it had performed its duty here with exemplary fairness and liberality and cautioned them against appearing to slight or ignore what had been done for them. The political element are an ungrateful lot and they appreciate only one thing, which is, the strong hand of authority and if necessary <u>we must show it</u>. It is essential that the proposed amendments to the Army Bill should be approved as soon as possible. I have attempted to delay any further action on Relations until these amendments should have been adopted and the bill passed and I should

not

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

not have informed the Committee concerning the proposed amendments had they not been transmitted to the local papers through the Associated Press dispatches. The more radical individuals believe that if the resolutions concerning Relations indicate an aversion to the establishment of any relations with the United States, the effect may tend to defeat the proposed amendments.

Our situation in Cuba is backed by everything that is right and just, an honest administration - the absolute salvation of the people and the country - and I believe the bulk of the people appreciate this and they will not support any nonsense on the part of a few agitators.

Maximo Gomez came to me yesterday and repeated what I have already written you and stated we must not think of getting out under any circumstances, at present. He knows the people and knows that things will go to pieces if we move just now. He says that he does not want to be President, but that he wants Estrada Palma to be President and he, Gomez, with the political and moral support of the army element will support Palma's government and make it stable and enduring. This government he says, could not be established within a year and a half or two years. Gomez leaves for the United States in a few days to see Palma. They will meet in Washington. These two men swing ten times the influence of the Convention and they should be dealt with accordingly. With these men supporting our policy we can hold the situation here absolutely without any wavering. I close this letter for the mail.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

LEONARD WOOD

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ITEM XVII

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HEADQUARTERS
Military Governor of
Island of Cuba,
Havana.

February 21st, 1901.

Dr. Diego Tamayo,
President of the Committee on Relations,
Cuban Constitutional Convention,
Havana, Cuba.

Sir:

The time for the Cuban Constitutional Convention to consider the relations which are to exist between Cuba and the United States is at hand and I have the honor to submit to you the following provisions as indicating what, in the opinion of the Executive Department of the United States Government, the people of Cuba should desire to have established and agreed upon as the relations to exist between Cuba and the United States. I earnestly beg you to give them your careful consideration and recommend them to you as, in my opinion, wise and prudent, and to the best interests of both peoples.

The limitations of the power of the Executive Department of our government by the Resolution of Congress of April 20th, 1898, are such, that the final determination upon the whole subject may ultimately rest in Congress; hence nothing in this letter or in the following expression of opinion can be construed as in any way committing the United States to any policy which should properly be determined by Congress. The provisions referred to above are as follows:

"1. That no Government organized under the constitution shall be deemed to have authority to enter into any treaty or engagement with any foreign power which may tend to impair or interfere with the independence of Cuba, or to confer upon such foreign power any special right or privilege without the consent of the United States."

"2. That no government organized under the constitution shall have authority to assume or contract any public debt in excess of the capacity of the ordinary revenues of the island after defraying the current expenses of government to pay the interest."

"3. That upon the transfer of the control of Cuba to the Government established under the new constitution Cuba consents that the United States reserve and retain right of intervention for the preservation of Cuban independence and the maintenance of a stable Government, adequately protecting life, property and individual liberty, and discharging the obligations with respect to Cuba imposed by the Treaty of Paris on the United States and now assumed and undertaken by the Government of Cuba."

"4.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

"4. That all the acts of the Military Government, and all rights acquired thereunder, shall be valid and shall be maintained and protected."

"5. That to facilitate the United States in the performance of such duties as may devolve upon her under the foregoing provisions and for her own defense, the United States may acquire and hold the title to land for naval stations, and maintain the same at certain specified points."

These provisions may not prove to be in accord with the conclusions which Congress may ultimately reach when that body comes to consider the subject, but they are submitted, as above stated, as the views of the Executive Department.

Very respectfully,

LEONARD WOOD

Major General,

Military Governor.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT

Copy of Cablegram received February 28th, 1901.

Havana.

SecWar,

Washington.

Statement of relations proposed by Cuban constitutional convention received today twelve thirty and is being translated.

WOOD

5 P.M.

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Copy of Cablegram received 6:11 P.M.

Havana, February 28, 1901.

SecWar,

Washington.

Twenty-one members reported present night session which passed proposed amendment, sixteen or seventeen for and four or five against. Ten members reported absent at public reading of proposed relations yesterday, Convention Hall not more than one third filled. No indication of interest or excitement.

WOOD

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Copy of Cablegram received February 28, 1901.

Havana.

SecWar,

Washington.

Vermin pawed mucuss ruff pure overpower sneer kickapoo plaintiveness rammer aspiring sixteen or seventeen for and four or five against ten members reported absent at public reading of proposed relations yesterday convention hall not more than one third filled no indication of interest or excitement.

WOOD

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DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Copy of Cablegram received 10:06 P.M.
Deciphered 11:30 P.M.

Havana, February 28, 1901.

Elihu Root, Secretary of War,

Washington. (Deliver Immediately).

Constitution and relations now translated and ready for transmittal whenever you desire them. Can better relations if desired. Action taken simply shows desire to avoid responsibility before the people. Nothing serious. As before stated they desire to appear as acceding to relations demanded rather than propose relations themselves. The effect of passage of amendment to Army Bill will have an excellent effect here. Everything moving all right.

WOOD

- - - - - -

Copy of Cablegram sent 11:30 P.M.

Washington, February 28,1901.

Wood,

Havana.

Your dispatch received. Will answer giving instructions in the morning.

ROOT, SecWar.

- - - - - -

Copy of Cablegram sent in cipher 7 P.M.

War Department, March 1, 1901.

Wood,

Havana.

Both Houses of Congress have now passed the bill containing the provisions regarding Cuba which were reported by the Senate Committee on Relations with Cuba, and were cabled to you in full last Monday evening. As soon as the bill has been approved by the President, you will be advised by cable and you are instructed then to communicate these provisions to the Convention for its information.

ROOT, SecWar.

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DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Copy of Cablegram received 8:40 P.M.

Havana, March 1, 1901.

Elihu Root, SecWar,

Rhode Island Avenue, Washington.

No instructions received today delegates very anxious to know whether amendments leave any discretion in matter of relations to the President particularly anxious to get an early answer if you direct constitution and other documents forwarded recommend sending them by an officer can send General Whiteside or Colonel Scott both here such action will be more satisfactory to the Cubans than sending by mail.

WOOD

- - - - - -

Copy of Cablegram received.

Havana, March 2nd, 1901.

SecWar, War Department,

Washington.

Instructions received will act accordingly.

WOOD

10:10 A.M. Military Governor.

- - - - - -

Copy of Cablegram received.

Havana, March 2nd, 1901.

SecWar,

Washington.

Original expressions of opinion of the executive were transmitted to the committee on Relations in accordance with letter forwarded to you. In addition members of committee were assured that the opinion of the executive in my opinion represented the opinion which Congress would endorse. They were requested and urged to defer any announcement of policy on their part until Congress had finally acted period. On receipt of your telegram transmitting amendments to Army Bill Committee on Relations was immediately furnished statement thereof and they were again urged not to publish or formally announce any expression of opinion until final action of Congress in order to avoid necessity of public withdrawal from position taken. Radical members apparently prevailed and expression of opinion as to Relations on the part of the Convention was publicly made in Convention twenty hours prior to transmitting them to me period. Purpose of Radical element to force Convention into embarrassing position afterward period. General satisfaction among all conservative and

intelligent

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

intelligent classes over text and character of resolutions so far as can be learned in Havana period. Have seen leading members of Convention today and urged upon them the necessity of considering the determinations of Congress as soon as they shall be received period. Extreme element has used every effort to induce Convention to dissolve and go home. If this is done we have in any case the complete constitution. I have informed them that they should under all circumstances proceed with the electoral law. No excitement whatever in city or Country. There will probably be party demonstrations and local demonstrations in support of Convention but not important period. Our squadron now on Florida coast due here March 9th. Would not be a bad idea to have it here now as presence would be matter of popular interest and diversion period. Desire give them reception meet Cubans period. As its coming is known early arrival would not attract attention.

WOOD

5:11 P.M.

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Copy of Cablegram sent by special wire 6:20 P.M.

War Department, March 2nd, 1901.

Wood,

Havana.

The bill containing the provisions concerning Cuba, already telegraphed you, has become a law by the approval of the President. You will communicate these provisions to the Convention, and advise that body that the President awaits its action thereon.

ROOT

SecWar.

- - - - - -

Copy of Cablegram received 6:29 P.M.

Palace, Havana, March 2nd, 1901.

Root,

SecWar, Washington.

Will transmit document officially as instructed.

WOOD

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DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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1929
WAR DEPARTMENT

ITEM XIX

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

March 2, 1901.

My dear General:

I have your confidential letter of February 27th, enclosing a copy of the letter which you sent to Tamayo with the five propositions of my letter. I read it to the President this afternoon, and he remarked that it was very cleverly done. You now have a stronger demand, as well as a stronger position, based upon the Act of Congress approved by the President. I have been holding you on the direct wire this afternoon while I have been consulting the President regarding the answer to your dispatch today explaining the situation, and the answer, to the effect that the bill has been signed, and directing you to communicate the provisions to the Convention and advise that body that the President awaits its action thereon, was very carefully prepared. The members of the Convention should have sufficient intelligence to understand that they cannot escape their responsibility except by a refusal to act, which will necessarily require the convening of another Convention which will act. Of course all the talk about their not having authority to act is childish nonsense. They were elected by the people with express authority to do this very thing, and there never can, by any conceivable possibility, through any form or by any procedure, be a government in Cuba with greater authority than they now have. Under the act of Congress they never can have any further government in Cuba, except the intervening Government of the United States, until they have acted. Many things are true which it would not be polite or kindly to say, and we do not want to say such things to the Convention; but no constitution can be put into effect in Cuba and no government can be elected under it, no electoral law by the Convention can be put into effect, and no election held under it until they have acted upon this question of relations in conformity with this act of Congress. I notice in your dispatch you say that if they dissolve and go home we have in any case the complete constitution. That is true, but it cannot be promulgated or go into effect: And you say "I have informed them that they should under all circumstances proceed with the electoral law". That is true if it be regarded merely as a means of occupying time, but it will have no effect until there has been an agreement on the question of relations. In brief, there is only one possible way for them to bring about the termination of the military government and make either constitution or electoral law effective; that is to do the whole duty they were elected for.

The resolutions regarding Cuba were the subject of a most extraordinary unanimity in both parties in Congress, and they have clearly the support of substantially the entire body of the American people, and it is desirable to point out that Congress, which is closely in touch with the people, have gone farther than the Executive did in their requirements. The Cubans should understand that the establishment of the relations indicated in these Congressional resolutions will put them in a position where there will be felt in the United States a kindliness and sense of moral obligation towards them as a people for whom we have in a certain degree

made

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

made ourselves responsible, and the moral force of that feeling will be immense in compelling the establishment of favorable trade relations; while on the other hand, if they continue to exhibit ingratitude and entire lack of appreciation of the expenditure of blood and treasure of the United States to secure their freedom from Spain, the public sentiment of this country will be more unfavorable to them and less disposed to favorable trade relations than it is towards any of their competitors. The future of their island depends upon those relations, and the course which is being pursued by the present leaders of the Convention is daily doing to the people of Cuba an incalculable injury. If matters should so turn that the Convention should take such action as to justify the transmission of their work to the Department, it would be quite reasonable for them to take a recess pending the consideration of the subject here, and in that case I think it would be quite desirable for you to come to Washington in order that we may have the full discussion and consideration which is so valuable and which it is so difficult to put on paper.

Please give my kind regards to Mrs. Wood, and believe me always,

Faithfully yours,

Major General Leonard Wood,
Military Governor of Cuba,
Havana, Cuba.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

MAY 1929
WAR DEPARTMENT

ITEM XX

Copy of Cablegram:

Havana, March 3, 1901.

Elihu Root,

Secretary of War,

Rhode Island Avenue, Washington.

General conditions excellent. In parade last night about three thousand persons in line, two thousand boys following. Temper excellent and most friendly; will transmit request delivered by them later. Entire affair organized Ward leaders, means absolutely nothing. Am not rushing matters but giving them time to think. General impression seems excellent and tone of press is good. Conservative and sensible element of Convention realize that they have placed themselves in an awkward position. Worst that may happen Convention is it may dissolve. The right thing has been done and in my opinion there should be no change.

WOOD

Received 9:12 P.M.

- - - - - -

Copy of Cablegram partly in cipher:

Havana, Mar. 3rd, 1901.

Elihu Root,

Secretary of War,

Rhode Island Avenue, Washington.

General conditions excellent period In parade last night about three thousand persons in line comma two thousand boys following period Temper excellent and most friendly semi colon will transmit request delivered by them later period Entire affair organized Wardleaders comma means absolutely nothing period Am not rushing matters but giving them time to think period General impression seems excellent and tone of press is good period Quote period Creasing astonished smash exclusion Pate Curvature Repeller undecided undeserving immolated presumptive undermine intact assignment biting propitiatory period New London undecided moor idolize curvature launch lavish moor empire period and end of quote The right thing has been done and in my opinion there should be no change period.

WOOD

9:12 P.M.

- - - - - -

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Copy of Cablegram received.

Havana, March 4, 1901.
9:50 P

Elihu Root,

Secretary of War, Rhode Island Avenue,

Washington.

Instructions conveyed in your telegram March 2nd directing me to transmit Provisions Relative to Cuba to the Convention have been complied with provisions transmitted today everything very quiet.

WOOD

- - - - - -

Copy of Cablegram received in cipher:

Havana, Mar. 6, 1901.

SecWar,

Washington.

Public order island excellent. Quite a number of municipalities sending protests, presumably under instructions of representatives in Havana. No local indication of bad feeling except radical members Convention who think agitation insure extra session. Have informed them no possibility this. When Cuban people realize action United States definite, I believe it will be accepted. Nothing to cause anxiety.

WOOD

Military Governor.

Received 9:55 P.M.

- - - - - -

Copy of cablegram (cipher).

Havana, March 6, 1901.

SecWar,

Washington.

Rearranged pendulum launching fidgety period regimentals afloat pang oftens slyly rashlys presumably void killings pate rulers intact Havana period overwork medlar inviolable pate blamer fright fiend reinvigorating mucuss curvature piute undisturbed agitation kingdom follow sneer period immolated jeweler underlet overwork proposal undying period chiricahua cuban pommel repeller analogist wares taming disconnect inequality brain lavish annapolis bolus allusion period palaver unparalleled clouded available period

WOOD

9:55 P.M. Military Governor

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DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Copy of Cablegram sent in cipher. 3:45 P.M.

War Department, March 7, 1901.

Wood,

Havana.

The declaration of the policy of the United States relating to Cuba is contained in the provisions passed by Congress and approved by the President March second. That action has removed the only reason which had led the President to consider convening Congress in extraordinary session, and he has now no thought of doing so.

ROOT

SecWar.

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Copy of Cablegram received March 8, 1901.

10:51 P.M.

Root,

SecWar, Rhode Island Avenue, Washington.

Everything quiet throughout island no excitement convention committee considering relations period Strike in Havana settled.

WOOD

- - - - - -

Copy of Cablegram received part in cipher Mar. 13, 1901, 3:27 P.M.

Havana, March 13, 1901.

Secretary of War,

Washington.

Total number of telegrams of all kinds relative to existing political situation received since announcement of Platt amendment, thirty one. This is only a exhibition of number received upon publication of orders generally affecting public intercourse. The country is absolutely quiet and orderly and business is proceeding everywhere without the slightest deviation from the normal. No importance should be attached Gomez's letter which he assures me personally is simply to retain his hold on the radical element. He stated to me that his word of honor is given that there will be no trouble in this country whatever comes. No occasion anxiety.

WOOD

- - - - - - -

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Copy of Cablegram received part in cipher, Mar. 13, 1901.

Havana.

SecWar,

Washington.

Unsling Pang Unacceptable Pate Argued Limings Rind Unparalleled Falming Profuse Squeeze Reprove Spreads Attainment Pate Platt Aspiring Comma Undutiful Pawed Period Undying Launch Pawned Afloat Fixed Pate Pang Reprover Whim Rearward Pate Pendulum Hanging Apostasy Rearranged Kneads Period The Country is absolutely quiet and orderly and business is proceeding everywhere without the slightest deviation from the normal period Overworked Inspipid Sowed Bolus Besottedly Gomezs Manifest Kickapoo Impairing Benefactions Mooting Potter Launch Spout Unparalleled Satisfaction Incapacitate Included Pavior Underbid Reinvigorating Exclusion Period Imparing Tame Unparalleled Mooting Undecided Incapacitate Louisville Pate Inconstancy Launch Haw Undecided Understand Annapolis Bolus Overworked Vassil Intact Undying Default Brule Consulship Period Overworked Partnership Available Period.

WOOD, Commanding.

3:27 P.M.

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Copy of Cablegram received at 7:33 P.M.

Havana, March 20, 1901.

SecWar, (Personal)

Washington.

Tranquillity Island complete, no political excitement anywhere. Santiago republican party favors Platt amendment. Believe other important indications in this line may follow, difficult to ascertain facts. Secretary Tamayo, who is member of Convention, fears radical elements headed by Quesada and Juan Gualberto Gomez will induce Convention to reject Platt amendment. They have been led to hope that next Congress may modify it. This action may however be prevented. General Gomez has favored proposition drawn up by Doctor Tamayo which embodies many features of Platt amendment. General Gomez promises no disturbance any case and is willing to grant coaling stations. Absence political excitement throughout Island indicates little agitation on the subject. Have received altogether including letters, telegrams and objections relative to Platt amendment only thirty-one communications. All men who were really leaders in the field during revolution friendly and quietly at work. As soon as news of action of Convention will wire you. Looks at times as though people wanted continuance of intervention. Certainly no indication of sorrow over prospect of its continuing. Report of Convention is expected this week. Can you indicate our action in case Convention should refuse to accept Platt amendment? I believe we should be ready either to at once

dissolve

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

dissolve Convention and announce election of a new one at municipal elections June first, or take such other action as you think best. The irresponsible people here in the Convention must realize that our policy is fixed and that they are confronting a serious responsibility. It is safe to say that all the best elements are with us.

WOOD

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Copy of cablegram sent 8:10 P.M.

Washington, March 20, 1901.

Wood,

Havana.

Your dispatch of this evening entirely satisfactory. The Platt amendment is of course final and the members of the Convention who may be responsible for refusing to establish relations on that basis will injure only themselves and their own country. If the Convention takes such a course it will have failed to perform the duty for which it was elected and the duty must be performed by others. If it is deemed wise to give specific instructions in advance of knowing exactly what the Convention does I will wire you further tomorrow.

ROOT

SecWar.

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Copy of Cablegram received Mar. 26, 1901, 7:50 P.M.

Havana.

Root,

Rhode Island Avenue, Washington.

Political situation on the whole favorable. Santiago Republicans instructed their delegates accept Platt amendment. Am reliably informed Santa Clara Republicans done likewise. Public order perfect.

WOOD

Military Governor.

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Copy of Cablegram received (Cipher):

Havana, March 26, 1901.

Root,

Rhode Island Avenue, Washington.

Profuse Squeeze Pavior Underbid Pottawatomie Fray Period Santiago Rusteds Killed Underground Diseases Allurement Platt Aspiring Period Ascent Ript Jeweler Santa Clara Rusteds enough Mashed Period Rearranged Pendulum Poppy Period.

WOOD

Military Governor.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ITEM XXI

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MIL. INTEL. DIV.
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WAR DEPARTMENT

WAR DEPARTMENT
Washington

March 29, 1901.

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PERSONAL

My dear General:

Your action in regard to the management of the Post Office prosecutions meets with my entire approval. There should be no question whatever as to the entire fidelity of the men who manage those cases. A miscarriage, particularly in the case of Neely, as to whose guilt there seems to be no possible doubt, would be a great misfortune, and would discredit both our own country and Cuba. Rubens wrote me some time ago that it had been determined to consolidate the cases and try Neely, Rathbone, and perhaps some others, jointly. I am not sufficiently familiar with the Cuban practice to form a judgment upon this as a lawyer, but my impression has been so strong that it was desirable to try Neely alone and first that I do not like the looks of it. I wish you would have Dudley consider that subject very carefully before giving your assent to such a course of procedure.

I am looking with great interest for any further developments which may come along the lines of your confidential letter of March 5th.

I hope you have been able to disabuse the minds of members of the Convention of the idea that the intervention described in the Platt amendment is synonymous with intermeddling or interference with the affairs of a Cuban Government. It of course means only the formal action of the Government of the United States, based upon just grounds of actual failure or imminent danger, and is in fact but a declaration or acknowledgment of the right to do what the United States did in April, 1898, as the result of the failure of Spain to govern Cuba. It gives to the United States no right which she does not already possess and which she would not exercise, but it gives her, for the benefit of Cuba, a standing as between herself and foreign nations in the exercise of that right which may be of immense value in enabling the United States to protect the independence of Cuba.

I see no reason why an arrangement for leasing naval stations should not be deemed to comply with the Platt amendment. At all events, the question of the method in which that amendment should be complied with in regard to coaling stations is a proper subject for negotiation, provided the Convention is willing to authorize a sale or lease in accordance with the general provisions of the amendment. The reports from our visiting statesmen upon their return from Cuba seem to be very favorable.

Faithfully yours,

ELIHU ROOT

Major General Leonard Wood,
Military Governor of Cuba,
Havana, Cuba.

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DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MILITARY DIV.
NOV 11 1929
WAR DEPARTMENT

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ITEM XXII

Copy of Cable received 5:45 by Special Wire:

Havana, April 2, 1901.

Secretary of War,

Washington.

Conference today many leading members Convention believe everything will go through if I can assure them officially that the President and your views of the interpretation and scope of the third clause of the Platt amendment is as stated in your personal letter of March 29th. They believe that this will put it in such shape that it can be accepted by the Convention. It is most important to do this if possible, for the radical members are using the argument that under the third clause, we can intervene for trifling reasons. An official assurance that intervention will be only under conditions such as stated in your letter of March 29th will remove this impression and destroy this argument. There is a general reaction throughout the country in favor of the Platt amendment, but there is a certain group in the Convention who are, for reasons unknown, opposed to any relations with the United States. At a conference today all elements were represented, and the general opinion was that an assurance from our government for the interpretation of the third clause as authorizing intervention only on line indicated in your letter, the whole thing would be accepted.

WOOD

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Copy of cablegram sent 7 P.M. by Special Wire.

Washington, April 2, 1901.

Wood,

Havana.

You are authorized to state officially that in the view of the President the intervention described in the third clause of the Platt amendment is not synonymous with the intermeddling or interference with the affairs of the Cuban Government, but the formal action of the Government of the United States, based upon just and substantial grounds, for the preservation of Cuban independence and the maintenance of a government adequate for the protection of life, property and individual liberty and for discharging the obligations with respect to Cuba imposed by the Treaty of Paris on the United States.

ELIHU ROOT

Secretary of War.

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DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

WAR DEPARTMENT
Washington

April 2, 1901.

CONFIDENTIAL

My dear General:

I have just telegraphed you in answer to your dispatch as follows:

> "You are authorized to state officially that in the view of the President the intervention described in the third clause of the Platt amendment is not synonymous with intermeddling or interference with the affairs of the Cuban Government, but the formal action of the Government of the United States, based upon just and substantial grounds, for the preservation of Cuban independence and the maintenance of a government adequate for the protection of life, property and individual liberty and for discharging the obligations with respect to Cuba imposed by the Treaty of Paris on the United States."

You will understand that the portions of my personal letter of March 29th, relating to the third clause of the Platt amendment, which are not included in my dispatch of this evening authorizing an official statement, are omitted for the reason that they are simply matters of argument and it is not deemed desirable to enter officially into an argument on the subject. The omission is not due to any question as to the soundness of the propositions or the propriety of suggesting them in a personal way.

Faithfully yours,

ELIHU ROOT

Secretary of War.

Major General Leonard Wood,
Military Governor of Cuba,
Havana, Cuba.

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Copy of cablegram received 2:35 P.M.

Havana, April 3, 1901.

SecWar,

Washington.

Some misunderstanding of last part of telegram. Can it not be made to read as follows: Adequate for protection of life and property and adequate for discharging the obligations with respect to Cuba imposed by the Treaty of Paris on the United States?

WOOD

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Copy of Cablegram sent 4:50 P.M. by Special Wire:

Washington, April 3, 1901.

Wood,

Havana.

You are authorized to state officially that in the view of the President the intervention described in the third clause of the Platt amendment is not synonymous with intermeddling or interference with the affairs of the Cuban Government, but the formal action of the Government of the United States, based upon just and substantial grounds, for the preservation of Cuban independence and the maintenance of a government adequate for the protection of life and property and individual liberty, and adequate for discharging the obligations with respect to Cuba imposed by the Treaty of Paris on the United States.

ELIHU ROOT

Secretary of War.

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Copy of cablegram sent 5:05 P.M., by Special Wire.

Washington, April 3, 1901.

Wood,

Havana.

Is the dispatch just sent you satisfactory to you?

ROOT

SecWar

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Copy of cablegram received at War Department, April 3, 5:16 P.M.
Special Wire.

Palace, Havana, April 3, 1901.

Secretary of War Root,

Washington.

I have had conversations with many of the radical element and I think they realize that the sentiment of the country is changing. Several efforts have been made to break up the Convention. The present outlook is that a committee will be selected who will present to me any points not understood in order that I may communicate directly with you. A few agitators are doing all possible to arouse suspicions and objections over various clauses. Such extreme members as I have seen recently say that all can be accepted if the third clause on intervention will be considered by the United States on lines indicated in your telegram which is satisfactory to me and I believe will be to Convention.

WOOD

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ITEM XXIII

NOV 27 1928
WAR DEPARTMENT

WAR DEPARTMENT
Washington

April 4, 1901.

My dear General:

There is a good deal of quiet inquiry, which is likely to become less quiet before long, as to the reason why Neely is not tried. I have said to everyone asking, that, after taking nearly a year, by the orderly course of American procedure, to get Neely back to Havana, we were in no position to throw stones at the Cuban courts for following their regular course of procedure in bringing him to trial.

I would like, however, to be able to make a little more specific statement on the subject, and I wish you would put me as definitely as practicable in possession of the condition and progress of the case. Of course the sooner he can be brought to the Bar the better.

Very sincerely yours,

(signed) ELIHU ROOT

Major General Leonard Wood,
Military Governor of Cuba,
Havana, Cuba.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

MIL. INTEL. DIV.
WAR DEPARTMENT

ITEM XXIV

Received in cipher 9:00 A.M., April 10, 1901.

Havana, April 10, 1901

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Secretary of War, Washington.

Today Convention revoked former resolution not to form Committee. Next step probably formation Committee for conference; if anything doubtful they may desire come to Washington. Will telegraph concerning this later. Gomez expects leave for Washington this week.

WOOD, Military Governor.

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Copy of Cablegram received (cipher):

Havana, April 10, 1901.

SecWar, Washington.

Unparalleled Dickey Curvature Scolded God Saltpeter Paint Unparalleled Goal Continent Overflowing Tasting Quarreled Gobelin Continent Glacis Couching Infantry Availing Undismayed Entanglement Undeserving Moor Distrustingly Construing Unparalleled Washington Annapolis Unaccountable Core Undying Lugubrious Gomez Flatulencys Magnetism Glacis Washington Undying Rappahanock Period.

WOOD, Military Governor.

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Copy of Cablegram received.

Havana, April 14th, 1901.

Elihu Root, SecWar, Washington, D.C.

Island absolutely tranquil No particular change in situation.

WOOD

11:58 A.M.

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Copy of Cablegram Received 11:34 A.M., April 15, 1901
Direct Wire.

Secretary of War,

Washington.

Committee of Convention will be nominated today to come and see me about going to Washington. Men nominated are good representative men. Purpose of this visit is in reality to accept Platt amendment but this must not be even intimated.

That

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

That such is the fact I know from the men themselves. Everything depends upon this being unknown. Gradual reaction throughout the country in favor of Platt amendment. Please answer at once as I want to inform President of Committee who is also President of Convention in order that they may be assured that after committee is named there will be no doubt of its going. Apparent purpose here will be to obtain information on certain of the articles of the amendment which they do not quite understand. Information received will remove doubt and the amendment will be accepted. This is Latin method but we are after results. I strongly recommend their going. I desire to accompany this committee and will leave in a few days. There has been no rejection of Platt amendment by Convention. All newspaper reports are based on rumors only. Most of these reports originate with small clique here who are trying to upset Administration plans and policy period. Everything in the country is absolutely quiet.

WOOD

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Washington, D.C.,April 15,1901.

Wood,

Havana.

The President will be pleased to receive a Committee of the Convention. It is desirable that you should be here at the same time. The President will be absent from Washington on a journey to the Pacific Coast from April twenty-eighth to June fifteenth.

ROOT, Secretary of War.

Sent 12:30 P.M. Direct Wire.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT

ITEM XXV

WAR DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON

April 15, 1901.

PERSONAL

My dear General:

I think you better send me unofficially your English translation of the proposed Cuban Constitution and their original resolutions on the subject of relations with the United States which you telegraphed me on February 28th were ready to be translated but action upon which was suspended by the passage of the Platt amendment.

Faithfully yours,

(signed) ELIHU ROOT

Major General Leonard Wood,
Military Governor of Cuba,
Havana, Cuba.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT

ITEM XXVI

Copy of Cablegram received April 20, 1901. 8:29 P.M.

Havana.

Adjutant General,

Washington.

For reference to Secretary War La Sociedad Economica de Amigos del Pais at extraordinary session accepted Platt amendment. This society is the most important economic organization and one of the oldest and most highly respected in Cuba its Action is significant of change of opinion.

WOOD

Military Governor.

Copy for Secretary of War.

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Copy of Cablegram received 4:37 P.M. by Direct Wire.

Havana, May 17th, 1901.

Secretary of War,

Washington.

Mendez Capote has just informed me that the amendment will pass with large majority. They will interpret third and seventh clauses as meaning as follows; and so word them in their acceptance:

"Third. The Government of the Republic of Cuba consents that the United States by formal action may exercise the right to intervene for the preservation of Cuban independence whenever threatened from without, or, when a state of anarchy exists in the Island to re-establish in accordance with the constitution of the Republic of Cuba a Government adequate for the protection of life, property and individual liberty and to fulfill the obligations imposed by the Treaty of Paris with respect to Cuba."

"Third. (Seventh): In order to place the United States in condition to maintain and defend the independence of Cuba as well as for its own defense, the Government of the Republic of Cuba will sell or lease to the United States the necessary lands for coaling or naval stations at certain points on the coast to be agreed upon with the President of the United States and on such conditions that they will only serve the military or naval purposes to which they shall be applied."

All other clauses being unchanged. He considers these clauses as interpreted here to be in accord with your explanation and to be substantially as set forth in the amendment. Do you consider this acceptable? I do.

WOOD

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DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Copy of Cablegram sent 4:45 P.M. By Direct Wire.

WAR DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON

May 17, 1901.

Wood,

Havana.

At first reading, my impression is that the meaning of the provisions is not changed, but I wish to consider it carefully and submit it to the President's consideration, as soon as that can be obtained, before expressing an opinion. The difficulty is that words giving a construction are themselves liable to be construed in a different sense from that which is intended. I think it would be better for the Convention to use the exact words of the Platt amendment and add their construction, rather than to substitute their construction for the words of the law.

ELIHU ROOT

SecWar.

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Copy of Cablegram sent in cipher 4:25 P.M.

WAR DEPARTMENT

May 21, 1901.

Wood,

Havana.

Send me, as soon as possible, exact text of Convention Committee report and recommendations. The President wires me that he will regret if the Platt amendment is not accepted without change.

ROOT

SecWar.

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Translation of cablegram received in cipher 9:45 P.M.

Havana, May 22, 1901.

SecWar,

Washington.

Majority report Committee Relations recommends acceptance amendment verbatim as appendix constitution remarks explain to amendment will follow it. Phraseology remarks not limiting upon amendment. Will send you full text explain remarks to-morrow not entirely ready as yet.

WOOD

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DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Copy of Cablegram received by Special Wire 10:13 A.M.

Palace, Havana, May 23, 1901.

Secretary Root,

Washington.

Tried to get special wire yesterday afternoon but failed. Sent you brief statement in cipher. No change here. Situation was quiet yesterday but as stated in my letter good deal of strong opposition in business centres delay and hoping to bring about continuance of present status. Believe however everything will be passed. Proposed resolutions as presented to me yesterday recite amendment and accepts it as an appendix to the constitution together with certain explanatory remarks setting forth what in the opinion of the Committee the different paragraphs of the amendment mean. These statements are quite general and are based on what was said to them in Washington. In the form presented yesterday they cannot be construed in any way as being limitations upon the amendment itself. They have promised to show me the proposed appendix in the form in which it will be presented today but have not yet done so. Much speaking and a disposition by some who are interested in municipal elections to delay vote until end of month. Capote thinks it will be passed this week or at latest early next.

WOOD

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Copy of cablegram sent 10:55 A.M. By Direct Wire.

WAR DEPARTMENT
Washington

May 23, 1901.

Wood,

Havana.

Your dispatch very satisfactory. Wire proposed appendix as soon as you get it. Important nothing should be included in resolution adopted by Convention capable of a construction which would vary from provisions in Platt amendment. Otherwise President would be unable to act, and a long period of disastrous uncertainty and confusion would ensue.

ROOT

SecWar.

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Copy of Cablegram Received 12:31 A.M. May 27, 1901.

Palace, Havana, May 26th, 1901.

SecWar, Washington.

"To the Constitutional Convention:

"The Commission

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

"The Commission appointed to report on the Platt amendment, communicated to this Convention by the Military Governor of Cuba in his official dispatch of 2nd of last March, has the honor to propose the following:

"Appendix to the Constitution of the Republic of Cuba.

"Whereas the Congress of the United States of America in the Joint resolution of April 20, 1898, declared that the people of Cuba are and of right ought to be free and independent, and that the United States disclaimed any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction or control over the Island except for the pacification thereof, and declared its determination when that was accomplished, to leave the government and control of the Island to its people:

"Whereas in article 1st of the Treaty of Paris of December 10, 1898, Spain renounced all right of sovereignty over and title to Cuba, and it was agreed, in consideration of the Island being occupied by the United States upon its evacuation by Spain, the United States during their occupation would assume and discharge the obligations imposed upon them by international law from the fact of its occupation, for the protection of life and property;

"Whereas the Military Governor of the Island in his dispatch of 2nd of last March transmitted to the President and members of the Constitutional Convention, for their consideration and action thereon, the provisions which by virtue of an amendment proposed by Senator Platt were included in the Army Appropriation Bill of the United States, and whereby, in fulfillment of the joint resolution of April 20th, 1898, the President of the United States is authorized to leave the government and control of this Island to its people, so soon as a government shall have been established under a constitution which, as a part thereof, or in an appendix thereto, shall define the future relations between Cuba and the United States substantially as follows:

"That in fulfillment of the declaration contained in the joint resolution approved April twentieth, eithteen-hundred and ninety-eight, entitled 'For the recognition of the independence of the people of Cuba, demanding that the Government of Spain relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba, and to withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters, and directing the President of the United States to use the land and naval forces of the United States to carry these resolutions into effect', the President is hereby authorized to 'leave the government and control of the island of Cuba to its people' so soon as a government shall have been established in said island under a constitution which, either as a part thereof or in an ordinance appended thereto, shall define the future relations of the United States with Cuba, substantially as follows:

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

I

"That the government of Cuba shall never enter into any treaty or other compact with any foreign power or powers which will impair or tend to impair the independence of Cuba, nor in any manner authorize or permit any foreign power or powers to obtain by colonization or for military or naval purposes or otherwise, lodgment in or control over any portion of said Island.

II

"That said government shall not assume or contract any public debt, to pay the interest upon which, and to make reasonable sinking fund provision for the ultimate discharge of which, the ordinary revenues of the island, after defray'ng the current expenses of government shall be inadequat

III

"That the government of Cuba consents that the United States may exercise the right to intervene for the preservation of Cuban independence, the maintenance of a government adequate for the protection of life, property, and individual liberty, and for discharging the obligations with respect to Cuba imposed by the Treaty of Paris on the United States, now to be assumed and undertaken by the government of Cuba.

IV

"That all Acts of the United States in Cuba during its military occupancy thereof are ratified and validated, and all lawful rights acquired thereunder shall be maintained and protected.

V

"That the government of Cuba will execute, and as far as necessary extend, the plans already devised or other plans to be mutually agreed upon, for the sanitation of the cities of the Island, to the end that a recurrence of epidemic and infectious diseases may be prevented, thereby assuring protection to the people and commerce of Cuba, as well as to the commerce of the southern ports of the United States and the people residing therein.

VI

"That the Isle of Pines shall be omitted from the proposed constitutional boundaries of Cuba, the title thereto being left to future adjustment by treaty.

VII

"That to enable the United States to maintain the independence of Cuba, and to protect the people thereof, as well as for its own defense, the government of Cuba will sell or lease to the United States lands necessary

for

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

for coaling or naval stations at certain specified points, to be agreed upon with the President of the United States.

VIII

"That by way of further assurance the government of Cuba will embody the foregoing provisions in a permanent treaty with the United States."

"Whereas the Military Governor of the Island in his dispatch of 3rd of April last transmitted to the President of the Constitutional Convention the following declaration received from the Secretary of War of the United States:

> 'You are authorized to state officially that in the view of the President the intervention described in the third clause of the Platt amendment is not synonymous with intermeddling or interference with the affairs of Cuba, but the formal action of the Government of the United States based upon just and substantial grounds for the preservation of Cuban independence and the maintenance of a Government adequate for the protection of life and property and individual liberty and for discharging the obligations with respect to Cuba imposed by the Treaty of Paris on the United States.'

"Whereas the last part of the above declaration was officially explained stating and adequate for discharging the obligations with respect to Cuba imposed by the Treaty of Paris on the United States;

"Whereas the Constitutional Convention desiring to act with a full knowledge of facts when coming to a definite agreement upon all the points of the Military Governor's dispatch of March 2nd, appointed a commission from within the Convention to confer with the Government of the United States so as to learn its views and objects as to all particulars referring to the establishment of definite political and economical relations between Cuba and the United States; and the Commission having discharged its trust informed the Convention of the declarations made by the Secretary of War by virtue of the express authority and instructions from the President of the United States;

"Whereas these declarations have the character and import of official declarations, being made to a commission fulfilling a mission, also official, having to report to the Assembly which appointed it and being expressed by an authority duly empowered to do so, they were to do so, they were to be examined by the Constitutional Convention for the purpose of adopting resolutions as to the future relations between Cuba and the United States, must have the publicity given to all decisions of a political assembly and to the antecedents on which they are based;

"Whereas

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

"Whereas the Government of the United States, through the Secretary of War, expressed in said declarations that the 1st and 2nd clauses of the provisions of the Army Appropriation Bill of the United States, relative to Cuba, only referred to the Internal Constitutional limitations demanded of the Cubans by the United States Congress, following the methods of the United States constitution limiting the power of Congress to be exercised exclusively by Cuba and the Cubans; that the 3rd clause amplifies the Monroe Doctrine, so that European nations could not dispute the intervention of the United States in defence of Cuban independence without giving to the United States further rights than had by them when they recently intervened, a right they have already exercised and retain and which in no manner signifies intermeddling or interference in Cuban affairs, as they will intervene only to prevent foreign attacks against the independence of the Cuban republic or when a real state of anarchy should exist in Cuba; that the intervention will only last so long as necessary to establish a normal state of affairs and will always be a formal act of the American Government, exhausting beforehand all diplomatic resources; that the acceptance of the 3rd clause by the Convention would not establish a protectorate or suzerainty of the United States over Cuba; that Cuba would appoint her foreign representatives and diplomatic agents, would freely direct her international relations, would make her political and commercial treaties with foreign countries without the intervention of the United States and would have her naval and land forces and her navy under her own flag within and beyond Cuban waters; that the 4th clause refers to acts duly executed and rights legally acquired; that as there exist at present no sanitary plans, the 5th clause refers to those to be mutually agreed upon by the United States and Cuban Governments; that the 6th clause does not infer the declaration that the Isle of Pines belongs to the United States, but that the definite settlement of this question is left until such time as the Cuban Government shall be constituted; that in desiring to establish coaling stations in Cuba the object of the United States is only to obtain military stations for the defence of both countries, protecting American waters from foreign invasion, whether against Cuba or the American nation, and not to intervene in the domestic affairs of the Cuban Government whose independence would not be lessened by these stations; that the spirit, tendency and substance of the Platt amendment is to establish an independent and sovereign nation in Cuba, whose existence will be moreover guaranteed by the United States, and that the Republic of Cuba as such an independent and sovereign nation would be immediately recognized by the United States.

"Whereas in a dispatch addressed the 29th of March last by the Secretary of War of the United States to the Military Governor of the Island, and which was expressly and directly referred to by the former at the official conferences with the representatives of the Constitutional Convention in Washington should be considered as having official value, the Secretary stated that the intervention described in the 3rd clause of the Platt

amendment

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

amendment only means the formal action of the Government of the United States based on just grounds of failure or imminent danger and in fact is but the declaration or recognition of the right of the United States to do what they did in April, 1898, as a result of the failure of Spain to govern Cuba, and does not grant them any right they do not already possess and would exercise, but gives them for the benefit of Cuba a position between Cuba and foreign nations in the exercise of said right which may be of immense value in placing the United States in condition to protect Cuban independence;

"Whereas in the preamble of the transcribed resolution it is declared that as a previous step to the establishment of the Cuban Government, the constitution under which said government is established, or an appendix thereto, must contain substantially the provisions of the Platt amendment, and in the dispatch of March 2nd, it is declared that the President of the United States awaits the action of the Convention thereon;

"Therefore, considering that the declarations and assertions made by the Secretary of War of the United States constitute an authoritative interpretation of the so-called Platt amendment and the expression of what the United States Government therein considers substantial considering that the clauses of the United States Army Appropriation Bill communicated to the Constitutional Convention by the Military Governor of Cuba the 2nd of March last; taking into account their terms, the preamble which precedes them, and the formal declarations hereinbefore stated whereby the Government of the United States explained their meaning and scope, are not imcompatible with the independence and sovereignty of Cuba. The Constitutional Convention, with the object and purpose of accepting said provisions substantially resolves and declares that the constitution of the Republic of Cuba voted by this Constitutional Convention be considered with the addition thereto of the amendment to the appropriation bill hereinbefore recited, with the meaning and scope explained in the preceding paragraph and statements made in the following explanations: 1st: That the stipulations contained in clauses 1 and 2 of the Platt amendment are internal constitutional limitations which do not restrict the power of the Government of the Republic of Cuba to freely celebrate political or commercial treaties with any nation, its power to contract loans or create debts, only in so far as it must abide by the provisions of the Cuban constitution and the statements made in the beforementioned clauses. 2nd: That the intervention will in no manner imply intermeddling or interference in the affairs of the Cuban Government; it will only be exercised by a formal act of the United States Government for the preservation of Cuban independence and sovereignty whenever threatened from without, or for the establishment in accordance with the constitution of the Republic of Cuba, of a government adequate for discharging its internal and international purposes, in case a real state of anarchy should exist. 3rd: That the 4th clause refers to acts duly realized during the military occupation and rights legally acquired thereby. 4th: That

clause

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

clause refers to sanitary measures and plans to be mutually agreed upon between the Government of the Republic of Cuba and that of the United States. 5th: That although the Isle of Pines is comprised within the limits of Cuba and governed by the same government and administration, the future government of Cuba and that of the United States will settle by a special treaty the title to the Isle of Pines; this not to be supposed as a prejudgment against the rights which Cuba has to the same. 6th: That what is substantial in clause 7 is that the Government of the Republic of Cuba be authorized to negotiate a treaty with the United States wherein the concession of coaling or naval stations be made in terms to be agreed upon by both governments, which will be established with the sole and only object of defending American waters and for the preservation of Cuban independence in case of foreign aggression and for the United States own defense the Government of the Republic of Cuba will, at the same time, promote the celebration of a treaty of commerce based on reciprocity whereby mutual and especial advantages be assured between natural and manufactured products of both countries in their respective markets without restricting the power of agreeing in future to greater commercial advantages. Hall of Sessions, May 24, 1901.

DIEGO TAMAYO
GONZALO DE QUESADA
ENRIQUE VULLUENDAS."

WOOD

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT

ITEM XXVII

Copy of Cablegram sent in cipher 8:45 P.M.

War Department,

Washington, D. C.,

May 28, 1901.

Wood,

Havana.

I do not think that the passage of the proposed appendix to the constitution as transmitted to me by you would be such an acceptance of the Platt amendment as to authorize the President's withdrawing the army from Cuba under the provisions of the Platt amendment. Letter mailed today.

ROOT

SecWar.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

WAR DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON

May 28, 1901.

My dear General:

I have as yet but little time for an examination of the proposed appendix to the Cuban constitution, received from you unofficially yesterday. It is in many respects very objectionable. In the first place, the acceptance of the Platt amendment is surrounded by such a cloud of words, by way of recitals and explanations, that it is difficult to tell what the real meaning is, and it is doubtful whether the President would, as to any of the provisions of the amendment, be at liberty to consider that they had been in fact accepted.

I do not wish to enter into a controversy as to the correctness of the Committee's recollection of the particular expressions which they have gathered or condensed from the long and informal conversations which we had about the provisions of the amendment. The statements in the recitals are, in many respects, inaccurate. The propriety of the use which the Committee are proposing to make of the conversations may be judged by reference to the fact, which you will remember, that what I said was accompanied by the explicit and distinct statement that I had no power or authority to change or modify the law enacted by Congress, and that, whatever I might say, the provisions of that law as they appeared in the statute must be the guide of the President's action; that the only point upon which they desired any formal or authoritative assurance was as to the effect of the third clause relating to intervention, upon which they asked for a written memorandum, and volunteered the statement that, if given, it would be treated as personal to themselves and confidential; that even this I did not give, but that, after saying to them that I could not change or modify the law by anything which I said as to its effect, I procured for them a letter from Senator Platt, stating his views as to the effect of the third clause, which I handed to them, marked "Confidential", and the substance of which has been put into the proposed recitals as coming from me; that as to the so-called dispatch of March 29th, mentioned in the recitals as having been referred to by me, which was in fact a personal letter from me to you, the precise extent to which the President was willing to give to the matter contained in that letter an official and authoritative character has been defined and made certain by the dispatch of April 3rd, also referred to in the recitals.

I do not think that any part of these recitals of conversation ought to form any part of the resolution to be adopted by the Convention.

I think the explanations annexed to the acceptance of the amendment do, in substance, change the amendment. This is notably so in regard to the fifth clause, concerning sanitary measures, and the sixth clause, regarding

naval

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

naval stations. The fifth clause of the statute refers to sanitary plans already devised. They cannot be omitted. The naval station clause of the statute says "The Government of Cuba will sell or lease to the United States lands, etc., at points to be agreed upon". The explanation says "that the Government of the Republic of Cuba be authorized to negotiate a treaty with the United States, wherein the concession, etc., be made in terms." These are two very different things. One is an agreement to do the thing; the other would merely authorize the Government of Cuba to do it if it saw fit. The explanation further emasculates the clause by tacking to it a provision for a reciprocity treaty at the same time; that is, it makes the sale or lease of coaling stations dependent upon a reciprocity treaty satisfactory to Cuba.

The whole subject will be laid before the President as soon as possible after his arrival here on Thursday, when I will communicate with you further.

I have today cabled you, in cipher, as follows:

> "I do not think that the passage of the proposed appendix to the constitution, as transmitted to me by you, would be such an acceptance of the Platt amendment as to authorize the President's withdrawing the army from Cuba under the provisions of the Platt amendment. Letter mailed today."

Very truly yours,

ELIHU ROOT

Secretary of War.

Major General Leonard Wood,

Military Governor of Cuba,

Havana, Cuba.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT

ITEM XXVIII

Copy of cablegram sent in cipher 8:45 P.M.

War Department, Washington,

May 28, 1901.

Wood,

Havana.

I do not think that the passage of the proposed appendix to the constitution as transmitted to me by you would be such an acceptance of the Platt amendment as to authorize the President's withdrawing the army from Cuba under the provisions of the Platt amendment. Letter mailed today.

ROOT

SecWar.

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Copy of cablegram received 8:28 P.M. May 28, 1901.

Havana, May 28, 1901.

Elihu Root,

Secretary of War, Washington.

The Platt amendment has just passed the Convention. Vote fifteen for and fourteen against. Vote does not indicate true sentiment, as some voted against it believing such action will help them in municipal elections Saturday, and knowing that there were fifteen votes surely for it. Two members absent.

WOOD

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Copy of cablegram received 11:33 P.M. May 28, 1901.

Havana, May 28, 1901.

SecWar,

Washington.

The appendix to the constitution, as approved and passed today by the Convention, was in the form sent you Sunday without change.

WOOD

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Copy of cablegram received May 29th, 1901, 11:10 P.M.

Havana.

Elihu Root,

Secretary of War, Washington.

Everything quiet The acceptance of the Platt amendment has produced general feeling of relief period I consider Conants proposition inadvisable It is based upon a case in which he is attorney No other appeal in similar case presented to me to my knowledge since appointment as Military Governor period Will send you written statement of situation in all that relates to these conditional sales.

WOOD

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Copy of cablegram received June 1, 1901, from Gen. Wood.

Palace, Havana, Cuba,
June 1, 1901.

SecWar,

Washington.

When I sent you my telegram in cipher May 22, to the effect that the Platt amendment would be accepted verbatim with explanatory remarks not limiting on the amendment I stated exactly what had been told me by Tamayo and Capote representing the Majority of the Committee drawing up the report in favor of the amendment. You answered in your telegram to me of the 23rd that this was satisfactory and stated that nothing should be included which would modify the provisions of the amendment otherwise President could not act etc. I saw Committee and telegraphed you again on 23rd that remarks were general and could not be construed as limitations of the amendment. This was the fact at that time as they stated that they were explanatory remarks and not in the form of conditions limiting the scope of the amendment. The amendment as transmitted to you Sunday, the 26th, was as careful a translation as could be made in the short time available and is believed to be sufficiently accurate. This is quite different from original statement of Majority of Committee as to character of appendix. They now state the changes were made to gain the votes of certain Radical members who otherwise would have objected to amendment. Your cipher telegram of Tuesday the 28th was received at nine fifteen P.M. in Havana but the amendment with remarks had been accepted the same day at about six P.M. statements in yesterday afternoon papers indicating that amendment as passed could not be accepted caused considerable excitement. Tamayo, and Capote naturally feel a certain amount of responsibility having positively pledged the passing of the amendment and further declaring it would be passed without remarks in any way limiting its scope. They now claim that amendment has been accepted literally and that the explanations and declarations made are only to be taken into

consideration

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

consideration when the treaty is to be finally made. This looks peculiar and indicates either insincerity or failure to appreciate what they have done. I have called to their attention the fact that your conversation with them was understood not to be taken as an official declaration of the Government and when taking notes they informed you that they were taking them for discussion among themselves. Moreover it will be remembered that they proposed a new form for the third and seventh clauses which I telegraphed you. I showed them your answer and urged upon them your opinion that the exact words of the Platt amendment should be used and that if they had any explanations to make to add them, that the law must not be changed this is the entire situation up to the present moment. If the blame must fall it must fall upon them for making the use which they have on their visit to Washington. Your confidential letter of the 28th just received. I concur in your opinions. The use of your explanations which were stated to be unofficial is clearly bad faith no other construction can be put upon it. Their statement to me which I sent you that the explanations would not modify or limit the scope of the amendment have not been kept. Whether it is absolute bad faith or inability to appreciate that no one can interpret the scope of the Platt amendment except Congress I do not know. So far as turning over the Government goes it will in any case take at the least calculation a year after the passing of the amendment.

WOOD

11:35 A.M.

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Copy of cablegram received June 1, 1901, from Gen. Wood.

Havana, Cuba.

SecWar, Washington.

Have you any instructions?

WOOD

11:39 A.M.

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Copy of Cablegram received June 1, 1901, from Gen. Wood.

Havana, June 1, 1901.

SecWar,

Washington.

I am informed that the official text of the appendix to the Constitution as passed will be submitted to me on Monday. Municipal elections are taking place quietly in Havana. No reports of trouble from the country up to hour of sending this.

WOOD

12:35 P.M.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Copy of Cablegram sent by direct wire 1:35 P.M.

WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington, June 1, 1901.

Wood,

Havana.

Letter of instruction mailed today, following line of my letter of twenty-eighth.

ROOT

SecWar.

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Copy of Cablegram.

Havana, June 2, 1901.

Adjutant General, Washington.

Elections throughout Cuba yesterday. No disturbance reported. Everything quiet.

WOOD

Military Governor.

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Copy of Cablegram received 11 P.M., June 6, 1901.

Havana, Cuba, June 6, 1901.

Secretary of War,

Washington.

Your letter of May 31st received by registered mail today. Delay in delivery on account of registration. Pardon my expressing my opinion very frankly. I want to present the situation fully before sending your letter to Convention. You say bring this letter to the notice of the Convention. Do you mean to transmit it officially and fully? I have shown the letter to Dr. Capote the President of the Convention. He feels that to transmit the whole letter will open a new field for endless discussion. Every memeber will try to answer your arguments. The question here is and the sentiment is to bring about a vote as to whether the Platt amendment be accepted as written or rejected. I believe this to be the best action to take. The vote will be a close one, but nothing will be gained by further discussion. I hesitate to express any opinion or make any prediction after the experience of the past two weeks, but those here interested in the Cuban Government realize that its inception is delayed and jeopardized by further delay and discussion and a distinct direct statement that calls for a yes or no answer to the amendment I believe to be the best policy. Telegram of

May 17th

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

May 17th quoted in your letter was the result of an individual canvass of the Convention by Dr. Capote, and represented the sentiment at that time which was 20 to 10 in favor of the amendment. The Committee on Relations are afraid of an explosion in the Convention if it is known and officially stated that they transmitted the proposed resolution of the Convention to Washington prior to its formal presentation to the whole Convention. I should suggest sending to the Convention that portion of your letter commencing with the words "The operative part of the resolution", and ending with the words "So change provisions as accepted that they are no longer the same either in form or substance". The balance of the letter, in my opinion, is going to put the Committee on the defensive for having had any telegraphic relations with Washington, and I think embarrass and delay the whole matter. The main thing now is to hold together the votes we have got. If the Committee get into a row with the rest of the Convention it is bound to throw the majority against the amendment. The transmission of the whole letter is a policy which I do not think it is well to adopt. I will transmit the entire letter to the President of the Committee on Relations and bring it to the notice of other members in a semi-official manner so they may read and consider the arguments therein stated or send it all to the Convention as you direct.

WOOD

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Copy of Cablegram received 11:27 P.M. June 6, 1901.

Havana, June 6, 1901.

Secretary of War,

Washington.

No doubt that the Committee realizes that their action in quoting you was unauthorized, moreover they stated that they would wait your reply as to acceptability of proposed appendix before voting on it, which they did not do. Hence their objection to having to hold matter fully discussed. Political situation in the island absolutely quiet.

WOOD

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Copy of Cablegram Received 10:41 A.M., June 6, 1901.

SecWar,

Washington.

Official letter of instructions not yet arrived. When was it mailed. Much anxiety in Convention to receive instructions.

WOOD

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Copy of Cablegram.

WAR DEPARTMENT, Washington,

June 6, 1901.

Wood,

Havana.

Letter mailed to you Saturday, June first. Registered number twenty-nine eighty-three.

ROOT

SecWar.

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Telephone message from Post Office Department in regard to letter of May 31st sent to General Wood:

That piece left here on June 2nd, at 12:30 P.M., pouched to Jacksonville, Florida, under the Washington No. 28700. It was mailed at Station C on June 1st, but too late for the afternoon despatch of that day, so it went on the next day in pouch, with padlock, L, 941, Rotary 495.

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Copy of Cablegram sent in cipher 4:45 P.M., June 7, 1901.

WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington, June 7, 1901.

Wood,

Havana.

Answering your dispatch of last night, our purpose is to have the Convention understand how the President would consider it his duty to act in case no other action should be taken by them than that of which we have been advised by you. The portion of my letter of May thirty-first, specified in your dispatch of last night, appears to fully convey that information. You should deliver a copy of that portion of my letter to the Chairman of the Committee on Relations. This, in addition to what you have already done, and the personal use you propose, would seem to be all that is required to advise the Convention. The views expressed in your dispatch are approved.

ROOT

SecWar.

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Copy of Cablegram received June 8, 1901.

Palace, Havana, Cuba.

Secretary of War,
Washington.

Following

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Following is my letter of transmittal. I want you to see it before sending. It is brief but I think it clear and sufficient.

Honorable Diego Tamayo, President of the "Committee on Relations". Cuban Constitutional Convention, Havana, Cuba, June 8.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit herewith the following statement received June 6, 1901, from the Honorable the Secretary of War of the United States of America, in which he states that the appendix to the Cuban Constitution as passed by the Cuban Constitutional Convention May 28, 1901, is not such an acceptance of the provisions of the law called "The Platt amendment" as will authorize the President to withdraw the Army from Cuba under that statute.

Then comes the extract from your letter.

Then I conclude in these words: Quote, "All of which is transmitted for your consideration and action. With renewal expression of highest esteem."

Very respectfully,

(signed) LEONARD WOOD,

Military Governor.

WOOD

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WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington, June 8, 1901.

Wood,

Havana.

Your letter as cabled today is approved. The true course for the Convention to follow is to enact the provisions of the Platt amendment just as they are.

ROOT

SecWar.

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Copy of Cablegram received 2:56 P.M. June 13, 1901.

Havana, June 13, 1901.

SecWar, Washington.

Am informed this morning by Tamayo that Platt amendment was passed and accepted yesterday exactly as written, without any change or modification whatever. Vote sixteen in favor and eleven against.

WOOD

Military Governor.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Copy of Cablegram received in cipher 7:40 P.M.

Havana, June 12th, 1901.

Elihu Root,

SecWar, Rhode Island Avenue, Washington.

Quesada reports the acceptance by the Convention this afternoon of the Platt amendment without modification by vote of sixteen to eleven.

WOOD

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Washington, D. C.,June 13, 1901.

Hon. Elihu Root,

Secretary of War, Buffalo, N. Y.

Following cable received from General Wood last evening and repeated to you at Clinton, N. Y.:

"Quesada reports the acceptance by the Convention this afternoon of the Platt amendment without modification by vote of sixteen to eleven."

F. C. SQUIRES

Confidential Clerk.

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Copy of Cablegram received 1:46 P.M.

Havana, June 14, 1901.

SecWar,

Washington.

Following from Constitutional Convention dated yesterday Quote: The Military Governor of Cuba Honorable Sir: Replying to your official letter of the eighth instant forwarding to me the report of the Hon. The Secretary of War dated May 31st last I have the honor to advise you that at the session held yesterday June twelfth by the Constitutional Convention there was taken the following resolution the Constitutional Convention proceeding in conformity with the order from the Military Governor of the Island dated July twenty-fifth nineteen hundred whereby same was convened has determined to add and does add to the Constitution of the Republic of Cuba adopted on the twenty first of February last the following appendix bracket (then follows the Platt amendment without any change whatever) bracket with assurances of the highest consideration very respectfully the President Domingo Mendez Capote. End Quote.

WOOD

Military Governor.

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DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Copy of Cablegram received 2 P.M.

Havana, June 14th, 1901.

SecWar,

Washington.

Telegrams from Different parts of the Island indicate that straight acceptance of the Platt amendment produced very favorable result work on electoral law will commence at once situation excellent.

WOOD

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DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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CONFIDENTIAL

2900-b

G-2 Report

ASST. CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. DIV.

CUBA (Social) 4/ 2657-C-79

Subject: Propaganda of Domestic Origin.

NOV 18 1929
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 16 1929 WAR DEPARTMENT

1. Since May 20, 1929, the date of the re-inauguration of President Machado, there has been evident to those who follow the newspapers in Havana, an undercurrent of anti-American feeling that frequently breaks forth in editorial tirades against the United States. To understand the true situation, the following factors must be taken into consideration:

a. The press is completely dominated, when not actually controlled, by the government and hence the editorial tone of the press is an accurate reflection of the government's attitude.

b. Beginnings of this anti-American sentiment can be dated with satisfactory accuracy to the beginning of President Machado's second term. A study of the files in the Embassy of communications received from General Machado in 1925 and 1926 as compared with the few that have been received in 1929 is interesting from the point of view of the subservient tone of these notes of the period 1925-26 as compared with the tone of the notes of more recent date. Also, within the past three months the Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy tried unsuccessfully for a month to obtain an interview with the President on a matter which the State Department had instructed him to take up personally with him. While the President agreed to see the Chargé d'Affaires on several occasions and an hour was set for the meeting, the appointment was always cancelled at the last minute.

c. A number of acts of the government of the United States during the last year of President Machado's first term gave to a large majority of the Cuban people the idea that the American Government was firmly behind the Machado administration. I have repeatedly heard cited by Cubans of various degrees of political thought the fact that the American Government gave tacit consent by its silence to the Prorogue Law of 1928, although it had intervened when President Zayas had tried to enact practically the same law; the United States Government approved the Chase National Bank's $50,000,000 "advance;" President Coolidge came to Cuba as a gesture to President Machado; and finally, in what appeared as a stamp of approval on Machado's regime, the American Government appointed a special Ambassador for his re-inauguration.

On the other hand, various activities of the American Government and American citizens since May 1929 have undoubtedly created a great deal of antaganism in Cuba: the sugar rate of the proposed new tariff bill, the revival of activity in the Barlow case, and the publicity given the possible investigation of Cuban affairs by the Foreign Relations Committee of the United States Senate.

d. Finally, there should be borne in mind that this anti-American campaign is general and not limited to any particular subject or group of subjects. The newspaper editorials, which will be cited later in this article, attack: the Platt Amendment, the Reciprocity Treaty, the proposed tariff rate on sugar, American citizens who are claimants against the Cuban Government, the use of the English language, American diplomacy and, as always, "The Colossus of the North."

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3153. Date: November 12, 1929.

DECLASSIFIED
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2. In order to properly balance these factors and give them their proper interpretation, I am briefly summarizing some of the editorials which I consider representative from among those which have appeared during the month of October in the Havana newspapers. These are attached hereto as inclosures to this report.

3. The interpretation placed on this anti-American campaign is to be drawn not solely from surface appearances. In sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph One of this report, I reviewed various acts of the United States Government which have been interpreted, certainly by the Cuban populace, and possibly by the administration, as evidence of our support. The economic depression of Cuba and certain signs of political unrest make it appear that the present administration could ill afford to dispense with the friendly backing of the United States Government. That this is fully appreciated by the Machado administration is borne out by a report from reliable sources that when the news of a possible investigation of Cuban affairs by the Foreign Relations Committee of the American Senate reached Cuba, it created a tremendous sensation at the Presidential Palace.

4. From anti-administration sources, it has been learned, although full credence cannot be given to this report, that an agreement has been reached between President Machado and an American newspaper editor for the establishment of a New York office for the dissemination to the American newspapers of propaganda favorable to Cuba and to the administration of President Machado. According to the reported agreement, the office in New York should have no connection with the government of Cuba or with any American interests in Cuba, but should function simply as one of the activities of THE HAVANA POST. The reported agreement further specifies that an endeavor should be made along the following lines:

a. Continually keeping before the American public the fact that the present administration is the best Cuba has ever had; demonstrate that it can be compared favorably with the most progressive democracies; compare articles on the subject of its great construction program, sanitation, education, etc.
b. The helpful attitude of the government of Cuba in assisting the United States in its Pan-American policy.
c. Demonstrate that under the government of President Machado the administration of justice is as exact and as equitable as in the United States.
d. Keep constantly before the American public the personality and successes of President Machado.
e. Put an end to assistance given in the United States to "agitators" of the type of Barlow, Iturralde (former Secretary of War), and the Director of LA SEMANA.

5. Conclusion: In view of the above cited facts, it is my belief that the present administration wishes to incite a feeling of distrust in the United States among the populace of Cuba and at the same time create among the general public of the United States a feeling of trust in Cuba. If the anti-American campaign bears fruit in Cuba, the administration can well turn those who are discontented on account of economic and political conditions in Cuba from these factors

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by a reference to "The Colossus of the North." Already there are signs that the present administration is trying to put the blame of the economic situation on the policy of the United States on the Reciprocity Treaty, which it is continually claiming benefits only the United States; and the American business interests which dominate the economic life of Cuba. In like manner, the press excuses any dictatorial methods of the Machado administration on the ground that these methods are necessary to protect Cuban liberty and independence against the aggressiveness of the United States.

6. The above factors are submitted as being worthy of consideration as the situation continues to develop in Cuba.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and Confidential.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3153. Date: November 12, 1929.

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HERALDO DE CUBA, October 3. - Speech of Dr. Carlos Miguel de Cespedes, Secretary of Public Works, at a luncheon of the American Chamber of Commerce of Cuba: "Cuba has faith in its noble friend, the American people. Cuba believes in the loyalty of the sons of Washington and Lincoln - - - - Cuba never in the future would accept without grief and protest any foreign action which limits its rights as a free, independent, and sovereign nation."

DIARIO DE LA MARINA, October 5. - In accepting the Pan-American Arbitration Treaty of January 5, 1929, one of the most important and happy consequences of the recent Pan-American Congress in Havana, the United States offered to America and the entire world proof of good faith, respect for the principles of justice, and consideration for the Republics of this hemisphere; and now, in applying the precepts of the Pan-American Arbitration Treaty to the Charles J. Harrah claim, the United States Department of State makes good its agreements and demonstrates that it is disposed to treat the Republics of the new world as equals, in sharp contrast with the reported attitude of the Foreign Relations Committee of the United States Senate.

HERALDO DE CUBA, October 7. - In those moments the personality of Mr. Stimson has occupied our attention in connection with the unjust reclamations which they (Barlow and other claimants) have made from the Cuban Government; and the illustrious chancellor of the United States, giving once again evidence of his equity and good judgment, maintaining his pleasing pronouncement, maximum guarantee of our sovereignty, that, whatever the action of the United States be in the problems of Central America, these republics must never again suffer an annulment of their legitimate rights as free nations, has acted in such an offensive matter without hurting our sovereignty. Cuba feels for Mr. Stimson, as she feels for other American statesmen, a true and sincere esteem.

DIARIO DE LA MARINA, October 11. - Tiburcio Castañeda editorially flays the United States for alleged meddling in controversies between Latin-American countries, referring particularly to American intervention in disputes between Chile and Peru and between Bolivia and Paraguay. Claiming that, while a Pan-American Union is maintained at Washington where no Spanish-American country will ever have occasion to settle anything, the United States invades the field of all disputes between Latin-American Republics, he objects to Pan-Americanism, because, he says, Latin-American countries have no fear whatever of being dismembered by Europe, but do fear that dismemberment will come from the northern part of this hemisphere.

LA POLITICA COMICA, October 13.- A cartoon, in which the Statue of Liberty, holding in one hand a funnel, in the other a sugar beet, and a tablet on which are inscribed the words, "Platt Amendment, Reciprocity Treaty, and Sugar Tariff," tramples on a prostrate Cuba.

EXCELSIOR-EL PAIS, October 13. - A parallel is developed between the situation of France, living in constant fear of German invasion, and that of Cuba, with the Florida Straits to the Rhine. It is said that there are still interests in the United States unresigned to an independent Cuba, who dream of annexation. The more efficient and honest the Cuban Government, the greater their fury, because they feel that the prize is escaping; and that is the significance of the present campaign against Cuba.

(Enclosure to Report No. 3153, November 12, 1929).

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EXCELSIOR-EL PAIS, October 14. - Wishing to humble Cuba in order to serve their greediness and their hidden designs, the imperialists, the annexationists, the partisans of a regime of colonization and protectionism in the Caribbean Sea, are blemishing the resplendent history of the Northern Confederation.

No one should be mistaken on this point: when the forces of imperialism raise a great outcry concerning the policy toward Cuba - as is actually happening - they are not attempting to assist us, nor to save us, although they pretend that the whole time; the salvation and the assistance which would come from them, would be our dishonor and our death, if Cuba were capable of tolerating it."

EL MUNDO, October 15. - WHAT IS INTERVENTION? - "Do you want to know what the policy of intervention in Haiti proposes to accomplish? To overcome mistrust it would be natural to claim that the United States was watching over its liberty and democracy, insisting on and stimulating the scrupulous fulfillment of the Haitian Constitution; and, by its advice and watchfulness, planting there a regime of citizenship. But it is to the contrary, and it will not be at all agreeable at any future time for the United States to consider its conduct towards the unfortunate republic of Haiti."

DIARIO DE LA MARINA, October 19. - Can it be that all Cubans are traitors, or is there a reason for this exodus to Washington, the new promised land for political rebels against the Government? Yes, there is a reason, and it is none other than the Platt Amendment, which amends nothing and makes the Cuban a fatalist, without faith, without will power, and without illusions as to the future. President Machado should persist in his efforts to remove this defect from the constitution, in order to put an end to useless caravans to the White House, where not the interests of Cuba but the interests of the forty-eight States of the Union are considered.

THE NEWS, October 19, states editorially: Cuba would be willing to accept a higher duty on sugar if the duty rebate were increased, and should be talking reciprocity and closer commercial relations, instead of trying to foment opposition, hate, distrust, and even a conflict. Agitation here to create that hate, suspicion and distrust is the worst thing that could be attempted. In conclusion, it is regrettable that some claiming to be Americans are taking a leading part in the anti-American agitation."

POLITICA COMICA, October 20. - OUR FRIENDS AND OUR ENEMIES. - We have continued, until now, to suffer resignedly all types of American impositions. We have opened our markets to their products. We have placed at their disposal our richness in sugar when they have asked for it. We have made with them overpowering treaties of commerce without making a protest. We have sold to them our sugar Centrals and our great industries in order that they might do with them what they wished. We have mortgaged our credit and we pay promptly the interest on their loans. What more do they wish? Our liberty? Certainly not that! We will defend it with the same blood and with the same life with which we conquered it."

HERALDO DE CUBA, October 22. - OPPOSITION ON NATIVE SOIL. - That is to say, that the opposition is not successful in destroying the present situation of order and of merit; and, in the impossibility of basing their attacks on pretexts capable of impressing Cuban public opinion, they have decided to fabricate fabulous stories, falsehoods, and intrigues, in conjunction with a half-dozen grasping foreigners bent on attacking our Treasury, with the vile hope of impressing the official

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opinion of a friendly nation, whose policy, until now, has been in accord with tradition, with harmony, with fraternity, and with mutual respect toward the Cuban nation."

EL POPULAR of Sagua la Grande, in an editorial reproduced in the POST of October 22, states: "It seems as if the United States is bent on destroying the friendship and admiration of the Cuban people, every governmental or legislative action of the past six months seeming to be a well directed effort to destroy Cuba economically and subdue her sovereignty by impoverishing and making slaves out of the Cubans."

HERALDO DE CUBA, October 24. - The offense committed by the Cubans who, within and without the country, conspire against the stability of our institutions, and under cover create sinister conspiracies under the protection of ambitious foreigners, to provoke an intervention which belittles us, does not have within the known legal codes an equal in magnitude to the harm which it entails. And it is necessary to insist on these truths in order that the reaction of national sentiment, now so vigorous, may prepare for all possibilities; live alert to all contingencies; and formulate, in the face of the perils which a repetition of that conduct would bring to Cuba, a policy of exemplification and of punishment which may root up the seed of intervention from the public conscience.

POLITICA COMICA, November 3, 1929. - CUBAN GOSSIP.

An American Commission of Investigation is coming.

It is known from good sources that a battleship will arrive the coming week.

Regino Lopez has told me that there is a terrible Note that has been delivered by the Attache.

Two Americans are already in the Palace.

There is going to be hell to pay.

The President of Cuba will be Mendez Capote, supported by Juan Gualberto Gomez.

And in this guise, according to the imagination of the person telling the story, such stupendous news goes about that were it not for the indignation it causes, it would make us laugh.

The funniest thing about all this is that if one asks oneself what this is due to, there is no explanation at hand.

Never have the relations between the governments of Cuba and the United States been more cordial.

The proclamation of General Machado was attended by a Special Mission from the United States as well as from the other nations. Mr. Hoover heartily congratulated our president on his reelection, and has accredited a new Ambassador.

In the matter of political economy both governments are acting in perfect harmony without paying attention to the shouts of private interests.

Cuba religiously fulfils its duty to America by paying the principal and interest on its bans.

The claims of a civil nature established against Cuba have been submitted to arbitration as is the practice established between friendly governments.

The Americans were represented during the constitutional assembly approving the amendments without raising any objection or protest.

Where, then, are the reasons for this whispering campaign which is frightening and surprising everyone, due to the tales of the gossips of all ages and of all political situations?

(Enclosure to Report No. 3153, November 12, 1929).

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The reasons are that we Cubans are that way.

Let it suffice that there be in Cuba and out of Cuba a few malcontents who pass away their ennui by writing proclamations, editing news sheets, sending anonymous communications, and startling the credulity of certain people with terrible threats to make us believe that a cataclysm is to occur. And inasmuch as we are so impressionable, we listen to all this foblishness, we exaggerate it, we tell it in a different way to our friends, and the snow ball of our own collective dismemberment goes rolling along, even carried on its course by persons with college degrees and those who, due to their social position, should know better.

Nothing has happened and nothing is going to happen.

Cuba is a sovereign nation and is governed without the intervention or the threat of anyone, and without the need of the sending of Commissions of Investigation to dig up papers and interfere in matters not their business.

Our institutions are respected as we respect those of others; and we live without any fear of foreign aggression, which is entirely unjustified.

These are no more than worthless tales made to frighten fools and the cowardly.

Let us be sensible gentlemen, and instead of listening to so much bunk, let us get down to work.

(Enclosure to Report No. 3153, November 12, 1929).

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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Date 2-24-69

G-2 Report 4-1 2900-b

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Propaganda of Domestic Origin.

JAN 26 1930
2657-G-29
WAR DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 24 1930

1. During Ambassador Ferrara's recent visit to Cuba, our American Ambassador had several informal conversations with him. During these conversations Mr. Ferrara brought up the question of a new commercial treaty with the United States and Cuba and expressed the opinion that any attempt of industrialization of Cuba would be a mistake and would be unsuccessful, due to the fact that despite the soundness of an attempt to develop resources other than sugar and tobacco, nevertheless these two crops have always been and probably will continue to be the backbone of the Cuban economic system. He suggested a plan which would permit the free entry of a certain percentage of Cuban sugar into the United States and, reciprocally, the free entry into Cuba of a certain percentage of industrial items now exported by the United States to Cuba. However, he agreed with our Ambassador that pending the tariff legislation now before our Congress, nothing should be done at this time.

2. Our Ambassador took the opportunity during one of these conversations to state that it had been a source of great regret to him to find in Cuba anti-American propaganda to such an extent as to blame the United States for all Cuban economic ills. He further pointed out to Mr. Ferrara that our duty on sugar was much less than that of practically every country in the world and that, in addition, there was a 20 percent reduction in favor of Cuban sugar. He further called to Ambassador Ferrara's attention the fact that the United States had always displayed its friendship for Cuba and that it seemed to him the more one did the more was expected, and the less it was appreciated. Ambassador Ferrara stated that he had noticed anti-American propaganda in Cuba and attributed it to the following sources:

a. The press is largely in the hands of Spaniards. Spanish propaganda was discussed at great length, Ambassador Ferrara pointing out that at present there were three representatives in the Cuban Congress who are Spaniards, just recently naturalized as Cubans. The American Ambassador stated that President Machado was about to accompany the Spanish Ambassador to Santiago for the dedication of a monument to the Spanish heroes of the Spanish American War and that he knew of no place in our country where a single monument had been erected to the English who had fought in the American War of Independence.

b. Catholicism has considerable control over the press and that the Catholic Church appeared to oppose too close a relationship with the United States, a Protestant country.

c. Certain intellectuals, who have a common bond with their fellow writers throughout Latin America, have always seized every opportunity to write in unfriendly terms of the United States.

3. Of the above named factors, the Spanish propaganda appears to be the most important one, evidences of their work constantly appearing in the Cuban Press, and in view of Cuba's comparatively recent release from the Spanish throne, it is difficult to conceive why this

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3213. Date: Jan. 20, 1930.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

type of propaganda should thrive. However, the fact that many Cubans today have relatives of first or second degree now living in Spain appears to be the best explanation for it.

J. V. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3213. Date: Jan.20, 1930.

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CUBA (Social)

Subject: Propaganda of Domestic Origin.
Principal Newspapers and Important Periodicals.

WAR DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUL 23 1930

1. Two events in the United States which have caused adverse criticism in the Cuban press are listed below:

a. Admission of Japanese to Cuba: Considerable adverse criticism was voiced in the Cuban press as a result of reports that Congressman O'Conner, of Louisiana, had requested the American Secretary of State to invoke the Platt Amendment in order to compel Cuba to abrogate its recent agreement with Japan, in which Japanese subjects are accorded equality of treatment with other foreign nationals as respects admission to and residence in Cuba. The American Secretary's reply to this inquiry, as reported in the local press here, elicited very favorable comment, but some of the papers took advantage of the occasion to exert the sovereign right of Cuba and EL MUNDO bitterly arraigned Mr. O'Conner for "having spoken in an unheard of manner of the right of the United States to veto this agreement."

b. U. S. Policy in Nicaragua: Captain Johnson's appointment as Supervisor of Elections in Nicaragua with rank of Envoy Extraordinary, together with reports of an encounter between U. S. Marines and forces of Sandino at San Pedro, Nicaragua, prompted the Cuban press to publish editorials attacking our intervention in that country. As usual, EL MUNDO was the most caustic of all in its remarks. An editorial entitled: "The American Imperialistic Policy Continues its March," stated that "Nicaragua should have descended in the conception of the protecting powers of the United States to such a low point that there should be selected an Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of that great nation to this small and unhappy Central American Republic, a simple, plain and modest Captain of the Yankee Navy." The other editorial which referred especially to the engagement between Sandino and the Nicaraguan National Guard under Colonel McDougal stated in part as follows: "It does not matter that undefended towns, that neutrals, as well as foreign villages, suffer the consequences: the airplanes manned by North American officers and soldiers continue their work of devastation. The important thing is that Sandino .... shall perish; since he cannot be conquered, it is necessary to kill him." Continuing, it stated: "We do not doubt that at any moment the Captain will inform us of the American people's protest against the conduct of Colonel McDougal, since it is impossible that the people who generously protested against the murders of the authors of the reconcentration (in Cuba) and with its money and lives contributed to the freedom and constitution of the new Republic in America should regard impassively these gallantries of the persecutors of Sandino."

2. While these comments are made by a newspaper whose known policy is a very strong anti-American one, it should be borne in mind that it has the largest circulation in Cuba and, consequently, its almost continuous attacks against everything American is bound to have some effect on the public's feeling toward the United States. An interesting feature of this paper's policy is that its owner, Ralph Govin, has spent practically all of his life in the United States and is himself half American, his mother being a native born American citizen.

F. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Sources: Embassy, Press, and
Personal Observation.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. ~~11~~ Date: July 18, 1930.

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NOV 29 1929

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WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Current Activities in Foreign Countries.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 27 1929

1. On October 17, 1929, there was signed a Consular Treaty between Cuba and Panama, the main provisions of which are briefly as follows:

a. Consuls of either country will not enter upon the discharge of their duties until they receive a proper Exequatur or a provisional recognition.

b. Once the Exequatur or provisional recognition has been issued, consuls will enjoy all the rights, immunities, prerogatives and exemptions granted by this treaty and those enjoyed by the nation having the character of most favored.

c. The consular officers will obey the laws and respect the local authorities subject thereto in all acts not in relation with their official functions. These officers are not subject to arrest except in case of the commission of a felony. They may be summoned as witnesses in criminal cases.

d. In civil matters the consular officers are subject to the jurisdiction of the courts except that when they are nationals of the nation they represent and not engaged in business in the country in which they are acting, they will be heard in private at their own offices.

e. They are exempt from local jurisdiction in acts executed with an official character in the discharge of their duties. In the event that an individual is damaged by such acts, he shall place the matter before his government in order to press a diplomatic claim.

f. The office and files and records are inviolable and when the consul is engaged in his business, he shall keep his consular files and records in a separate place.

g. Consular officers are exempt from all taxes except when engaged in business.

h. Consular offices shall not be considered places of asylum and consuls shall deliver to the local authorities delinquents who seek refuge in their offices.

i. Chancellors and consular employees are authorized temporarily to assume consular functions, in the case of death or absence or inability of the titular officer.

j. Consuls may address the authorities to seek protection for citizens of their country.

k. When there is no diplomatic representative, the consular officer of the highest rank will be permitted to discharge certain diplomatic duties.

l. Consuls may take testimony in their offices or elsewhere of captains of vessels of their nation, crew and passengers. When the laws of their respective nationality so permit, they may discharge notarial duties, but the documents so prepared by them will have only such force as is permitted by said laws.

m. They will have jurisdiction in maritime controversies arising in connection with vessels of their nation, such as claims for wages, etc. They will receive all possible aid from the local police authorities in all such maritime controversies.

n. In case of death of one of their nationals, they shall take charge of the property left until the estate is settled.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3161. Date: Nov. 20, 1929.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

o. They may inspect vessels departing for their nation in order to see that sanitary regulations have been complied with.

p. They will be granted free entry for their furniture, household effects and office supplies, as well as their personal baggage and that of their families and retinue except with reference to articles of prohibited importation. (This prerogative will not be granted to consular officers engaged in business.)

q. They will direct all operation of salvaging vessels of their nation and will receive all aid from the local authorities for so doing.

r. They will cease in office on notification from their respective governments or by a request from said government to issue an Exequatur for another consular officer, or by withdrawal of the Exequatur.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3161. Date: Nov. 20, 1929.

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Executive Department.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 27 1929

1. Dr. Gutierrez de Celis, whose resignation as Secretary of the Treasury was accepted on October 16, 1929, has been appointed Consulting Attorney of the Executive Mansion at a salary of $6,000 per annum. In addition to this, he has been appointed an instructor at the Industrial School at the town of President Machado. The salary for this last named position is not known.

2. Both the above named appointments are purely political ones which, it is believed, require little or no work and were made in order to keep loyal to the present administration the small following of Dr. Gutierrez de Celis.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3169. Date: Nov. 22, 1929.

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RECEIVED APR 1930
2657-G-301

G-2 Report

3850-c
WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: National Reaction toward Monroe Doctrine.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. APR 1 1930

1. A recent government publication entitled "Memorandum of Monroe Doctrine," prepared by J. Reuben Clark, has received but little comment on the part of the Cuban press. However, on March 16, 1930, DIARIO DE LA MARINA commented editorially on this publication, the English translation of which is enclosed herewith.

2. The author of this editorial, Tiburcio Castaneda, is a Spaniard who writes regularly for the DIARIO DE LA MARINA. He was at one time a Senator in Spain and is believed to have entertained hopes that his country may some day exert a preponderating influence in the affairs of Spain's former colonies. His comments in the press have been at all times unfavorable to the United States.

3. In the present article he lays special emphasis on the official character of the memorandum and interprets conclusions drawn by Mr. Clark as clearly indicating that the Monroe Doctrine is and should remain a dead letter.

Source: Embassy.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3242. Date: March 24, 1930.

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Translation - From: DIARIO DE LA MARINA - March 16, 1930.
Editorial by Tiburcio Castaneda.

OF HOW THE MONROE DOCTRINE IS MOLLIFIED

Although it seems that the United States of North America has, during the last four years, intervened in Mexico and in Haiti, it should be noted that the intervention in Mexico was, perhaps more properly called, a cooperation between the American Ambassador Morrow, in fulfillment of orders and advice of Secretary of State Kellogg and President Coolidge, and President Calles, of Mexico.

Therefore, President Coolidge, the Sub-Secretary (sic) of State Mr. Kellogg and Ambassador Morrow, on the part of the United States, and President Calles in behalf of Mexico, collaborated in this new aspect of the Monroe Doctrine.

It must be clearly established that in the cooperation of the two nations, it was not only a question of mollifying the Monroe Doctrine quietly and secretly; the United States acted in an official manner.

The Minister, or Secretary of State, Mr. Kellogg, prompted by a great desire for world peace, endorsed the project of Aristides Briand, which had remained in a state of infancy, and President Coolidge and Secretary Kellogg did not cease to cooperate until the Briand-Kellogg Treaty of Peace was signed in Paris on July 30, 1928. Even today, if that Treaty could be injected into the London Naval Conference, the latter might be saved from becoming a failure.

Working in favor of the modification of the Monroe Doctrine effected during the Presidency of Mr. Coolidge was the circumstance that President Roosevelt had placed his hands upon the Monroe Doctrine in the document called the "Corollary of 1905" which did not arise out of the pristine Monroe Doctrine, but from Roosevelt's desire to prevent the interference of Germany in the affairs of Venezuela.

But as later on the new President of the Supreme Court of the United States, Mr. Charles Evans Hughes, who was a decided interventionist, went so far as to say in an address delivered in the United States in 1926, "that since the opening of the Panama Canal it was necessary to extend the Monroe Doctrine more effectively to all the nations washed by the Caribbean Sea", it was necessary that a pacifist President like Mr. Coolidge, and a Secretary who followed his views, like Mr. Kellogg, should mollify that interventionist Doctrine which caused the United States to be looked upon with distrust by the Spanish American nations, and President Coolidge specially commissioned Mr. Reuben Clark, who was sub-Secretary of State, to undertake the task which was also imposed by the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate of the United States, directing him to state how the United States construed the Monroe Doctrine today, and Mr. Clark's work was addressed to the Secretary of State, Mr. Kellogg.

I have stated all the above to show that it was not possible to deprive this description of the Monroe Doctrine in 1928 of an official character, especially in view of the fact that the Government Printing Office published it as a document of the State Department.

Mr. Clark affirms that the agreements entered into by the United States during the last few years with Spanish-American countries (he calls them Latin-American countries), such as Cuba, Santo Domingo, Haiti and Nicaragua, do not fall within the sphere of the Monroe Doctrine, but are the expression of a national policy which, like the Monroe Doctrine itself, is based on the necessity of safety and preservation fixed by Roosevelt in 1905 in the so-called Roosevelt's Corollary of the Monroe Doctrine, in connection with the Protocol of the debt of the Dominican Republic of 1904.

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The object of the said Corollary was that in case of financial difficulties, or difficulties of any other nature, of the Spanish-American republics, the United States should try to come to an understanding with said republics in order that European nations might not intervene, as this would be a violation of the Monroe Doctrine.

And Mr. Clark adds: "This Corollary or consequence is not justified, neither is it admissible within the Monroe Doctrine, in spite of the fact that the necessity of the economic life of said countries was invoked."

Mr. Clark states that "the Monroe Doctrine is now and always has been, not an instrument of violence and oppression, but an effective guarantee and liberty of the countries to which it has been applied, as well as of their independence and territorial integrity against possible designs of European nations."

And he adds: "The Doctrine requires the United States to guarantee the independence of the Spanish-American States."

It can be seen behind the Doctrine - Clark says - that the essential principles of the Monroe Doctrine, long before its enunciation in the Message of President Monroe to Congress, were known by the tendency of the United States in all European Foreign Offices.

In 1923, the United States refused to make a Joint Declaration with England, as was proposed by the latter, relative to non-intervention; President Monroe preferred to avail himself of the suggestion made to him by England, entirely disregarding the latter country.

So that, - Clark adds - the Monroe Doctrine is directed against Europe, and not against the Spanish-American nations; and in the one hundred years of its existence, the United States has not appropriated to itself any territory of any Spanish-American nation by means of force.

On the 8th of the current month of March, the Mexican Secretary of State, Don Florencio Estrada, whose country is now in close friendship with the United States, affirmed that the Monroe Doctrine cannot be applied to a great nation like Mexico, and he has always maintained this view.

As a result of the work of Mr. Kellogg's Under Secretary of State, Clark, it can be said of the Monroe Doctrine that which is said of historical arms: they are kept in Museums, but not used.

Furthermore, when any President of the United States, more determined than the others, has, like Theodore Roosevelt, tried to make an actuality, with his so-called interventionist policy, out of an historical Doctrine, such as that of Monroe, EL TIEMPO of Bogota (Colombia), EL ESPECTADOR of the same city, of the 8th of this month, and also LA PRENSA of Buenos Aires, have already said that the Monroe Doctrine is looked upon as an historical remembrance, because Sub-Secretary of State, Clark, himself forwards his opinion to the Congress of the United States, and the latter causes it to be published, that the said Doctrine has a purely historical character, suitable for a museum.

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G-2 Report

3850-6

CUBA (Political) 4-1 NOV 28 2657-g-30/1929

Subject: National Reaction toward the Monroe Doctrine.

WAR DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 27 1929

1. During the month of October, 1929, Dr. Garcia Trelles gave a series of lectures at the University of Havana on the Monroe Doctrine. The first few dealt entirely with the historical aspect of the question. On October 19th and October 22nd respectively, however, certain interpretations were made which are worthy of comment.

2. On October 19th Mr. Trelles stated, in effect, that Latin America should not turn either to Washington or to Geneva for a solution of its problems. He stated, however, that as a logical consequence of the Versailles Treaty, there should be formed a Society of American Nations and that this Society should take care of settlements of conflicts arising with extra-continental nations, preventing likewise the intervention of Europe in American problems. Later in his talk he said that the League of Nations recognized the Monroe Doctrine only in so far as the following principles are concerned: non-colonization, non-domination by Europe and non-intervention of the United States, and that this is the spirit in which all Central and South American countries accepted it. Continuing, Dr. Trelles stated that he believed the solution for the Monroe Doctrine was a very simple one for all Latin American countries, viz.: that they follow the example of the Argentine Republic, which has solemnly repudiated the Monroe Doctrine.

3. In his lecture on October 22nd, Dr. Trelles dealt wholly on intervention, which had given rise to heated debates at the Sixth International American Conference held in Havana last year. Among his statements he said that with reference to the problem of intervention in America, some times there was no reciprocity in its application because of the well known fact that one country always acts as interventor and the rest as the intervened. While he admitted that there had been a necessity for the United States' intervention in Cuba, such necessity had passed at that time and that it would never be repeated because neither Spain nor any other European nation would ever be in a position similar to Spain's position at the end of the nineteenth century.

4. While the above referred to lectures were not given wide publicity, nor were they widely discussed by the Cuban people, they do, in my opinion, show some evidence of Spain's attempt to re-acquire the cultural leadership of her former colonies.

F. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and Press.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3163. Date: Nov. 20, 1929.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

2810-b

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CUBA (Social)

Subject: Foreign Press.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 30 1929

1. LIBERTAD, an organ of the Civil Union of Exiled Cubans, has recently appeared in Havana. This paper of eight pages is printed under the direction of Enrique de la Hoza at 112th Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City, and contains a series of attacks against the present administration.

2. It is not known how often this publication will appear, as its future appearances will depend entirely upon the amount of contributions received by it from anti-administration sources in Cuba and the United States. For the present, it is believed its circulation is restricted entirely to the anti-administration groups in Cuba, but it is believed that should this publication become widely circularized in Cuba, the fact that it is a printed sheet in newspaper form would make it have a much stronger appeal to the masses than the single sheet manifestos which are periodically published by the Union Nacionalista.

3. A copy of LIBERTAD, dated November 1, 1929, is enclosed.

J. A. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Confidential.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3171. Date: November 26, 1929.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 3 1929

1. President Machado completely dominates the political parties in Cuba. However, there are, in fact, three parties: Liberal, Conservative and Popular. As the leaders of these parties are strongly allied with President Machado and as the reorganization of political parties is forbidden by the Electoral Law of May 23, 1928, there is very small likelihood that there will be any disagreement between the parties as long as President Machado maintains his influence or until an alteration of this law is made by Congress and new leaders chosen by the various parties. Due to the combining of the parties at the election of November 1, 1928, it is impossible at this time to give their relative strengths at this time.

2. The Liberal Party is by far the most numerous and is led by President Machado, although the real leader of this party is Clemente Vazquez Bello, President of the Senate. The Conservative Party is headed by José Maria Cabada, although its real leader is Congressman Santiago Rey. The President and leader of the Popular Party is Celso Cuellar, a Congressman.

3. The only organized opposition to the government at present is the Union Nacionalista. This, however, is not a recognized political party and has no representation in the Congress nor can it propose any candidate for office due to the above referred to Electoral Law. Its strength, therefore, cannot be judged in any way by previous elections and its number is undoubtedly quite small at this time. Should the Electoral Law be changed, however, and this party receive political recognition, it might form a large membership and be a real opposition party.

4. The views and platforms of the three parties friendly to the present administration are practically identical and may be summed up as giving unconditional support to the policies of President Machado, irrespective of what his views may be or however they may change. The views of the Union Nacionalista are primarily that the constitutional amendments adopted in May 1928 are invalid and that the Congress now in session is an illegal body.

5. In summing up, it may be said that in Cuba today there is but one political party and its principles are dependent entirely upon the will of President Machado, giving to him its undivided support.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3174. Date: Nov. 27, 1929.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Analysis of Leading Parties and Groups. 2657-G-304

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 14 1929

1. With further reference to my report No. 3174 of November 27, 1929, paragraph one, in which allusion was made to the fact that the reorganization of the political parties is at present forbidden by the Electoral Law of May 23, 1928, President Machado in a speech made at Matanzas on November 25, 1929, announced that as soon as the parliamentary elections of November 1930 had been held, he would call meetings to discuss the reorganization of the parties.

2. Translation of the President's statement on the subject follows:

"I believe that our country wishes and desires the reorganization of the political parties, and as soon as these elections are over, I intend to hold meetings to that end in which we shall try to arrive at an agreement that will permit us to settle this problem in accordance with the country's desires, for in taking up this task I count upon you Liberals, who constitute the majority, upon you Conservatives, who are conducting yourselves patriotically, and upon you Populars, in whom I trust by reason of your already proven cooperation and affection.

"The fact is that the President has pledged his word of honor with himself, not with any party nor any person, but with his own conscience, and before leaving the Presidency at the end of his period of office, he will hold model elections in which - be quite sure, my friends - whoever obtains the majority will triumph, for as a liberal President, who loves and respects Liberty, I have always been a firm devotee of legal and honest elections.

"I consider it unnecessary to make this declaration because everyone knows that my standards and my conduct have always conformed to the law; but since public opinion might be misled by the contrary statements of those who, wishing to form a fourth party, seek every means of attacking my Government, I declare that not because of anyone's demands, but only because of the voluntary determination of my own spirit, there will be carried out this reorganization which will surely prove which party is the one that has a majority in Cuba."

3. The above announcement of President Machado has called forth favorable, but meager, press comment.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3179. Date: Dec. 10, 1929.

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4-1 DEC 3 2657-G-305 1929

CUBA (Political)

WAR DEPARTMENT

Subject: Activities connected with pending Election.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 3 1929

1. Although President Machado's term of office does not expire until May 20, 1935, there is already much speculation as to who will succeed him. The three men most prominently talked of at the present time as probable candidates who would receive President Machado's support are given below. Should his term of office expire at the present time, his support would mean election.

2. Following is the list of the probable candidates for the presidential office in the next elections:

a. Clemente Vasquez Bello, President of the Senate
b. Viriato Gutierrez, former private Secretary to the President
c. Carlos Miguel de Céspedes, Secretary of Public Works

3. Of the three men named above, the first two have much more political backing than the last. Although it is believed that at present there is some difficulty between Carlos Miguel de Céspedes and the President, their friendship has been so strong during the President's term of office that it is believed the present breach between them will be healed in the immediate future. Should this happen, it is quite possible that the President will give him his support.

O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3175. Date: Nov. 27, 1929.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

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WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Foreign Press.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 17 1929

1. Considerable space is being given by the newspapers of Havana to press reports from New York City regarding the action of the municipal authorities of that city and the United States Post Office Department in suppressing the circulation of a periodical entitled, CULTURA PROLETARIAR. This periodical is alleged to have contained material offensive to the present Cuban Government.

2. I am enclosing herewith translation of an article which appeared in the EXCELSIOR EL-PAIS of December 9, 1929, under the caption: "The Postal Authorities of the United States are Taking Energetic Measures against Proclamations Injurious to the Cuban Authorities."

3. It is requested that any available information concerning the accuracy of the statements contained in the enclosed article be forwarded to me.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3180. Date: Dec. 13, 1929.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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TRANSLATION

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WAR DEPARTMENT

THE POSTAL AUTHORITIES OF THE UNITED STATES ARE TAKING ENERGETIC MEASURES AGAINST PROCLAMATIONS INJURIOUS TO THE CUBAN AUTHORITIES.

Article 470 of the American Postal Regulations is being strictly applied -- the circulation of clandestine leaflets and periodicals is prohibited.

Information has been received in the official department of this Capital regarding the different measures taken by the authorities of the City of New York to prevent certain published propaganda which is being carried on by certain elements against high Cuban authorities.

One of the measures taken by the New York Post Office has been to interrupt the circulation of various periodicals, proclamations and postal cards, by virtue of the provisions of Article 470 of the Postal Laws and Regulations enacted in 1924.

The Post Office Department of the United States intends to apply strictly the provisions of the Postal Laws, since it feels that those laws prohibit the circulation of printed matter containing statements insulting to authorities and officials of friendly countries.

One of the periodicals suppressed in the New York Post Office was CULTURA PROLETARIA, which is edited in four pages and which has its offices at 868 Broadway, between 17th and 18th Streets, and is directed by a group of foreign anarchists.

INVESTIGATIONS IN HABANA - We have been informed that the secret police of our Capital has opened an investigation regarding the circulation of this periodical and of other periodicals in which articles offensive to our authorities are also inserted.

At the same time a communication has been addressed to the Postmaster of New York, informing him of the gratification with which the Government of Cuba has viewed this measure in defense of the prestige of its officials and republic institutions.

Enclosure to dispatch No. 3180 of December 13, 1929.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/8

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DEC 1929
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

3600-a

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 27 1929

1. The Sixth Session of the thirteenth congressional period of the Cuban Congress, which opened on November 4, 1929, adjourned on December 11, 1929, until January 20, 1930. Comparatively little business was done during this session of Congress. The principal laws enacted are as follows:

November 21, 1929 - Amendment of Judiciary Retirement Law, increasing the obligatory retirement age to 75 years.

November 21, 1929 - Approval of the National Hotel Contract.

December 6, 1929 - Amendment of the Arteaga Law, re: Slips and tokens as cash in the sugar mills. This bill provoked more newspaper discussion than any of the bills presented to or passed by the Congress during the present session, and although the newspapers were unanimously opposed to it, it passed with little opposition. This system revives the old custom of using checks and tokens by the employees of the sugar mills for the purchase of goods from the stores operated by the sugar mill owners. In brief, it is a system similar to that used throughout the United States Army by the enlisted men for purchases at Post Exchanges.

December 12, 1929 - Appointment of an Advisory Commission to the President (reported in report No. 3185 of December 16, index No. 3100-a).

2271-2-20/23

December 17, 1929 - (a) Prohibition of exportation of tobacco strippings.
(b) Condoning of correctional penalties imposed on the electoral officials.

(The dates given above are the dates of approval by the President of the Republic).

2. Some of the matters taken up during this congressional session, but not voted on, were the following:

a. Woman Suffrage - There was much discussion throughout the entire session on a bill to provide for some form of voting by women, but no vote was taken in either the House or the Senate.

b. Creation of a Commission of Industry and Commerce of five members to report on requests for licenses for new commerce or industry.

c. To authorize the President, without calling for bids, to contract for the constructing of a railroad to connect Baracoa, a town in the eastern end of Oriente Province, with the main lines of communication at a price not to exceed $30,000 per kilometer.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3191. Date: Dec. 20, 1929.

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d. A bill to establish a minimum wage of $1.20 per day for women for eight hours' work in shops.

e. A bill to grant amnesty for libel against judicial or electoral officers.

f. A bill for amendment to the Military Retirement Law, giving officers credit for full time of civil service.

g. A bill providing for the reduction of the balance of penalties for those prisoners who have served more than half their prison terms and have had good prison records.

h. A bill providing for amnesty for frauds committed by public employees in the exercise of their duties up to January 1929. This bill is intended to bring back to Cuba and free from sentence against him a prominent notary who was condemned for fraud. However, should the bill be passed, it would be operative in several other cases.

i. A bill providing for the tax of $1.00 for every cigarette lighter sold in Cuba. Upon the introduction of this bill, the lower house was invaded by women workers of match factories demanding its approval.

j. A bill providing for the reorganization of the political parties before the elections next November. As previously reported, the President has already stated that there would be a reorganization for the parties, although he did not fix any definite date for it. In view of the fact that elections will be held next November to fill vacancies in the House and Senate, a great deal of interest is taken in this bill.

k. A bill to provide for the striking from the Penal Code the crime of seduction (rapto). While the literal translation of rapto is rape, this is not the crime discussed. Rapto is the taking of a girl from her house and seducing her with the promise of marriage, the commission of which has never been severely punished in Cuba. The theory of the law is that the victim goes willingly and is not forced by violence or threats and that very often charges of rapto are made to black-mail persons.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3191. Date: Dec. 20, 1929.

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CUBA (Social)

Subject: Susceptibility of Public to Propaganda Effort.

WAR DEPARTMENT

7

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 3 1930

1. Contrary to expectations, the Cuban public has taken but very little interest in the recent trend of events in Haiti. Practically no discussion has been heard on the subject and no persons of note, to my knowledge, have delivered any utterances on the subject. The attitude of those with whom I have conversed on the subject is one of total indifference, their general feeling being that the lack of leadership in Haiti has caused, and will continue to cause, many outbreaks similar to that now in progress.

2. There are enclosed herewith translations of newspaper items appearing in the local press on this subject. It is believed that had the Haitian incident occurred two months ago, when feeling was running rather high due to the propaganda unfriendly to the present Cuban administration in the newspapers of the United States, much more space would have been given to this incident and the tone of the press would have been, in general, very unfriendly toward the actions of the United States in Haiti. The clippings that are enclosed have had very little influence on the part of the average Cuban as he, without some impetus from the top, is very little interested in the politics of any country other than the United States and Cuba.

H. H. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3193. Date: Dec. 24, 1929.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

(TRANSLATION)

From EL MUNDO, of December 10, 1929.

The situation in Haiti continues grave, according to notices which arrived from Washington. The aroused people, in arms against they know not whom, give signs of the greatest virility and of the finest spirit of heroism.

The notices are very vague in regard to the origin of the conflict. While the words of Senator Borah seem to wish to throw the responsibility for the event on to the National government, it is significant that the peasants under arms have had encounters only with the Yankee forces of the occupation.

The student incident seems a small thing to bring about results of such transcendental importance. While the truth is being known, however, let us ask ourselves, with Brisbane, what would be the response of North America if Russia should ask it what it thought about the Kellogg pact.

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From EL MUNDO, of December 10, 1929.

HAITI AND THE UNITED STATES

The statement of Raymond Buell, distinguished member of the Foreign Policy Association, of Washington, has approached with true impartiality the problem of Haiti and its union with the United States. It is not a question of a revolution between factions, but a civic protest against the regime maintained by the Haitians and protection by the intervention of the United States in the neighboring Republic. We must be fair, and not let ourselves be swayed by prejudiced comments. One of the most furious objections of the American nations against intervention is that as soon as it appears in one of these republics it is not inspired by the will of bringing about a democratic and free government; it is brought about to continue the adopted attitude of superiority. Although North American militarism is the least militaristic of militarisms, its belief that it has a Messianic mission towards a country not its own, in which it actuates, causes it to undertake an objectionable administrative policy. This can be seen in Haiti, and the following observation of Waldo Frank, speaking in Buenos Aires about his people and their relations with our South America, proves it. Frank says:

> "It is not an easy task to understand the people of the United States, because the people of the United States hardly understand themselves. The great complexity of its past, the contrast between what they desire to be and what America makes of them, was sufficiently disorderly for men used to intensive physical labor to find time to occupy themselves with things of the spirit. You, as is natural, judge North America by its conduct toward yourself, and by the moving pictures of adventures, curious tourists, and the novels which arrive here. All that would be well, if North America were a unified people and each one of those elements found a role within the whole. But the truth is different: we are a chaos and we, ourselves, are the first victim of the brilliant and blinding superficiality of our people. Because of this there is no other way of understanding us than to see the America of old."

That chaos to which the distinguished thinker refers and which is so generally understood, is what provokes these discords. The army of the United States in Haiti is nothing else than a supporter, at any risk, of an unnatural anti-democratic, and imposed regime. Allied with certain Haitians, it subjugates the lower classes. And because of this reason Buell has been able to point out the discrepancy in origin of the

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protest which threatens Haiti with a Civil War; in that determination to throttle the opposition, and not to permit that voting by guaranteed universal suffrage should give a stable and legitimate government to the Haitian Republic. It is an error of these directors to suppose that they alone are capable of solving the citizenship problem of a community.

Displeasure was shown from the instant that President Borno, who had not indicated his true attitude in regard to the electoral situation, without expecting it, announced that he would not run for reelection. But it is not only non-reelection which the Haitians desire. They desire that the Council of State, composed of twenty-one members appointed by the President of the Republic and which in the most unforeseen manner has taken over legislative and electoral attributes, should be substituted by the National Assembly, that is to say, by Congress, in order that the demands of the citizens may be accorded in justice.

We believe that the Government of President Hoover will not be able to remain inactive and will give complete satisfaction to the public opinion of America. The cold blooded execution of a multitude, who, unarmed, were attempting to reclaim their rights, is something that presents great responsibility, and a country such as the United States which claims to possess a high standard of civilization, cannot countenance such vulgar crimes, because nothing in history would appear to justify either crime or abuse, though much official logic would result.

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From EL MUNDO of December 11, 1929.

Notices coming from Port-au-Prince, Haiti, inform us that order has entirely been reestablished there, and on communicating this news to us, mention is made in the despatch that a great number of airplanes and American soldiers are there ready to maintain it.

It is really an heroic feat realized by the forces of occupation. To establish order where it has been upset, constitutes, without any possibility os discussion, a true heroism, and our applause cannot and should not be lukewarm. It is a shame, however, that the notice comes to us so disencumbered and simple:

Opposed to unarmed and revolting peasants, a mass of natives without flag or ideal, arises the military organization, energetic, veteran and formidably armed, and ready to sweep clean the warlike and bleeding country-side. Airplanes, soldiers, machine guns, automatic rifles, all of the formidable military machinery of a power of the first order in battle formation. And between the wild and grieving mob and the magnificent army, the noble figure of Justice resplendent in glory. Undoubtedly, the Haitian people have reason to feel satisfied and happy because before it there has burned, and will continue burning in the future, the ineclipsable sun of liberty.

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From LA SEMANA of December 11, 1929.

EQUALITY, FRATERNITY, ETC.

Speaking of the North American occupation of Haiti, which dates from the year 1915, a colleague says:

"The followers of Dr. Rosalvo Bobo, revolutionary chief and aspirant to the Presidency, arose in arms in Port-au-Prince when 160 political prisoners were executed, some by shooting against the walls of the prison, others in the very cells, and others when they attempted to escape. Among them were ex-president Orestes Zamor. The populace invaded the Presidential Palace, partially destroying it. General Oscar, Governor of Port-au-Prince, who ordered the execution, took refuge in the Dominican Legation, but the mob took him from there and killed him, dragging him through the streets. President Vilbrum Guillaume fled, taking refuge in the French Legation, but that was invaded and the President captured in its interior. Guillaume perished at the hands of the people and his head was circulated through the city."

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Then came the American occupation with as harsh a hand as are all such occupations; but there were no more violated legations, no more presidents assassinated by the mob, nor more human heads carried on the points of lancers.

Now the Haitians are sighing for all of that, which they call "independence." Let them have it, Sir, let them have it!

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G-2 Report

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OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.

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CUBA (Political)

JAN 1930

1

Subject: Government Toleration of Public Criticism.

WAR DEPARTMENT

7

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 3 1930

1. By Presidential decrees the Cuban Government has recently deported twenty-three Asiatics who were considered undesirable by the police authorities.

2. Four of the decrees referred to members of a Communist group of Chinese who were alleged to have been spreading communist propaganda throughout Cuba and the United States by means of circulars directed to their fellow countrymen resident in these two countries. The above referred to circulars called on the Chinese Proletariat to combine solidly against the recognized governments of the United States and Cuba with a view to their overthrow.

3. The leaders of this group were: Fan Jon Chiong, Jon Han Jong, Li Koi Chiu and José Su, and are now confined on the Cuban transport MAXIMO GOMEZ preparatory to their being sent to Hong Kong.

4. Although the influence of this group on Chinese resident in Cuba and the United States is known to have been small, their deportation indicates the policy of the government in matters of this nature.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3195. Date: Dec. 26, 1929.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
JAN 2657-g-310
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

2810-E

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Domestic Press.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 3 1930

1. There is enclosed herewith a copy of LA VOZ DEL PUEBLO of December 20, 1929. This paper is a weekly periodical which, until this issue, was outwardly friendly to the present administration. With the publication of the issue of December 20th, a series of attacks against the present administration were launched and, providing no governmental interference prohibits it, this paper will continue to be an anti-administration organ.

2. No governmental action was taken against this paper for its attacks on the administration and it was sold so freely on the news-stands that a second edition of it was published. As far as is known, this is the first time that a publication unfriendly to the administration has been permitted to freely print and distribute its papers without molestation from the government. This would seem to indicate that the administration is pursuing a different course than heretofore.

J. F. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3196. Date: Dec. 26, 1929.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE OF THE STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
4-1 2657-J-310
SEP 4 1930
3520-a
WAR DEPARTMENT
7

G-2 Report

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
By authority letter of Dec. 18, 1963, from TAGO to Archivist.
By [illegible] 3-29-71
Date

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Government Toleration of Public Criticism

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. SEP 3 1930

1. On August 14, 1930, Abelardo Pacheco, mulato newspaper man and publisher of a small weekly journal called La Voz del Pueblo, of very pronounced Nacionalista sympathies, was shot and killed by several unidentified men who escaped in an automobile.

2. This is not the first time during the present administration that a newspaper editor has met a mysterious and violent death, and the President's opponents have invariably charged him with responsibility therefor.

3. Pacheco resumed publishing La Voz del Pueblo late last autumn. His paper has since appeared intermittently and each issue contained articles criticizing the President and his Government. Last December he called at the Embassy stating that his life was in danger and requested guarantees for his personal safety. The Embassy naturally informed him that no such guarantees could be given him. Immediately after that he sent a letter to the Embassy in which he foretold very accurately the manner in which his death would occur. English translation of this letter
1/ is enclosed.

4. His journal frequently printed interviews with and articles by leaders of the Union Nacionalista, and for a time this paper was regarded as an unofficial organ of that group. His reputation as a journalist was not of the best and he is understood to have made many enemies in the exercise of his profession. Whether he was killed by one of these or by some over zealous partisans of the Administration will probably always remain a matter of conjecture.

5. For a day or two following this death the press carried front page stories of it and of his relations with the Union Nacionalista. Since that time, however, nothing has been printed in any of the Conservative press and even the press favorable to the Nacionalista group has made only two or three references to the matter. It is still, however, a favorite topic of conversation wherever people of political tendencies opposed to the Administration gather, and the remarks, while veiled, always carry the impression that the responsibility for this man's death rests on the present Administration.

J. J. O'Hare

J. O'HARE
Major, General Staff
Military Attache.

Sources: Embassy, Press
and Confidential

Enclosure: Translation of letter
from Abelardo Pacheco
to American Embassy

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3358 Date: August 26, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

CONFIDENTIAL

4 revised

4-1 SEE 2657-G-310 1930

WAR DEPARTMENT

TRANSLATION

Habana, December 30, 1929.

Mr. Ambassador of the United States of America,
Habana.

Honorable Mr. Ambassador:

This very day, a few hours ago, I went to the Embassy and talked with one of your Secretaries to advise him that I have been informed that it is proposed to silence me by the procedure employed to terminate opposition campaigns carried on during General Machado's administration by various Cuban journalists.

Persons who deserve my complete confidence have confidentially advised me that an attempt is to be made to shoot me down somewhere in this City on account of the publication of the newspaper which I edit and a copy of which I enclose with this communication. A perusal of it will show you that I am exercising, in a moderate way, a right recognized by our CONSTITUTION, but if the authorities believe that I have transgressed some of the various articles which it contains, the laws allow them means in harmony with humanitarian principles to punish me. I am a citizen who respects those laws, I helped to found the Republic and I had the rank of SERGEANT in the Liberating Army: I deserve greater respect and consideration.

For a number of years, convinced that my sole effort could not return to my country the liberties trampled underfoot by the present Government, I refrained from dealing with matters of a political character in my newspaper. Your Excellency's presence in Habana, the reaction observed in different sections of Cuban society against the despotism, the most noble mission which is attributed to you by popular feeling, encouraged me to cooperate from my post in the work of furnishing Cuba with a legal regime, and this has won me the hatred of the Government whose agents have at various times interfered with my newsboys, of which acts I duly informed the Secretary of Gobernacion and the judicial authorities. I explained all this orally to your secretary, but, since leaving the Embassy, I have been closely followed by most suspicious persons, and, through a channel worthy of consideration, I have just received an express reiteration of the fact that an assault similar to those which ended the lives of other pacific and honored citizens is being prepared against me. For this reason, I renew to you in writing the denunciation made orally and the request that, through your Embassy, my life and my property be afforded the guarantees which the Government of the United States undertook to give to all in accordance with Clause 3 of the Platt Amendment.

It is a matter of humanity that this be done. I have exposed my life on the fields of battle to establish a free and democratic republic, and it is no womanish fear which makes me request these guarantees. My death (that of a humble servant of Cuba, that of a modest citizen) would have a fatal repercussion: it would once more put the people under the influence of terror and would dishearten all those who labor in the belief that the United States cannot tolerate, a few hours from its territory, the enthronement of a regime worse than that which it overthrew in 1898.

Do justice to me, Excellency. Do it to the people who see in you the restorer of their liberties.

Respectfully yours,

ABELARDO PACHECO
(Editor of the Newspaper "LA VOZ DEL PUEBLO")

C/o - Churruca 27 (altos)

Cerro, Habana.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2/2657-Q-311

G-2
OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MILITARY DIV.
JAN 29 2657-Q-31 1930

January 30, 1930. DEPARTMENT

Subject: Request for Information on Important Problems and Issues.

To: The Military Attache, Havana, Cuba.

1. There is inclosed herewith a copy of paragraph 3600(a) of the 1926 G-2 Political Estimate. A similar paragraph has not appeared in the later estimates, but a current study of this nature is included in the digest. This study is considered a very good summary of the various items of information taken from other parts of the digest which are included under the important problems and issues requiring government recognition. On account of the absence of a military attache at Havana for a considerable period of time, much of the data required to complete this number is missing. It is requested that you take this study and bring it up to date. Any of the activities which were definitely terminated before July, 1928, and which are now included in the study may be omitted. Please return the inclosure.

2. The cross check which the I.G. 3600(a) furnishes upon other information in the digest is considered very important and it is desired that you keep it up. It gives us an opportunity readily to consider the purely political aspect of information which is studied in greater detail under the other sections of the digest. See also in this connection evaluation on your Report No. 3207, under the I.G. 5020(b). It is requested that this be completed as soon as you conveniently can.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

MAILED G-2 W.D. JAN 23 1930

W. H. SIMPSON,
Major, G.S.,
Executive Officer, G-2.

cp
1 Incl.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

4-1

G-2 Report

2900-c

JAN 2657-B-312

WAR DEPARTMENT,

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Propaganda of Foreign Origin.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 28 1930

1. For the last two months the Cuban press has devoted considerable space to the non-existence of communism in Cuba, stating in substance that irrespective of opinions expressed by others outside of the island, no headway has been made by propagandists for communism. The Secretary of the Government has always dealt very firmly with communists in the past, the usual procedure being the immediate deportation of radical non-citizens and jailed radical citizens of the Republic.

2. As a result, communists have been showing comparatively little activity. However, it is interesting to note that the Department of Government recently requested the Mayor of Havana to submit to him a daily report of labor meetings in order that police agents may attend and report on matters of interest to the government which are treated at such meetings. On December 14, 1929, police reserves were called out to quell a disturbance at a labor meeting in Havana and the meeting was suspended because some of the orators expressed themselves too strongly in opposition to the government.

3. Comparatively little circulation of manifestoes and fly sheets by the communistic party in Cuba has been in evidence in recent months. On January 10, 1930, the Central Committee of the Communist Party distributed a four-sheet manifesto to their "comrades," in which they severely condemned the Union Nacionalista for its weak propaganda, demanded the immediate overthrow of the Machado Government, and the adhesion of all Cuban labor to the Soviet Union. While it is known that the Secret Police are working to determine the authors of the above referred to fly sheet, no arrests have been made.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3215. Date: Jan. 22, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
SEP 17 1930
4-1 2657-9-312
WAR DEPARTMENT

2900-c

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Propaganda of Foreign Origin

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. SEP 17 1930

1. During the past few weeks Cuban authorities have intensified their campaign against alleged agents of the Third International and other radical agitators. This intensification has been caused largely by recent events in South America, especially in Peru and the Argentine. The Cuban authorities believe that the revolutions in these two countries were brought about principally by the agents of the Moscow Government in those countries.

2. A recent discovery by the secret police of the headquarters of the Communist party in Cuba furnished additional impetus for this increased activity. Some seventeen persons were arrested in the raid on these headquarters and were held on $2,000 bail. Arrests of individuals or small groups since that time have been reported in the public press. The Chinese are coming under particular suspicion in this connection for their activities at Matanzas and Cienfuegos, and the Government has announced its intention to deport three hundred Communists who are now released on bail. However, the great expense connected with these deportation proceedings may prohibit such a movement.

3. The press generally supports the Government's anti-Communistic campaign, but criticizes its inability to distinguish between Labor organizations aspiring to legitimate ends and political organizations affiliated with Moscow. At a recent court hearing against a group of Communists the defending attorney admitted his retention by an organization called "The International Red Help." This organization is supposed to function in the United States under direct support of the Third International.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy

From: M.A., Havana No. 3373 Date: September 11, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
FEB 26 1930
WAR DEPARTMENT

3850

2657-g-343

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Relationships.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. FEB 26 1930

1. A brief resumé of recent events concerning Cuba's relations with foreign countries is given below:

a. League of Nations: The Cuban Government has decided to be represented by observers only at the conference for a customs truce which will convene at Geneva on February 17th. The announcement concerning this decision, which is attributed to official sources, stated that while Cuba's ostensible reason for failing to participate in this conference is due to lack of funds, the real reason is her desire to be free for bargaining purposes in her negotiations for commercial treaties with certain other countries.

b. Germany: Steps have been taken to open negotiations with Germany for the purpose of concluding a new commercial treaty. Trade relations between the two countries are now governed by tacit agreement whereby each country grants the other the most favored nation treaty. Under this arrangement the trade balance between the two countries has been heavily in favor of Germany and the Cuban Government desires to demand concessions from Germany which will increase the consumption of her products in that country. Cuba's efforts will undoubtedly be directed toward the securing of reductions in the German import duty on tobacco and cigars and Cuba threatens to deprive German products of most favored nation treatment unless her desires are met in this matter. The attitude of the German Legation here is that any reduction in the German import tariff would not greatly benefit the Cuban tobacco industry in Germany due to the prohibitive price of these articles in Cuba itself.

c. China: The new Chinese Minister, Mr. Ping Ling, who presented his credentials on February 11, 1930, stated that he is empowered to conclude commercial treaties between the two countries.

d. Mexico: (1) The Cuban Ambassador to Mexico, Dr. Manuel Marquez Sterling, was designated as Special Ambassador at the inauguration of Mr. Ortiz Rubio as President of Mexico. (2) Mexico and the Soviets: The press of Cuba has been favorable to Mexico in the recent rupture of diplomatic relations between Mexico and Soviet Russia. Comment from HERALDO DE CUBA, one of Havana's leading newspapers, and always an official organ of the Cuban Government, stated: "Consideration shown to the Soviets has not proved an obstacle to the fomenting of communism on American soil. As a practical lesson, it is perfectly clear and comprehensible.

e. Haiti: The Cuban Government has announced the initiation of discussions with the Haitian Minister to Cuba with a view to the concluding of an arrangement for a reduction of import duties on certain Cuban products, particularly coffee. The Secretary of State quoted the Haitian Minister as saying that his Government was willing to enter into these negotiations.

f. Finland: Mr. Leonard Astrom, Finish Minister to the United States, and recently accredited to Cuba in a similar capacity, presented his letter of credence to President Machado on January 22nd. The press stated that it is understood that he is in possession of full particulars to negotiate a Commercial Treaty with Cuba. Announcement has been made that Cuba will shortly accredit a Minister to Finland.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3227. Date: Feb. 21, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

In an interview with the American Ambassador, Mr. Astrom stated that the future commercial relations between Finland and Cuba would be of very little importance, as there was practically no opportunity of exchange of commodities to an appreciable extent between the two countries and newspaper publicity given his visit to Cuba was due to the Cuban Government's desire to appear to be extending its international trade.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3227. Date: Feb. 21, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
APR 19 1930
2657-G-313
3850
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Relationships.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. APR 19 1930

1. A brief review of Cuban relations with other countries during the past month is given below:

a. Central American Olympic Games.

These games were in progress during the month of March and ended on April 5th. Practically all the Central American and Caribbean countries, including Porto Rico, were represented in these games. Cuba won the games by a comfortable margin. While the primary purpose of the games was to foment better relationships with the countries, it is doubted if the results obtained were commensurate with the money and effort expended for this purpose. Press reports from several of the countries, especially Panama, indicate that either the members of the teams or the officials in charge of them were dissatisfied with the treatment accorded the participants by the Cuban Olympic Committee. One very regrettable instance was that in which the officials of the Havana Yacht Club refused admittance to its club of a Panaman participant in a swimming contest because of his color (Negro).

b. Japan

(1). Two Japanese consular officers arrived recently in Havana and stated that a Consulate-General and a Legation would be established here. Although accurate information is lacking, it is believed that Japan will accredit its Minister in Mexico to this country, leaving a Charge d' Affaires here to direct the Legation.

(2). The press has announced that the diplomatic representatives of Cuba and Japan in Washington have concluded a commercial treaty based on the principle of most favored nation treatment.

c. Germany

A commercial agreement between Germany and Cuba is still hoped for and is nearing its completion, but its text has not yet been published.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and Press.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3252. Date: April 15, 1930.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

3850

4-1 2657-g-313

MAY 16 1930

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WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Relationships.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 16 1930

1. A brief resume of recent events affecting Cuba's relations with other countries is given below:

a. Visit of Spanish Naval Training Ship

The JUAN SEBASTIAN ELCANO, training ship for midshipmen of the Spanish Navy, recently completed a week's visit in Havana. Her officers, midshipmen, and crew were entertained lavishly by the local Spanish colony and, to a lesser extent, by the Cuban officials.

b. The British Dominions

(1) A treaty of extradition was recently signed by the British Minister and the Cuban Secretary of State extending the operation of the existing treaty between these two countries to Australia, South Africa and New Zealand.

(2) It has been officially announced that negotations are now in progress for a Parcel Postal Convention between Cuba and Canada.

c. The Dominican Republic

The Department of the Interior took steps to prevent the exhibition in Cuba of films depicting the recent revolution in Santo Domingo.

d. Bolivia

Sr. Diez de Medina, Bolivian Minister at Washington, has been accredited to Cuba. It is expected, however, that his duties in Cuba will be performed by an occasional visit here.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and Press.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3297. Date: May 12, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
3850
JUL 24 1930

4-1 2657-g-313

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Relationships.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUL 23 1930

1. A brief summarization of events concerning Cuba's relations with other countries is given below:

a. JAPAN: Mr. Arata Aoki has presented his letters of credence as Minister of Japan. Mr. Aoki, who resides in Mexico City, where he also represents his government, remained in Cuba for a few days only, leaving the Japanese affairs in Cuba in the hands of a Charge d'Affaires, who will remain here permanently. This is the first time in Cuba's history that a Japanese Minister has been accredited to the country.

b. HAITI: Mr. Emile Marcelin is the newly appointed Minister of Haiti and was received by the President on June 26, 1930.

c. CANADA: The Cuban State Department has announced that the Cuban Consul General at Ottawa has been empowered to sign the Parcel Post Treaty with Canada and the negotiations are practically completed. This announcement has brought forth very favorable comment in the Cuban press and it is predicted that this treaty will be followed shortly by a general commercial convention.

In this connection some of the newspapers have called attention to the fact that Canada can supply Cuba with many articles that are now imported from the United States and that in view of the present trend of America's tariff policies, it would be well for Cuba to enter into much closer commercial relations with the Dominion.

d. LATIN AMERICA - Commercial Propaganda. Within a few weeks Sr. Raimundo Vidal will start on a Commercial Propaganda trip, in the course of which he plans to visit sixteen Central and South American countries. On this trip he will represent some seventy-two (72) Cuban industries and while his enterprise is not financed by the Cuban Government, the Foreign Office has given its seal of approval and will render every possible assistance. While on this trip, Sr. Vidal will arrange exhibitions of Cuban products in the Cuban Legations of each country visited.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. ~~10.~~ Date: July 17, 1930.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

3850.

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APR 28 1931

2657-g-313

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CUBA (Political)

WAR DEPARTMENT

Subject: Foreign Relationships.

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RECEIVED G-2 W. D. APR 27 1931

1. Following is a brief resume of items of interest pertaining to Cuban relationships with foreign countries:

(a) UNITED STATES:

When President Hoover's intentions of embarking on a trip to the West Indies were first announced, the local press stated that he would include Cuba in his itinerary. The prompt official denial of this report brought forth considerable disappointment. The details of Mr. Hoover's stay in Porto Rico and the Virgin Islands received wide publicity here, and his action in visiting these Islands, was, in general, sympathetically interpreted as indicating his desire to secure the improvement of conditions in these places. Cubans are always particularly interested in Porto Rican affairs and often cite the unfavorable social and economic situation prevailing in that Island as an example of what would happen to Cuba if the latter were a colony of the United States.

(b) CANADA:

Mr. John McDonald, Canadian Cabinet Minister without portfolio, arrived in Havana some three weeks ago for the purpose of endeavoring to negotiate with the Cuban Government a commercial convention to take the place of the modus vivendi that has been in effect between the two countries since 1928. The immediate reason of his mission was the recent action of the Cuban Government in extending the increased import duty on potatoes throughout the entire year. Canada is naturally anxious to obtain more favorable treatment for Canada potato growers and they look to Cuba as their principal export market. Mr. McDonald's reception was courteous but unenthusiastic, and he was given an opportunity to present his views to the Tariff Commission. However, it is not clear what he had to offer in exchange for tariff concessions which he was attempting to obtain. Unquestionably, Cuba would be interested in any proposal which contemplated increased sales of sugar and rum in Canada, but in view of the existing preferentials given by Canada to products of the British West Indies, opinion is rather skeptical as to whether any practical arrangement could be worked out.

(c) GERMANY:

Present reports indicate that the long continued negotiations for a commercial convention between Cuba and Germany will probably be successfully terminated in the early future.

(d) HAITI:

Mr. Ernest Riguad recently presented his letter of credence as Haiti's Minister to Cuba, and immediately returned to Haiti without even making any of the formal calls which are customarily expected of newly accredited diplomats. He was reported as having told friends that his brief experience of the high cost of living in Havana convinced him that he could not continue his residence here on the salary provided him by his Government.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy

From M. A., Havana No.3525 Date: April 21, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

3850

4-1 MAY 2657-g-313 6 1931

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Relationships.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 20 1931

1. Cuba's relations with foreign countries during the past month are briefly summarized as follows:

(a) UNITED STATES

1. The announcement of the American State Department regarding protection of United States citizens in Nicaragua was given wide publicity in the Cuban press. The headlines describing it implied a very radical change in policy. It failed, however, to elicit any original comment in the responsible press. Considerable adverse comment to this announced policy was heard by members of the American colony in Cuba, and the local Post of the American Legion passed a resolution of condemnation of this policy and forwarded it to the National Headquarters of the Legion.

2. The absence of commendation in the Cuban press of the assistance rendered by the United States in connection with the Nicaraguan earthquake, and the complete lack of original press comment regarding President Hoover's characterization of Sandino's recent activities, tend to indicate that our attitude toward Nicaragua is viewed here with apathy and disinterest.

(b) SPAIN

1. Of all events abroad during the past month the change of Government in Spain attracted the greatest amount of interest in Cuba, where, in addition to ties of common blood and culture, there are some 100,000 Spanish subjects in more or less permanent residence. While the reaction here was very greatly in favor of the new Republic regime, personal sympathy for King Alfonso and admiration of his conduct in leaving the country free to decide its future, were widely expressed. Some of the commentators even went so far as to draw pointed analogies between the respective positions of the late Spanish Royal Government and the present Cuban Administration.

2. Cuba recognized the provisional government of Spain on April 18, 1931. The Spanish Ambassador to Cuba, Sr. Don Santiago Mendez de Vigo, has not as yet been recalled although it is believed that he will have to resign his post at some time in the near future. According to press reports, the Cuban Ambassador at Madrid, Dr. Garcia Kohly, has requested that he be placed on the retired list.

(c) CANADA

1. No further developments have been reported in negotiations looking toward the conclusion of a commercial treaty between Cuba and Canada. Mr. McDonald, whose activities were reported in my report No.3525, index No. 3850, dated April 21, 1931, returned to Canada early in April.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache

2657-g-313/5

Source: Embassy and Press.

From M. A., Havana No. 3541 Date: May 12, 1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
3850
4-1 JUL 22 2657-9-313 1931
WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Relations.

1. The following is a brief resume of activities of interest concerning Cuba's foreign relations:

(a) PANAMA

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUL 22 1931

According to a Cuban Consular report recently published in the Cuban press, the Panaman market has been practically closed to Cuban products, by tariff increases, although there is a demand for Cuban cigars, which could be sold in considerable quantities, in spite of the high tariff, if properly advertised. On the other hand, Cuban cattlemen are said to be competing successfully with Panaman stock raisers in the Canal Zone market, having sold over 2000 head of cattle valued at $100,000 during the last two years.

(b) FRANCE

Increasing dissatisfaction is expressed due to Cuba's alleged failure to obtain certain expected benefits from the French-Cuban Commercial Treaty of 1929. A supplementary article of that Convention stipulated that the French would examine the possibility of increasing its purchase of Cuban leaf tobacco for use in the manufacture of cigars in France and that price and quality being equal a preference a Cuban leaf tobacco would be given. The vagueness of this provision appears to have had its natural result. Cuban tobacco producers point out that although total French imports of leaf tobacco increased 81% in 1930, as compared with 1929, there was an actual decrease in French imports of that commodity from Cuba. The Tobacco Defense Commission has decided to bring this matter to the attention of the Foreign Office and to request that the Treaty be denounced unless France can be induced to take steps to remedy the situation.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache

Source: Embassy and Press.

From M. A., Havana No. 3579 Date: July 16, 1931

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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3850

G-2 Report

4-1 2657-8-313
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CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Relationships.

1. The following paragraphs give a brief resume of recent activities which affect Cuba's relations with other countries:

(a) United States:

(1) The efforts of sugar refining interests in the United States to obtain a higher import duty on refined sugar have been the cause of a new outbreak of adverse criticism regarding our tariff policy. The arrival in Cuba during the month of March of representatives of the United States Tariff Commission, for the purpose of investigating the cost of sugar production, did not pass unnoticed and is interpreted locally as presaging an increase in duty on refined sugar.. While some newspaper commentators have expressed the opinion that such an increase would work to the detriment of American rather than Cuban interests, since all the refineries operating in Cuba are controlled by American capital, most editorial writers see in it a menace to a rising Cuban industry, and advise retaliation measures, such as imposing a tax on all raw sugar exported to the United States.

(2) In an interview recently given by President Machado to a representative of the United Press, he is quoted as having said: "A customs union between the United States and Cuba will be the final stop in the existing cooperation between the two countries. Cuba's sovereignty, while far from being diminished by such a union, will be strengthened thereby. I have a most absolute conviction that the interests of Cuba, which are united with those of the United States by the common tradition of the struggles for Cuban liberty, are on the road to the closest cooperation with our sister republic of North America."

(b) Other Countries:

(1) The Cuban Government has under consideration at the present time the negotiation of most favored nation treaties with Uruguay, Brazil, Chile, The Netherlands, and Sweden, and the revision of existing commercial treaties with Spain, France and Italy. The press states that the data and material assemblied by the foreign office in connection with these negotiations have been submitted to the National Economic Commission for study and advice.

J. J. O'Hare,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and Press.

From M. A., Havana No. 3744 Date: April 14, 1932.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

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OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
2657-Q-313
WAR DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 13 1933

CUBA (Political) 4-1

Subject: Foreign Relationships.

1. A brief resume of recent events affecting Cuba's relations with foreign countries follows:

(a) Holland: The Dutch Government closed its Legation in Havana on December 2, 1932. Mr. C.H.J. Schuller tot Peursum, who had been accredited to Cuba as Charge d'Affairs since November 27, 1931, departed on that date,and Holland's interests in Cuba are now represented,as theretofore,by the Dutch Minister in Washington.

(b) Chile: It is expected that the negotiations for a commercial treaty between Cuba and Chile, which have been in progress for many months, will soon reach a successful conclusion.

(c) Dominican Republic: A Parcel Post Convention was signed in Havana on December 20, 1932, between Cuba and the Dominican Republic.

J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache

Source: Embassy and Press

From M. A., Havana No. 3979 Date: January 10, 1933.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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OPNAV OFFICE OF NAVAL
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
FEB 14 1933
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

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CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Relationships.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. FEB 14 1933

1. A brief resume of events during the past month which affect Cuba's relations with other countries, follows:

(a) UNITED STATES

The press of January 11th reported that the Cuban Secretary of State, replying to an inquiry as to whether the Cuban Ambassador in Washington was discussing the Reciprocity Treaty with him, had said that he was considering the matter and that it would be taken up after the inauguration of the new President of the United States.

Qualifying the Philippine Independence Bill as an inconceivable abuse of power representing the persistent pressure of plutocrats, military authorities and bureaucrats who have heretofore decided the Philippine question, a Diario de la Marina editorial writer observes that while absolute independence of the Philippines would be advantageous to Cuba, the Cubans should not sympathize with the present Philippine independence law, as it does not give the Philippines independence nor can they attain independence through it; that in order to save herself from ruinous Philippine competition, Cuba does not need the chaos that would result from the hypocritical Hawes-Cutting Bill, but needs a reasonable degree of liberty in supplying the American market, the better part of which belongs to her.

Commenting on Mr. Hoover's reasons for vetoing the Hawes-Cutting Bill, Heraldo de Cuba said, arguing along the same lines, that the present situation in Cuba is the price of independence; that the Reciprocity Treaty which turned Cuban foreign trade to the United States, made her more dependent than ever, practically speaking; that independent, but bound to the United States by political and economic ties which it is not within the power of Cuba to sever, she has been treated worse than the most hated enemy and received a death blow in the tariff which converted her into what Mr. Hoover thinks the Philippines would be if granted independence; and that Mr. Hoover sees the mote in his neighbor's eye, but does not see the beam in his own.

Press comment on the subject of the withdrawal of American Marines from Nicaragua was, as a whole, favorable to the United States. An editorial appearing in Informacion on January 3rd. congratulated Nicaragua upon the departure of the marines from its territory and contained the following warning to Cubans: "Liberty is like health and youth, treasures that are only appreciated when lost. Nicaragua during nineteen years has dreamed of this beautiful moment in which foreign intervention has ceased. We, therefore, congratulate this sister nation, many of whose errors are common to us, and if any Cuban in an access of madness or moved by anger and desperation, occasionally directs his thoughts abroad, let him seek out a Nicaraguan so that the latter may tell him how sad, how unhappy a people feels when it has in its house, as compulsory guests, foreign soldiers."

From M. A., Havana No. 4002 Date: February 9,1933

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

(b) Peru - Colombia

In response to the Brazilian Government's circular telegram requesting support of its proposal to avert a conflict in the Leticia controversy, the Cuban Foreign Office, on January 27th, instructed its Charge d'Affaires at Lima in part as follows: This Chancellery is pleased to accede to the Brazilian proposal not only in the interests of American peace, but also because while saving Colombia's honor, it opens the way to Peruvian aspirations. You are requested to act accordingly."

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache

Source: Embassy and Press.

From M. A., Havana No. 4002 Date:February 9, 1933.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)
Subject: Status of Relations with Foreign Countries.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 16 1933

Relations with the United States.

1. At no time within the last four years has attention been so closely concentrated upon events in the United States as during the past month. The press and public opinion in general have been following with the keenest interest the development of the American Government's financial and economic program, and there has been much speculation regarding its probable effects on the local situation. Even greater importance was attached to matters of more intimate concern to Cuba, such as the appointment of Ambassador Welles, the statements made by him and by the Secretary of State regarding our relations with Cuba, the organization of a new revolutionary junta in New York, and the reported informal discussions at Washington concerning the revision of the commercial treaty between the two countries.

2. The statement of the Secretary of State elicited favorable comment in the semi-official government organ Heraldo de Cuba. Of the other principal Habana dailies, Diario de la Marina was the only one to discuss it editorially. Jose I. Rivero, who is noted for the biting sarcasm of his articles, wrote as follows in that paper: "The attitude of the American State Department is satisfactory to the 'criollos' -- to all the 'criollos'. To those who command, to those who obey and to those who do not obey. If it does not abrogate the amendment of Mr. Platt, it does relegate it to the attic where useless rubbish is kept. Until the day when it may seem proper to revive it; fatidical day, since one must tremble before the resurrection of the dead, our right is recognized in Washington to make mincemeat of ourselves. Mincemeat á la criolla with tender meat." The allusion is to the recent violent death in Cuba of several young persons, including a three year old child killed by a bomb on April 13th.

3. Editorial comment on Mr. Welles' statement was restricted to Heraldo de Cuba which, as was to be expected, interpreted it in a light most favorable to the Machado Administration. This same paper, on April 11th, expressed "disagreeable surprise" that Cuba, Colombia and Peru had not been invited to participate in the economic conference at Washington.

4. The designation of Mr. Sumner Welles as American Ambassador to Cuba has been extremely well received here, especially by the Opposition elements who made no effort to conceal their expectation that in the exercise of his mission he will find a way to contribute to the restoration of political peace in Cuba. His appointment has, in fact, been attended by such wild conjectures regarding the nature of his instructions and his intentions here that they do not seem to merit repetition in any official report.

T. N. Gimperling,
Lieut. Colonel, Infantry,
Military Attache

Source: Embassy

From M. A., Havana No. 4084 Date: May 10,1933

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT

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G-2 Report

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
By authority letter of Dec. 18, 1963, from TAGO to Archivist
By NNE 3-29-71
Date

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Status of Relations with Foreign Countries

Cuban-Mexican Relations.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. SEP 20 1938

1. The following incidents are considered of interest in connection with the relations between Mexico and Cuba.

2. During the celebration of the 4th of September at Ciudad Militar, a horse show team composed of Mexican army officers was present, and competed and exhibited. On the day of the main jumping competition, the Mexican Charge d'Affaires had the seat of honor next to Colonel Batista.

3. During the reception and ball given by the Cuban Army Officers' Club on the evening of September 4th, Mexican entertainers were part of the program. The Mexican entertainer who introduced the troupe made a speech which was in the nature of propaganda on the subject of the great affection and interest felt by the Mexican people for Cuba.

4. On September 10th, the Cuban cruiser CUBA and the transport COLUMBIA sailed for Mexico, to participate in the Independence Day celebration of Mexico on September 16th. The head of the Cuban delegation is the present Secretary of National Defense, Dr. Domingo Ramos. The ships carried the 1st Company, 3rd.Battalion, 6th Regiment (a "show" organization, specially drilled in close order, containing no negro soldiers, and specially uniformed), as well as a company of Marine Infantry and a detachment of sailors. Three Curtiss-Wright planes of the Cuban Air Force left for Mexico on or about the 12th of September to participate in the celebration.

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5. In connection with the sailing of the CUBA and the COLUMBIA, it may be noted that the American Military Attache in Mexico has reported that the Cuban Government made the first move in sending the delegation. However, presidential decree No. 1823, dated September 7, 1938, the "order" for the sending of the delegation, emphasizes the idea that the Mexican Government requested Cuban participation.

6. To the Military Attache, the above incidents may be analyzed as follows:

(a) Mexico is endeavoring to develop very cordial relations with Cuba, as well as other Latin American countries, with a view to developing as many allies as possible at the coming Pan-American Conference in Lima, Peru. The request of the Cuban Government to participate in the Mexican celebration must have seemed to them an unexpected but welcome gesture.

(b) Cuba is merely making "face" by showing off a few chosen units before her larger neighbor. In view of the fact that Dr.Domingo Ramos is well known to be friendly to the United States, and that Colonel Batista is well aware of the necessity of not antagonizing the United States, on account of the sugar situation, it is hardly likely that the visit of the Cuban delegation indicates a tendency to follow Mexican policies.

Henry A. Barber, Jr.,
Major, GS.,Infantry,
Military Attache.

Source: Personal Contacts
and Observation.

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From M.A.,Havana Report No.5620 September 14, 1938.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
By authority letter of Dec. 18, 1963, from TAGO to Archivist
By JAT
Date 12-29-71

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Relations
(a) Status of Relations with Foreign Countries.

Cuban-Mexican Relations

2657-9-313/12
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. OCT 25 1938

1. Referring to report No. 5620, dated September 14, 1938, on the above subject, the following incidents arising out of the visit of the Cuban military and naval delegation to Mexico on September 10, 1938, are considered of interest.

(a) Shortly after the return of the above-mentioned mission, Sr. Raul de Cardenas, opposition congressman, and friendly to the United States, attacked the Government for sending the mission, on the grounds that it could be construed as indicating a tendency on the part of Cuba to follow Mexico's confiscation policy, and would, consequently, harm Cuba in her relations with the United States, especially at a time when Cuba was endeavoring to get a favorable revision of the Reciprocal Trade Agreement.

(b) The Secretary of National Defense, Dr. Dominguez Ramos, visited the Embassy of the United States, and in an informal conference with the Chargè d'Affaires ad-interim,and the Military Attache, expressed concern over the fact that many Cubans had questioned the advisability of sending the mission (of which Dr. Ramos was head). Dr. Ramos seized the opportunity afforded by a banquet given by the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts (on a visit to Havana) to which he was invited, to make a speech emphasizing the friendship of Cuba and the United States. He submitted his speech (in the presence of the Military Attache) to the U.S. Chargè d'Affaires for comment. The latter did not hesitate to change it where necessary, with red pencil comments, which Dr. Ramos accepted.

(c) Dr. Juan J. Remos, Secretary of State, sought an interview with the U.S. Chargè d'Affaires, and asked what was likely to be the reaction of the American public to the aforesaid mission. On being told that it could be interpreted as a leaning toward Mexican confiscation methods, he showed considerable concern, and said -"that would be a crazy interpretation."

(d) Later, on October 9th, Sr. Pepin Rivero, editor of the Diario de la Marina, attacked the Government much as did Sr. de Cardenas, and this attack drew a reply from no less a person than Colonel Batista, in the form of an open letter to the above-mentioned editor, on October 13th. This letter, reduced to essentials, was a resumè of alleged accomplishments of the Batista regime, along the lines ofeconomics, free speech, and public order. It stressed the desire to be on friendly terms with the United States, and had no idea of executing arbitrary confiscation of property. It stated also that Cuba desired to be friendly with Mexico, but that Mexico's internal affairs were her own concern. It is interesting to note that in this letter, Batista talked frankly as the ruler of Cuba, and was at little pains to hide behind his more usual phrase of "the Government did so and so."

2. The foregoing is another example of the fact that practically all Cubans in power are well aware of their economic dependence on the United States, and are anxious to do anything that will avoid friction with us, insofar as courtesies, ceremonies, and the like, are concerned.

From M.A., Havana Report No.5631 October 17, 1938.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

It does not follow, however, that they are willing to do the obvious to keep the goodwill of the United States by pursuing a policy which might entail economy and effort. For example, the Government is still procrastinating about paying the rest of the Public Works Debt, after having paid the greater part of it. They cannot, or will not, see that their credit as a Government is not sound until they pay all their obligations. They shut their eyes to the fact that they thus give ammunition to the beet sugar interests and other opponents in the United States, and trust that a benevolent Uncle Sam will continue to take care of "beautiful Cuba," and that the "better people" of Cuba will continue to be able to take vacations in Paris and build palaces, in consequence.

Henry A. Barber, Jr.,
Major, GS., Infantry,
Military Attache.

Source: Press and Personal
Observation

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From M.A., Havana Report No. 5631 October 17, 1938.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

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OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.

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CUBA (Political)

MAR 4 1930
2657-G-31
WAR DEPARTMENT

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAR 4 1930

1. The Cuban Congress reconvened for the Sixth Session of the Thirtieth Congressional Period on January 20th after its Christmas recess which began on December 11th. Some of the important legislation now being considered by the Congress is as follows:

a. Sugar Retirement Bill: This bill is sponsored by the Association of the Sugar Industry (La Asociacion de la Industria Azucar). It is opposed by Representative Castellanos, who was always a substantial defender of the laborer, but, despite his opposition, the first sixteen items of the bill have already been approved. In its present form, the bill may be briefly summarized as follows:

"The law, if passed, will benefit all employees and workmen of sugar factories, refineries and distilleries in Cuba, including those employed in workshops and foundaries devoted exclusively to the sugar industry. It also affects employees of colonias who receive a fixed salary but not those who work for an agreed price or on a piecework basis. Those who leave the industry do not lose the rights acquired under the law at the time their employment ceases. A point of considerable importance to the sugar companies is that the most recent draft of the project excludes field labor from the provisions of the law. In the earlier drafts, all workmen and employees were affected.

"The Sugar Retirement Fund, or central fund, is administered by a directorate or board of seven members who hold office four years. The chairman is appointed by the President of the Republic. Three members are elected by the employers and three by employees. All must be Cubans. Total administration expenses cannot exceed four per cent of the income of the central fund during the preceding year.

"The directorate is required to make an annual financial report to the President of the Republic and this report, showing the condition of the central fund, must be published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

"The Sugar Retirement Fund is composed of revenues derived from the following principal sources:

"(a) A compulsory deduction of five per cent from all salaries and wages of employees and workmen affected by the law. No deduction is made as regards the excess over $500 of any monthly salary. These discounts may be increased to a maximum of eight per cent by the directorate.

"(b) A monthly contribution by the sugar companies equivalent to one and a half per cent of their payroll. This may be increased by the directorate to a maximum of two per cent in proportion to the increase in deductions from salaries.

"(c) Whenever the price of sugar exceeds four cents a pound, the contribution of the companies mentioned in the preceding paragraph will be increased one per cent.

"(d) Whenever an employee is granted an increase in salary, the first month's increase is paid into the central fund.

"There are other sources of revenue of minor importance.

"When the maximum discounts and contributions have been put into effect by the directorate and the income of the central fund is still insufficient to meet the demands made upon it, a discount of twenty per cent in the allowance and pensions granted by the law may be made by the directorate.

"Retirement Allowances are granted for life and are of three classes, namely, Ordinary Retirement, Disability Retirement and Voluntary Retirement.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3230. Date: Feb. 25, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

"They are to be distinguished from the pensions, which are paid to relatives of a person who dies while he is receiving or entitled to receive an allowance.

"1. Ordinary Retirement. Employees who have rendered twenty-five years of service and are fifty years of age, or those who have thirty years of services, regardless of age, are entitled to ordinary Retirement. The allowance is calculated on the basis of the average monthly remuneration received during the five preceding years of service, as follows:

"75 per cent of the first $100.

"65 per cent of excess over $100.

"In no case can this, or any other allowance, exceed $200 a month.

"2. Disability Retirement is granted to employees who, after ten years of service, are declared physically or mentally unable to continue performing their duties or other duties compatible with their training. It is also granted to employees, regardless of the length of service, who become permanently incapacitated from causes which arise exclusively out of the service performed.

"The amount of this allowance is calculated on the basis of the average salary received during the three preceding years and at the rate of sixty per cent of such average.

"When an accident occurs which gives an employee or workman a right to the benefits conferred by the Workmen's Compensation Law of June 12, 1916 (Ley de Accidentes), such person will only receive the difference between the benefits so conferred and those granted in the present project. As there is a certain overlapping in the two laws, this provision, which does not appear in either the Railroad or Maritime Retirement Laws, excludes the possibility of the duplication in the benefits conferred.

"Retirement for disability is granted temporarily. After five years, if the disability continues, the retirement is considered permanent.

"3. Voluntary Retirement is granted to employees who have served more than ten years and are fifty-five years of age but have not sufficient service to entitle them to Ordinary Retirement. It is calculated at the rate of three per cent of the Ordinary Retirement allowance for each year of service.

"Employees who have less than ten years of service and have reached the age of fifty years and wish to retire are entitled to an indemnity equal to the sum contributed from their salaries to the central fund, plus interest at the rate of five per cent compounded annually."

Provisions are made in this bill for the computation of the time of service, for disqualifications, and for pensions to the widow or minor children of persons who, at the time of death, are receiving ordinary retirement allowance. Although based largely on the Railroad Retirement Law of June 25, 1923, provision has been made to overcome one of the weaker points of that law by providing for a larger central fund.

b. Bill for the Conservation of National Resources: This bill is sponsored by Dr. Clemente Vasquez Bello, President of the Senate. The provisions of the bill have not been made public, but, in general, it provides for the conservation of all coal and petroleum deposits in Cuba.

In commenting on this bill, DIARIO DE LA MARINA stated as follows:

"Cuba, as anyone who examines the question even superficially can see, has no coal mines or deposits of petroleum under exploitation. That is certainly so. But there is a great advantage in legislating on this subject, before already created interests raise formidable obstacles to a legislation leading to the safe-guarding of public interests - - -. Some consider that, if no such deposits exist, the law will be pointless, and have no weight

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3230. Date: Feb. 25, 1930.

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whatsoever. Our sub-soil has been hardly explored. Nobody knows what might be found there tomorrow. But even supposing the worst, if the law never had an opportunity to be applied, it would always remain as an eloquent testimonial to the foresight, the case, and the patriotic preoccupation of our Congressmen."

c. Bill Regulating Livestock Loans: This bill was introduced by Dr. Soto Izquierdo and provides that the total of amounts given as a loan with a livestock guarantee, in accordance with the provisions of this bill, interest thereon, cost of care and feeding and insurance on the cattle given as security, and the amount fixed for costs and expenses in the case of a judicial action, have a preference over the cattle on which the lien is placed, and exclude all other credits up to the total value of the cattle.

Under this bill the owner of bovine cattle may place a lien on them in guarantee for the payment of the sums of money received by them as a loan, interest thereon, etc. The contracts of loan with a livestock guarantee shall not be entered into for a period greater than two years. The debtor will maintain the encumbered cattle in his possession, with the duties and responsibilities of depository, or trustee. He will further have the ownership of the broods and products therefrom, except when otherwise agreed upon. He will serve notice of the deaths which may occur, and obligates himself to replace the heads of cattle missing if these amount to ten per cent of the total number of heads of cattle pledged. The Mercantile Register will be obligated to record these transactions, and the heads of cattle pledged shall previously be branded in iron with a letter, design, or number.

d. Legislations Passed:

(1) Bill granting Amnesty for the crime of falsehood, and for falsification of documents, committed by public officials, provided that they have satisfied the requisites therein established. This bill further provides for the condoning or pardoning of the remainder of the penalty still to be served by persons convicted of crimes, with the exception of those of murder or parricide committed by the presidents, delegates or the representatives of labor unions, provided that the deed was committed in connection with labor disturbances.

(2) Modification of Article 21 of the Electoral Code relative to political members and employees of permanent electoral boards.

(3) Ratification of Presidential Decree No. 25 of January 9, 1930. This decree referred to the reduction of salaries of members of Congress, as well as other government officials. Although the introduction of this bill caused spirited debate in the Congress, when the roll-call was actually taken, but one member, Castellanos, voted against it.

(4) New Divorce Law: This bill provides for the following reforms:

"There will be sixteen causes for granting a divorce, namely, adultery, family immoralities, severe body punishment, severe abuse by word of mouth, perpetration of a violation of law having attached to it the penalties of death or life imprisonment, tentative delinquencies of a major nature against wife, husband or children, drunkenness, continuous gambling, abandonment of the home for two consecutive years, non-support, absence from the home for two consecutive years, transmittable sexual malady, suppression of marital relations for five years, chronic affliction of the mind and mutual consent.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3230. Date: Feb. 25, 1930.

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The principal changes of this Divorce Law are: That the penal code of Cuba is modified to the effect that adultery is not classified as a delinquency and the time for absence from home, one of the legal grounds for a petition to the courts for divorce, is reduced from five to two years and, in cases of mutual consent, the parties will have to appear before the judge twice within a six-month period apart instead of three times as was required by the former law.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3230. Date: Feb. 25, 1930.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MAR 18 1930
4-1 2657-9-315
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WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Foreign Press.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAR 17 1930

1. On the afternoon of March 5, 1930, Mr. John Wilford, an American, proprietor and editor of THE HAVANA AMERICAN, called at the Embassy to inform the Ambassador that at some time during the morning of March 5th a squad of Cuban police entered his printing plant and seized the type and copies of a Cuban newspaper, LA VOZ, which was being printed by his press, and had inflicted damage to his plates, type and printing machinery.

2. On March 6, 1930, Mr. Wilford addressed a letter to the Ambassador reciting his story of the facts in the case and requesting the Ambassador to intercede for him for the protection of his property. In this letter he characterized the action of the police as illegal, but made no claim for indemnification for the damage alleged to have been done to his property.

3. THE HAVANA AMERICAN of March 7 carried an article over Mr. Wilford's signature, the pertinent portion of which is as follows:

"Yesterday morning the Cuban police, alleged to be secret police, during my absence from the office, entered the composing and press room of THE HAVANA AMERICAN, and while there, wantonly destroyed the live advertising forms of THE HAVANA AMERICAN, which were in chases on the form tables, waiting to be made up for the next day's issue.

"These same police removed, or had removed, eight printing plates from the rotary press of THE HAVANA AMERICAN, type metal the property of THE HAVANA AMERICAN, and carted them away to another place.

"The action of the government, through its police, in destroying and damaging the machinery of THE HAVANA AMERICAN was wanton and without the shadow of excuse in decency and contrary to every law of every civilized country regarding private property.

"The damage done to the plant of THE HAVANA AMERICAN is now impossible to estimate. This damage consists in the mutilation of advertising type which will necessitate the purchase of new fonts in many instances, the damaging of advertising plates and news cuts and 'pi-ing' of standing advertising and 'held-over' news material. Damages done printing machinery is difficult to estimate, for until new parts can be secured the cost of operation will be considerable higher than under normal conditions.

"I have informed the American Embassy of the action of the Cuban government and a survey of the damage done has been made by a member of the Embassy staff. A formal protest, with details, will be handed the Embassy today.

"Tomorrow I shall file a protest with the Cuban government.

"The only excuse that the Cuban government could have for the unlawful acts here recited was:

From: M.A., Havana. No. 3235. Date: March 12, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

"Dr. Carlos Carrido, well known Cuban lawyer and newspaperman, and my personal friend for a period of twenty years, desired to print a daily newspaper in the Spanish language. He asked me to publish it for him, but for mechanical reasons I could not undertake it. Dr. Carrido finally arranged to have his type set, his pages made up in the offices of EL MERCURIO, a Cuban newspaper, but EL MERCURIO not possessing a rotary high-speed press was unable to do the press work. Dr. Carrido asked me as a personal favor to print the first issue of his paper on my press, assuring me at the same time that while his paper would be what is termed an "opposition" paper, there would not appear anything in the paper that reflected on the Cuban government or any member of it.

"Dr. Carrido purchased his newsprint and sent it to my office, and early yesterday morning sent his made-up pages from the offices of EL MERCURIO, and my stereotypers and pressmen made the plates of the pages and began running his papers off on my press.

"I have been informed by one who carefully read a copy of Dr. Carrido's paper that it contained nothing defamatory or untrue, but did contain articles telling of conditions that exist in the government that he considered illegal and detrimental to the best interests of the Cuban people.

"And for this the Cuban government did the damages to my printing plant above recited."

4. Mr. Wilford discussed the matter thoroughly with the Ambassador on March 7, but appeared to be rather uncertain of the many details of the incident, ascribing his lack of knowledge to the fact that there were only a few Cuban employees in his office at the time it occurred. He did, however, admit that the police had exhibited a judicial order authorizing them to seize the copies and print of LA VOZ. When asked what redress he desired, he stated in brief that he felt he should have a public apology from the Cuban Government and monetary reparation for the damage sustained by his property. He was not able to formulate any estimate of the damage, however, mentioning roughly the sum of $3000.

5. Prior to the above referred to incident, information had been gained which seemed to indicate that there might be some reason to question Mr. Wilford's protestation of ignorance concerning the nature and contents of the so-called "opposition" paper, which he had printed at his plant. Certainly one of the articles of this paper could be conceivably construed as an invitation to the Cuban people to follow the recent example of Santo Domingo.

6. A resume of the contents of the first publication of LA VOZ is attached hereto.

7. In view of the possibility that exaggerated reports of the incident might create an unfavorable impression in the United States, the Ambassador felt it desirable to discuss the matter very frankly, informally, with President Machado. This he did on March 8, 1930. The President assured him that a judicial warrant had been obtained authorizing the police to enter the HAVANA AMERICAN office and to seize the copies and type of LA VOZ and that the latter were now in the possession of the court where they would be used as evidence against Carrido, who, incidently, is now out on bail on a charge of publishing defamatory and libelous statements. The President further stated that Mr. Wilford could have recourse to the courts to obtain indemnification for his alleged

From: M.A., Havana. No. 3235. Date: March 12, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

property damage and that he, the President, would personally guarantee him a fair hearing and the courts would decide the case entirely on its merits.

8. This case has been carefully and cautiously investigated. The American colony, on the whole, does not seem to be very much in sympathy with Mr. Wilford in his present difficulties and an opinion seems to exist that he not only permitted his press to be used, if not for illegal purposes, at least for ends that were calculated to create trouble between the two countries.

9. On the morning of March 10, Mr. Wilford informed the Embassy that, after an interview with President Machado, he had withdrawn his protest and thanked the Embassy for its interest in his case. As a result of this information, the Embassy considers this case closed and will take no further action. However, all of Mr. Wilford's actions seem to indicate that he knowingly entered into a contract with a Cuban of bad repute and the net result gained by Mr. Wilford's action has been some advertising for himself and his paper. His reputation has not profited by the whole episode. In fact, the opinion generally expressed by the American element is that Mr. Wilford's part in this episode was wholly for his personal gain.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy.

From: M. A., Havana. No. 3235. Date: March 12, 1930.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
4-1 118 2657-g-315 Cop.
WAR DEPARTMENT

CONTENTS OF LA VOZ

First Issue March 5, 1930.

The leading editorial contains a tabulation, entitled "FUNDAMENTAL EVILS OF THE REPUBLIC", among which the following might be considered as defamatory by the Government:

1. Anxiety for quick enrichment by the manipulation of large budgetary appropriations for supplies.

2. Conflict of personal ambitions between chiefs of the armed bodies for predominance in military command.

3. Conspiracies and attacks - compulsion against citizens and against the Civil Authorities of the Republic.

4. Use of force to determine the result of civic conflicts.

5. Imposition of public silence by "terrorism". La ley de fuga.

6. Larger revenues for the parasites than for the real public servants.

7. Disruption of the civic moral.

8. Price put on feminine virtue on account of temptation of colecturias.

9. Suppression of the right of suffrage.

10. Suppression of liberty of assembly, speech and writing.

11. Fights against American tariffs and fomentation of anti-Americanism.

In the concluding of this editorial, which appears on Page 2, the hope is expressed that a "United effort may be expected from all Cubans tending to rectify the mistakes committed and to check themselves on the road to the precipice to which all, either through action or omission, are leading the Republic".

The first page also features an interview with Colonel Mendieta, who is quoted as saying, "The de facto government which presides over us cannot have the popular assent because it is the product of violence and not of legality". In the continuation of this interview on Page 8, Mendieta refers to the Government as an "arbitrary regime".

Page 8 contains an attack on the Public Works financing in which reference is made to the disastrous effects of the Government on the Nation's economy. The assertion is made that the recent $80,000,000 Chase National Bank financing will cost the Cuban taxpayers $28,400,000.

There is another article on Page 8, entitled " THE EXAMPLE OF SANTO DOMINGO", which briefly reviews the fate of Latin-American tyrants who, like Ex-President Vazquez, tried to keep themselves in power indefinitely. The last paragraph, reading, "Tyrannies are transitory and what has happened in Santo Domingo should serve as an example to oppressed peoples who despair of finding any remedy for their wrongs", might, without much stretch of the imagination, be interpreted as inferentially suggesting recourse to violence in Cuba.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Nowhere in the paper is the President or any member of his Government mentioned by name. It would appear that the editor had been extremely careful to avoid printing anything which might be construed as liabling any individual official. A possible exception is, however, item 8 in the above list of Fundamental Evils of the Republic.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

54

G-2 Report

3850-a

MIL. INTEL. DIV.

4-1 APR 2657-g-316 1930

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Interests.

WAR DEPARTMENT

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. APR 1 1930

1. Recent events which would tend to show Cuba's attitude in its relationships with the United States are summarized as follows:

2. Anniversary of the sinking of the U.S.S.MAINE.

(a) The usual ceremonies commemorating the anniversary of the sinking of the U.S.S.MAINE were held February 15th in front of the MAINE Monument. A landing party from the U.S.S.WRIGHT marched with soldiers and sailors of Cuba in the parade which marked the beginning of the ceremonies. Also present were American and Cuban veterans of the Spanish-American War and of the War of Cuban Independence. Addresses were made on this occasion by President Machado, Dr. Martinez Ortiz, Secretary of State, and the American Ambassador.

(b) Remarks made by the President and the Secretary of State were in the vein of a very cordial appreciation of the part played by the United States in the gaining of Cuba's independence.

3. Interchange of Professors.

(a) The press has commented very favorably upon the course of lectures recently given at the University of Havana by Professor E.R. Seligman, of Columbia University, and the general trend of remarks made was an expression of hope that this interchange is but the first step of an interchange of professors with the United States and with other American Republics. Remarks further stated that considering the geographical proximity of the two countries, it is strange that there has been so little interchange between Cuba and the United States, as far as professors are concerned, and expressed hope that in spite of frequent visits to the United States of Cuban Professors and their great appreciation of American Universities, laboratories, hospitals and research organizations, the technical, philosophical and moral culture in the United States has made itself very little felt in Cuba.

(b) The visits of Dr. Seligman and Dr. Mayo (the famous surgeon from Rochester, Minnesota) were hailed as heralds of this almost unknown intellectual world and their visits seem to have initiated a new epoch between Cuba and her great North American neighbor.

4. United States intervention in Latin America.

(a) Considerable space was devoted by the Cuban press to recent events in Haiti and the Dominican Republic and there is apparently a considerable interest here in the development of these two countries. The press comment, however, has brought out very little original news and comparatively no editorial comment was made on these events, the press apparently being content with publishing Press Agency dispatches from Washington, Port au Prince and Santo Domingo.

(b) The only paper whose comments could be considered as especially unfriendly toward the action on the part of the United States Government on both these countries was EL MUNDO, which called attention to the fact that simultaneously with the news that a revolution had broken out in Santo

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3240. Date: March 24, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Domingo, the views of Washington on this subject were received and remarks that "Washington is the interventor and absolute censor of all of the events that happen in America." This article concluded by stating that the American Minister is making efforts to bring about an agreement between the two opposing parties but further stated that if these friendly warnings were not heeded, it would be followed by the usual American intervention.

5. Anti-Philippine Riots in the United States.

(a) Much space was given in the press to reports of attacks on Filipinos in California and reprisals against Americans in the Philippines. These reports prompted editors to discuss prospects of Philippine independence, a question which is of grat interest to Cuba in view of the possibility that Philippine sugar would be required to pay duty in the United States should the Islands be given their independence.

(b) EL MUNDO stated that reports of disorders in California justified the inference that a tense situation exists which may possibly lead to violence and that there is in the United States a powerful group of politicians and industrialists in favor of the granting of independence to the Philippine Islands and that perhaps the day is not far distant when the great nation to the north will give to the world the excellent example of authorizing spontaneously and voluntarily the liberty of a colony.

(c) EL DIARIO DE LA MARINA, whose attitude is usually quite friendly to the United States, reviewed the history of American occupation of the Philippines, alluding to the promise contained in the so-called Jones Law to the effect that the Islands would be granted their independence within a reasonable period. It further stated that the policies followed by recent Governors of the Islands furnish a very clear indication that this promise will not be carried out for some time to come. The editorial further stated that the pauperization of the rural classes of the colony who were formerly small landed proprietors already assumed a serious aspect and the racial conflicts between white and Philippine laborers show clearly and definitely that the same economic law that determined pauperization of our minor Antilles and which now so visibly menaces Cuba and Porto Rico is still in operation.

6. Proposed restriction of Latin American Immigration to the United States.

(a) A bill introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressman Johnson for the purpose of limiting immigration to the United States from countries of Latin America was seriously attacked by the press of Havana. The gist of the newspaper comments on this proposed bill was that the United States through its customs barriers had practically prohibited the exportation of goods from Latin America to the United States and that in order to arrive at a state of perfection, the American Congress should pass the Hawley-Smoot tariff bill and then proceed to approve Mr. Johnson's proposal.

7. The above reviews of the attitudes of Cubans toward the United States indicate that the Cubans keep in close touch with the situation in the United States insofar as it affects Cuba and that their feeling toward the United States is a very vacillating one, depending upon whether or not happenings in the United States, and especially the official action of the government, can be construed as favorable or unfavorable to Cuba.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, G.S., Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and Personal Observation.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3240. Date: March 24, 1930.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Interests.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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Source: Embassy, Press and Personal Observation.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

13 Office Chief of Staff
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2657-g-316

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE.
HAVANA. CUBA.

3-1

May 15, 1930

MAY 20 1930

WAR DEPARTMENT

No: 3305

To: Asst. Chief of Staff, G-2

Subject: Lectures by Professor Seligman.

2657-g-316 RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 20 1930

1. With reference to Evaluation Report of April 4, 1930, referring to my report No. 3240 under I.G. 3850(a), efforts have been made, without avail, to obtain copies of Professor Seligman's lectures.

2. The subjects of Professor Seligman's lectures were:

a. The Fiscal Problem
b. The Present State of the World's Economics
c. The World War and its Economic Consequences
d. The Work of Alexander Hamilton

3. It can be seen from these subjects that little, if any, reference was made to American Policies in Latin America, and unless advised to the contrary, no further effort will be made to secure these lectures in order to review them.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

3850

4-1 MAR 2657-9-316 3

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Relationships.

WAR DEPARTMENT

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. FEB 28 1931

1. The ceremony commemorating the thirty-third anniversary of the sinking of the U. S. S. "MAINE" in Havana Harbor was held on February 15th, and was not attended by the slightest disorder.

2. The program, which was similar in most respects to those of past years, included a military parade in which American Veterans' organizations participated; the playing of the Cuban and American national anthems, and short speeches by the Cuban Secretary of State and the American Ambassador.

3. The ceremony was very largely attended and the crowd was very well handled by the police. That there was no untoward incident may be considered as a legitimate source of satisfaction on the part of the authorities.

4. The Cuban Government was, of course, disappointed that no American sailors or marines were sent here to take part in the ceremonies as in past years, but their absence appears to have caused very little comment. There has been none at all in the newspapers.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache

Source:
Personal Observation

From M. A., Havana No. 3474 Date: February 21,1931.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/82

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G-2 Report

3850

5-1 2657-F-316
4

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Relationships.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. FEB 20 1932

1. Ceremonies commemorating the 34th anniversary of the sinking of the U.S.S. "MAINE" were held in Havana on February 15, 1932.

2. Following the parade of units of the Cuban Army and Navy, and American patriotic societies, brief speeches were made by President Machado and Ambassador Guggenheim.

J. F. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3699 Date: February 16, 1932.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

No Objection to Publication in Service Journals.

FEB 27 1936
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
WAR DEPARTMENT

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G-2 Report

3850

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Relations.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. FEB 26 1936

Battleship "MAINE" Ceremony
Held February 15th.

1. The 38th anniversary of the sinking of the Battleship "MAINE" in Havana Harbor was observed February 15th at 8:00 A.M. The American Ambassador and staff and American patriotic societies held a short ceremony at the Maine Monument. This consisted of a opening prayer by a Catholic priest and a short speech by Ambassador Caffery, followed by the benediction given by a protestant clergyman. Wreaths were then placed on the Monument.

2. Half an hour later, the President of Cuba with most of the Cabinet, Colonel Batista and a number of officers, joined the American Ambassador at the Monument, and both the President and the Ambassador, in short speeches, paid glowing tribute to the close traditional ties binding the United States and Cuba, etc. After this, the troops, consisting of large detachments of the Army, Navy, Police, fire department, and also patriotic societies, marched by the reviewing stand, as Army airplanes dropped flowers over the Monument.

T. N. Gimperling,
Colonel, Infantry,
Military Attache.

Source: Personal Observation

TNG:vm

From M.A., Havana Report No.5146 Date: February 17,1936

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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FEB 18 1941 OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF MIL. INTEL. DIV. WAR DEPARTMENT

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WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
WASHINGTON

February 17, 1941

MEMORANDUM for A.C.of S. G-2:

A telegram was telephoned me Saturday night signed by Major F. Munilla, as follows:

> "The Cuban Army joins U.S.Army in the commemoration today of the sinking of the Battleship MAINE. Cuban Army paid to the victims of the MAINE in this ** memorial day. Kind regards from Chief Cuban Army Colonel Manual Miguya, Chief Staff Cuban Army and from myself."

If there is any acknowledgment I should make, please prepare it.

REC'D Miscellaneous Office G-2, W.D.G.S. FEB 17 1941

Chief of Staff.

FEB 17 1941

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

FEB 19 1941
OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
2657-G-316
WAR DEPARTMENT

February 18, 1941.

Major Felipe Munilla,
Military Attache,
Cuban Embassy,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Major Munilla:

I have for grateful acknowledgment your telegram of February 15, to General Marshall, with relation to the anniversary of the sinking of the battleship Maine. General Marshall has directed me reciprocally to transmit his kindest regards to you, the Chief of the Cuban Army, and the Chief of Staff of the Cuban Army.

I am, my dear Major Munilla,

Sincerely yours,

Lawrence Higgins,
Major, General Staff.

LH/lrd

MAILED G/2 W. D. G. S. FEB 19 1941

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

No Objection to Publication in Service Journals.

Classification

None Enclosures

2657-Q-316
8
Record Section File No.

Copy No. 6-1 For Record Section Only

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
MILITARY ATTACHÉ REPORT

Cuba
Country Reported On

Subject Foreign Relations I.G. No. 3850
Brief Descriptive Title

REC'D-G-2 JUL 17 1941

Source and Degree of Reliability:

Personal Observation,
Reliable.

Summarization of Report
When Required

In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here

4th of July Parade

1. On the afternoon of the 4th of July 30,000 Cubans, Americans, British, Chinese, Free French and others paid homage to the United States and other democracies and free peoples of the world in a giant Independence Day parade in Habana.

2. It was a spontaneous and generous manifestation of solidarity, friendship and understanding for the United States.

3. The parade was organized by the Veterans of Cuba's War of Independence, and the turnout, both of marchers and spectators, could not have been greater if it had been in honor of Cuba's own Independence Day.

4. President Batista, all the members of his cabinet, the Chiefs of the Army, Navy and Police Departments, other high ranking government officers and the diplomatic corps were in the reviewing stand.

5. The parade was probably one of the greatest demonstrations of democratic faith ever held in Cuba. Cubans from every walk of life, representing every branch of national existence, put aside political and sectarion differences to show that they were true democrats and that they stand by the side of the United States in its fight against the totalitarian governments.

6. Every one of the Cuban political parties, including the Communists, was represented, with the Liberal Party and the Cuban National Revolutionary Party (Autenticos)

G-2 Distribution: 4, 5, 6,
Copy No. 1, R/S; 2, L/C; 3, Section File

From M. A Havana, Cuba Report No. 6134 Date July 7, 1941
This line to appear on all succeeding pages

No Objection to Publication in Service Journals.

Classification

WAR DEPARTMENT
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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—14547

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

No Objection to Publication in Service Journals.

having the largest representation. Former President Ramon Grau San Martin marched at the head of the Autentico Party. The only sour note of the entire parade occurred when the Autenticos took advantage of the occasion to shout for Grau as they passed the reviewing stand.

7. The American, British, Free French and Chinese delegations all received enthusiastic applause all along the line of march.

8. The parade, organized voluntarily and entirely by Cubans, without suggestions from the American colony, was certainly a demonstration of friendship and understanding for the United States.

Robert E. Cummings,
Colonel, AGD.,
Military Attache.

REC:rs

From M.A. Havana, Cuba Report No. 6134 Date: July 7, 1941

No Objection to Publication in Service Journals.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2
OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
APR 21 1930

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WAR DEPARTMENT

O.N.I. 062.2 Cuba (4-5-30)

G-2/2657-Q-317.

April 5, 1930.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

Subject: Receipt of Cuban Government Publication.

I. There has been received in the office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, checked from the office of the Assistant and Chief Clerk of the War Department, a bound volume of the Report upon the Operations of the Cuban Government for the fiscal year 1928-1929, prepared by the Secretary of the Presidency. The inclosed presentation leaflet accompanied the report. This report is comprehensive and is of considerable value to us. The cover is inscribed in gold letters: "The Hon. Sr. Secretario de la Guerra, Washington, D.C.". This indicates that its sending was not perfunctory.

II. Under the circumstances, it is recommended that acknowledgment of its receipt be made to El Secretario de la Presidencia de la Republica de Cuba, Havana, Cuba, substantially as follows:

> The Secretary of War of the United States acknowledges with deep appreciation the receipt of a copy of La Memoria de la Administracion del General Gerardo Machado y Morales, como Presidente de la Republica y que comprende el periodo de 1º de Julio de 1928 a 20 de Mayo de 1929.

RECEIVED
APR 7 1930
Miscellaneous Division
A.G.O.

R. C. FOY,
Colonel, General Staff,
Acting A.C. of S., G-2.

cp
1 Incl.
Action taken by let.to
El Secretary to Pres.of Cuba,
4-8-30, CCW:GEH

Rec'd A. G. O. APR 7 1930

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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M.I. INTEL. DIV.
BY m.k. 2/28/30
WAR DEPARTMENT

B-3861

From "CONSTITUCION DE LA REPUBLICA DOMINICANA, 1927."

SECTION II.

ON THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC.

Art. 51. There shall be a Vice-President of the Republic who shall be elected in the same way and for the same period as the President and at the same time as the latter. The same conditions are required for Vice-President as for President.

Art. 52. In case of the resignation or incapacity of the President of the Republic, the Vice-President shall exercise the presidency up to the end of the term.

Section 1 - In case the Vice-President of the Republic is exercising the presidency at the time the Constitutional period terminates and is a candidate for President for the subsequent period, ninety days before the day on which the elections for President are to be held, the presidency shall be occupied by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court or the Justice who shall substitute for him, who may not be a candidate for President of the Republic for this term.

Section 2 - In case of the death of the President of the Republic, the presidency shall be assumed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and in his absence, by the Justice who substitutes for him, until the National Assembly, which must convene by law within five days after that on which the death of the President occurred, shall designate the person who is to assume the presidency until termination of the period for which his predecessor had been elected.

Art. 53. In case of the resignation or incapacity of the President and absence of the Vice-President of the Republic, the presidency shall

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

be assumed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court; and in his absence by the Justice who substitutes for him, until the National Assembly which shall convene by law within the five days following that on which the vacancy occurred, shall designate the person who is to assume the presidency.

The President thus elected shall continue in the exercise of his functions until he has completed the term of his predecessor and in this case he may not be elected either President or Vice-President of the Republic for the subsequent term.

Section 1 - If the resignation, incapacity or death of the Vice-President should occur outside of the cases in which the presidency is assumed constitutionally, the National Assembly shall appoint another Vice-President who shall remain in this capacity until the termination of the respective period.

Section 2 - The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall cease to perform his duties as Justice while occupying the post of President of the Republic.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
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APR 29 1930
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CUBA (Political)

WAR DEPARTMENT

Subject: Trend of Recent and Current Events.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. APR 29 1930

1. Conditions in Cuba in the past few months have been going from bad to worse, and the present indications are that no relief will be had for some months to come. Many of the factors that have caused this condition may be traced to the blunders made by President Machado and his political supporters. However, with conditions as they now are, he is blamed for many things over which he has no control - the price of sugar, for instance - but the Latin mind is such that blame must be placed somewhere, and, to their way of thinking, on his shoulders must rest the responsibility for all wrongs.

2. At the end of his first term of office, May 20, 1929, President Machado was at the very height of his political career. He had completed a term of office which, by comparison, was much more successful than any of his predecessors, and he had been re-elected to a second term without opposition. His success, however, was a bit more than he could stand and it apparently "went to his head," with the result that from the very start of his second term, he assumed a much more dictatorial attitude than he had during his first term. This attitude, made up of many factors, the principal one of which is absolute intolerance to criticism of himself in any form, has lost him the respect of hundreds whose respect he had commanded during his first term.

3. Some of the causes, many of which are known to have originated with the President himself, which have brought about the present conditions are:

a. <u>The Mania for Spending Money</u>:

During his first term the President instituted the Public Works Program that was then generally lauded by everyone cognizant with the affairs of the island. Some of the outstanding features of this program were the building of the new capitol, a new aqueduct at Santiago, and the Central Highway. Of these three projects, no one doubted the wisdom and the necessity for the Central Highway and the Santiago aqueduct. However, as is usual in this type of work, and especially in Latin countries where the politicians feel that they have a legal right to benefit by any type of expenditure of public monies, the estimates were much lower than the ultimate cost of construction. This resulted in the President being faced at the very beginning of his second term of office with the necessity of securing a new external loan. Unfortunately, at the time that Cuba was in the market for this loan, the bankers were not in a position to offer it, due to the general depression of business in the United States occasioned by the "stock market crash" of October 1929. President Machado's opponents took advantage of the delay in securing this loan (from October 1929 to January 1930) to initiate propaganda to the effect that the reason for the bank's refusals was that the government of the United States had lost faith in President Machado and his government. At the same time he was severely criticized for his extravagance in the building of the capitol. This building, when completed, will be second to none of the capitols of the world but, granting this, does Cuba need such a building, or do the finances of the country warrant such a large expenditure of money for purely ornamental purposes and to appease the vanity of the President? The obvious answer is "no", the President's opponents seizing every opportunity to keep this question before the public. One of the arguments offered by the President's followers was that this building would not only serve a much needed purpose, but that it would also attract many tourists to Havana.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3279. Date: April 24, 1930.

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This building, when completed, will cost many more millions than originally estimated. No one has ever doubted the necessity for the Central Highway, nor has there been much criticism against its construction. However, its cost will be again much more than originally estimated. Conservative figures place the proable cost of this highway at $92,000,000, making its cost about $85,000 per km. as compared with an average cost of $40,000 per mile for similar roads in the United States. In considering this prohibitive figure, consideration must be given to the fact that after the road was started, it was decided to improve the streets and sidewalks of all the towns through which the highway passed and to build grade crossings over all the railroad crossings. The public work of third importance instituted by the President was the Santiago aqueduct. The work on this project has been carried on for two years without any constructive results. A recent survey of the work by a hydraulic engineer revealed the fact that although several millions of dollars have been spent on it, no relief is yet in sight for the people of Santiago and its immediate vicinity, and that, in his opinion, it will be impossible to carry this work to its completion on the lines that the engineers are now working. If this report is true, it will mean the complete abandonment of the work done to date and the establishment of a new site, new dam, etc., causing the government a loss estimated at $7,000,000. While even the bitterest of his opponents have never accused President Machado of benefitting directly from these extravagant expenditures of public monies, it is generally known that many of his political camp have been benefited greatly by them.

b. His Intolerance to Criticism:

Until a few months ago, the press was absolutely gagged by Machado; although no official censorship was in effect, it was much worse than that. Editors feared to publish anything that might even be construed as unfriendly to the administration. While his views have changed in the last few months, and the press may now be considered as free, his complete suppression of the press during the early months of his second term lost him many friends.

c. President Machado's Intolerance to Expressions of Political Opposition:

Since the incorporation of the amendments into the constitution, there has been a small opposition group, known as the Union Nacionalista, which has constantly attacked Machado, principally on the grounds that the amendments to the constitution were illegal and that consequently he was in fact not President of the Republic. This group had planned a political demonstration in January 1930 but the President forbade this by decreeing that no political gatherings could be held during the sugar grinding season. The Union Nacionalista took the case to the Supreme Court, which ruled this decree unconstitutional. This was the first occasion since his incumbency in office that a court had ruled unfavorably to any of his official acts. This resulted in the Union Nacionalista receiving considerable free advertising, with the result that when their meeting was held in Havana, on April 19, 1930, it was attended by a much larger crowd (estimated from 10,000 to 30,000) than would have attended had the meeting been held as originally planned. The apparent success of this meeting caused Senator Fausto Menocal, a prominent Conservative and a brother of ex-President Menocal, to introduce a bill in the Senate which provides for the immediate reorganization of the political parties. A few months ago such a thing would have been unheard of and, while its chances for success are nil, it does give an indication that the President is losing grip on the political situation.

d. The Failure of the Single Seller Agency:

President Machado authorized the establishment of this agency at the suggestion of Colonel Tarafa and Viriato Gutierrez, although advised to the contrary by many of the foremost sugar men of Cuba. The fact that it was a

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3279. Date: April 24, 1930.

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complete failure and that the price of sugar is about the lowest it has been in the history of the republic, is causing a storm of protest against the President. While it is not definitely known if the price of sugar would have been any different than it is had the Single Seller Agency not been put into effect, the great mass of the population believe that its creation caused this, and now that it has been abolished, the smaller sugar mills, most of which are controlled by Cuban capital, will be forced to sell their sugar at a loss, due to the fact that they are unable to get further credit on their crops from the banks. With the grinding season practically over, much apprehension is felt as to what the "dead season" will bring about.

e. The Activity of the Army:

The President has always been a great friend of the army and has favored it whenever it has been possible for him to do so. Unquestionably, Cuba's army is a very efficient one, but many of its critics believe that it is much larger than the island needs, which necessitates appropriations far in excess to its usefulness to the country. Moreover, the activities of the Rural Guards are always severely criticized. They are stationed in every town in the island and in many instances individuals of this organization have greatly exceeded their authority, the critics going so far as to state that an actual "reign of terror" exists in all the small towns of the island.

f. The Unemployment Situation:

No provision has been made by the President or his Cabinet to face this situation which is gradually becoming more acute. With the "dead season" coming on, when many laborers will be thrown out of employment and with the sugar industry in such bad financial straits that it will be unable to keep them employed even on a part time basis, this situation will become worse. In addition to this, the peak has been passed for the employment of laborers on the public works program and from now on there will be a gradual letting out of labor, especially among those employed on the Central Highway. No new construction of importance, other than the building of the National Hotel, is in progress, nor is there any contemplated that would care for the laborers now working on the Central Highway. An unemployment situation of great magnitude must be faced by the President during the next few months. In that no money is available for additional public works and no plan has been made to cope with this situation, the outlook is a most deplorable one and may result in very serious consequences.

g. Treatment of Labor Unions:

President Machado's autocratic manner of dealing with labor unions has brought about many protests both from leaders in Cuba and from leaders of labor in foreign countries. While the largest of the labor groups - the Cuban Federation of Labor - is still loyal to him, many of the other groups have criticized him very severely for his arbitrary methods. It is believed that these latter groups, coupled with the great mass of unemployed, will eventually cause a considerable opposition to his administration.

4. Considering the above factors, it would appear that President Machado has blundered badly in some respects. This is unquestionably so. However, he is still the master of the situation and I believe that his dominance will continue throughout his entire period of office. Furthermore, a study of the accomplishments, or lack of them, by his predecessors will reveal that, even with his many faults, he is by far the greatest President that Cuba has ever had.

Source: Personal Observation.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, G.S., Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3279. Date: April 24, 1930.

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G-2 Report

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIV.
3850
MAY 3 1930
WAR DEPARTMENT

4-1 2657-g-32/1

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Relationships.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 3 1930

1. By Presidential Decree No. 458, dated April 11, 1930, effect is given to an exchange of notes between the Cuban and Japanese Ambassadors at Washington on December 21, 1929, which provides for the reciprocal extension of most favored nation treatment.

2. By this agreement, Cuba assumes the obligation to allow Japanese subjects to enter and reside freely in Cuban territory. This phase of the agreement has caused considerable unfavorable comment both in the press and by responsible citizens, as restriction of immigration has been advocated for some time, in order to afford protection to Cuban labor.

J. T. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Sources: Embassy and Press.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3280. Date: April 28, 1930.

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Foreign Relationships.

2657-g-321

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 28 1930

1. The exchange of notes between the governments of Cuba and Japan, as referred to in report No. 3280, dated April 18, 1930, does, in fact, constitute a commercial treaty between these two countries.

O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana: Report No. 3313. Date: May 23, 1930.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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4-1 2657-g-822

MAY 6 1930

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Banditry, Riots and similar Infractions on Public Peace and Safety.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 5 1930

1. May first, the official Labor Day for the workmen of Cuba, passed quietly in Havana. Although not an official holiday, all government offices and most of the leading business houses closed for the entire day, the banks closing at noon. As is customary, all street car and omnibus service was suspended during the day.

2. Several labor meetings were held in the city and although the general vein of the speakers was that of condemnation to the government for its intolerance in matters pertaining to the organization of labor unions, nothing occurred that marred the tranquility of the day. Labor meetings similar to those held in Havana were held throughout the island, the principal ones being at Camaguey, Cienfuegos and Santiago de Cuba.

3. The only place where any disturbances occurred was in the town of Regla, across the bay from Havana. The labor meeting which was scheduled for that town ended in a riot and street fighting between the laborers on the one side and the soldiers and police on the other, resulting in the killing of one, and the wounding of scores of others. The riot was a direct result of an attempt by the police to break up the meeting when one of the speakers' remarks was considered libelous. A battalion of soldiers was rushed to the town from Cabanac Garrison and the rioting and street fighting continued for several hours before being quelled by the troops and police. While complete reports are lacking, laborers claim that the government agents incited the riot by interfering in the meeting for which a permit had been granted, whereas the government's contention is that the riot resulted in the police performing their normal duties of attempting to stop the meeting when it became a disorderly mob as a result of the actions and speeches of the leaders, the general tone of which was rebellious.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Press.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3287. Date: May 2, 1930.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
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4-1

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Present Cabinet

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 14 1930

1. Dr. Francisco Maria Fernandez, Secretary of Sanitation and Charities, left Havana for Washington on May 3, 1930, to be the head of the Cuban delegation attending the First International Congress of Mental Hygiene in that city. During his absence, his duties will be performed by General Eugenio Molinet, Secretary of Agriculture, Commerce and Labor.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3290. Date: May 6, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

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4-1 MAY 16 1930 2657-G-223

CUBA (Political)

WAR DEPARTMENT

Subject: Present Cabinet. RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 16 1930

1. Dr. Francisco Maria Fernandez, Secretary of Sanitation and Charities, returned to Havana today in company with the American Ambassador, after an absence of about two weeks in Washington as chief of the Cuban Delegation attending the Conference of Mental Hygiene.

J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3303. Date: May 13, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.

4-1 2657-f-322

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Banditry, Riots and similar infractions of Public Peace and Safety.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. MAY 12 1931

1. Cuba's Labor Day was celebrated on May 1st. The Government had originally planned to allow the various labor organizations to hold public meetings, but due to information allegedly received to the effect that these meetings were to take the form of political demonstrations against the present regime, the permits for all demonstrations were cancelled a few days prior to May 1st.

2. Despite the vigilance of the Government agents, a few demonstrations occurred which showed that the Government was warranted in suspending the meetings. Briefly, these demonstrations were as follows:

(a) In the morning a group of persons gathered at the corner of Barcelona and Aguilar Streets and an attempt was made to form a procession, but before it got under way, the police stopped it. Some of the banners carried by this group bore the inscriptions: "Down with Machado", "Down with the Cuban Republic", "Up with Communism". Several of the crowd were wounded.

(b) Although all the street cars and busses in Havana were suspended for the day, the electric trains of the United Railway Company continued to run in the suburban districts. One of these trains was stopped by a group of workmen and the train crew badly beaten by them. The police came to the rescue of the train crew and three of the assaulters were badly wounded.

(c) Later on in the day a group formed in Cerro, one of the suburbs of Havana, for the purpose of staging a demonstration. The police were able to disperse this crowd without resorting to the use of firearms, but they did use their clubs very freely, resulting in the wounding of several.

(d) Another group formed in the late afternoon in the center of Havana and attempted to form a procession, carrying the usual banners, but were dispersed, without any serious incident, before a procession was able to get under way.

3. According to reports, nothing of a serious consequence occurred in any of the provincial towns, and Labor Day passed much more quietly than had been expected. While the Government's action in suspending the permits for the labor meetings was severely criticized, I am of the opinion that but for this action, riots of a very serious nature would have taken place.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Press and Personal Observation.

Operations Branch G/2 W.D. MAY 16 1931

From M. A., Havana No. 3533 Date: May 5, 1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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RECEIVED G/2 W. D. SEP 29 1930

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Present Cabinet

1. Dr. Francisco M. Fernandez, ex-Secretary of Sanitation, and at present a candidate for the Senate from Matanzas Province, left Cuba on September 20 allegedly for the purpose of conferring with the officials of the Pan American Medical Union concerning the next meeting of that society. While in the United States Dr. Fernandez will undoubtedly see the officials of the above cited society, but the real purpose of his trip is known to be to see Ambassador Guggenheim prior to his return to Cuba and to acquaint him with the conditions that the Ambassador will have to confront on his return next month. So much adverse comment has appeared in the daily press that the Government feels that its side of the case should be presented to the Ambassador lest he be swayed by the propaganda of the opposition.

2. Confidential. Prior to his departure Dr. Fernandez stated to a member of the Embassy staff that he expected to be appointed Secretary of State immediately after the November elections. Such an appointment would be especially pleasing to the Embassy, as he has always maintained most cordial relations with it. In addition to this, he is, in my opinion, the outstanding personality in the Government and, while not especially well equipped for this high position, he would enter into it with a great deal of enthusiasm and should develop into an extremely valuable man to the Government.

T. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana No. 3379 Date: September 23, 1930.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

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MAY 14 1930
WAR DEPARTMENT
M.I. INTEL. DIV.

4-1 2657-g-324 1

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Present Legislature - Political Composition.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 14 1930

1. At present the Senate is composed of twenty-five members, four Senators from each province and one Senator at large (the former Vice-President who became Senator by operation of the Constitutional Amendment Law. Below are given the names of the Senators with their political affiliation:

Senator at large: Sr. Carlos de la Rosa - Liberal.

PINAR DEL RIO

Liberals	Conservatives	Populars
*Sr. Daniel Compte y Molina	Sr. Wilfredo Fernandez Vega	
Gen. Faustino Guerra Puentes	*Sr. Jose R. Villalon	

HAVANA

Liberals	Conservatives	Populars
Sr. Alberto Barreras Fernandez	*Sr. Agustin Garcia Osauna	
Sr. Lorenzo Fernandez Hermo		
*Sr. Viriato Gutierrez y Valladon		

MATANZAS

Liberals	Conservatives	Populars
Dr. Horacio Diaz Pardo	*Sr. Fausto Garcia Menocal	*Dr. Manuel Vera Verdura
		Dr. Celso Cuellar del Rio

SANTA CLARA

Liberals	Conservatives	Populars
Dr. Agustin Cruz Gonzalez	*Dr. Ricardo Dolz Arango	
*Sr. Manuel Martinez Moles		
Dr. Clemente Vazquez Bello		

CAMAGUEY

Liberals	Conservatives	Populars
Dr. Jose Manuel Cortina	*Sr. Adolfo Silva Medrano	
Sr. Modesto Maidique Venegas	*Sr. Rosendo Collazo Garcia	

ORIENTE

Liberals	Conservatives	Populars
*Dr. Antonio Bravo Correoso		*Gen. Carlos Gonzalez Clavel
Sr. Jose Camacho Padro		
Dr. Alfonso Duque de Heredia		

*Term expires in April 1931.

The President of the Senate is Dr. Clemente Vazquez Bello (Liberal). The Vice-Presidents are Alberto Barreras (Liberal) and Adolfo Silva (Conservative). The Secretary is Celso Cuellar del Rio (Popular).

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3293. Date: May 8, 1930.

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The above list shows political representation in the Senate to be as follows:

Liberals - - - -	15
Conservatives -	7
Populars - - - -	3
TOTAL - -	25

The elections of November 1930 will provide the addition of twelve Senators, two from each province, as provided in the amended constitution.

2. The House of Representatives is at present composed of 128 members. There is one member for every 25,000 inhabitants or fraction of more than 12,500. These representatives are elected for a term of six years by direct suffrage.

Below is given a list of the representatives together with their party affiliation:

PINAR DEL RIO

Liberals	Conservatives	Populars
Salvador Diaz Valdes	Evelio Alvarez del Real	*Heliodoro Gil
Cesar Madrid Vega	Jose Baldor Valdes	
*Martin Mora Diaz	*Marcelino Garriga	
Rafael Ubeda Valdes	*Pedro Reyes Valerio	
	Antonio M. Rubio	
	*Oscar del Pino	

HAVANA

Liberals	Conservatives	Populars
Antonio Bosch	Miguel A. Aguiar	*Juan M. Alfonso
*Gustavo G. Beauville	Miguel Albarran	*Carmelo Urquiaga
Baldomero Grau	*Vito M. Candia	Enrique Zayas
Carlos Guas Pagueras	Manuel Castellanos	Jose R. Cruells
*Rafael Guas Inclan	*Carlos M. de la Cruz	
*Giordano Hernandez	Antonio Pena	
Alfredo Hornedo	*Augustin del Pino	
*Ismael Martinez	Benito Remedios	
Mario G. Mendoza	*Emilio Sardinas	
*Raul Navarrete	*Armando Chardiet	
Gustavo Parodi	Gustavo Pino	
Ramon Zaydin		
*Federico de la Cuesta		
*Jose R. del Cueto		
Miguel A. Cisneros		
Ernesto Mencio		

MATANZAS

Liberals	Conservatives	Populars
Amado Finales	Antonio de Armas	*Francisco Campos
*Agustin Gronlier	*Jose M. Fernandez Soto	Antonio de la Guardia
Aquilino Lombard	Lino Marrero	
*Prisciliano Piedra	*Andres Trujillo	
*Juan J. Rodriguez Ramirez	Santiago Verdeja	
Juan M. Haedo	*Ramiro Perez Maribona	

SANTA CLARA

Liberals	Conservatives	Populars
*Rafael Alfonso	*Alberto Aragones	
Elio Alvarez	*Justo P. Carrillo	
*Alvaro Alvera	Ramon Echeverria	
Alfredo Barrero	Julio Fundora	
*Octavio Barrero	Jorge Garcia Montes	
*Manuel Capestany	*Santiago C. Rey	

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3293. Date: May 8, 1930.

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SANTA CLARA (Continued)

Liberals	Conservatives	Populars
*Santiago Claret	*Pastor del Rio	
Juan F. Cruz	Manuel Rivero	
Juan Espinosa	*Jose Sierra	
Carlos Machado	Julio Ponce	
*Ernesto Mendez Penate	Ramon Trinidad	
Emilio San Pedro	*Manuel Villalon	
Diego Vazquez Bello		
German Wolter del Rio		
*Francisco Zayas		
Ricardo Campos		

CAMAGUEY

Liberals	Conservatives	Populars
Jose Acosta	Antonio Aguilar	
*Julio C. del Castillo	Agustin Lopez Morales	
*Abelardo Mola	*Emilio Martinez Quiroga	
Enrique Recio	Joaquin Meso	
Victoriano Rodriguez Barahona	*Ricardo Padierne	
*Manuel Tome		

ORIENTE

Liberals	Conservatives	Populars
Jose L. Albuerne	Jose Alberni	Gabriel Ariza
*Anselmo Alliegro	Eduardo J. Beltran	Cesar E. Camacho
Ramon Bover	*Antonio Bravo Acosta	
Guillermo Castellvi	Angel Calas	
Quintin George	Francisco Escobar	
Luis Grau	Olimpo Fonseca	
*Leon Hirzel	*Pedro Goderich	
Enrique Machado	Rafael Padierne	
*Jose R. Mestre	Felix del Prado	
*Jose N. Milanes	Alejandro Rodriguez Creme	
Delio Nunez Mesa	*Antonio Rodriguez Fuentes	
*Manuel Plana	*Emilio Santa Cruz Pacheco	
Eladio Ramirez	*Francisco Soto Izquierdo	
*Carlos de la Torre	*Ricardo Villaverde	
*Jose I. Urbino		
*Armando Infante		
Ramon de Leon		

*Term expires in April 1931.

The above list shows the political composition of the House of Representatives to be as follows:

Liberals - - - -	65
Conservatives -	54
Populars - - - -	9
TOTAL - -	128

The President of the House of Representatives is Sr. Rafael Guas Inclan (Liberal). The Vice-President is Sr. Quintin George (Liberal).

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3293. Date: May 8, 1930.

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G-2 Report

3210-b.

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
JUL 22
4-1 2657-g-324
WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Present Legislature - Political Composition.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUL 22 1931

1. Supplementary elections which took place in Oriente Province on June 15, 1931 resulted in the proclamation of three Liberal and one Conservative Senators; and seven Liberal, five Conservative and one Popular Representative.

2. The Congress is now composed as follows:

SENATE

Liberals	26	
Populars	4	
		30
Conservatives		7
	Total.....	37

HOUSE

Liberals	64	
Populars	13	
		77
Conservatives		51
	Total.....	128

F. G. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache

Source: Press.

From M. A., Havana No. 3580 Date: July 16, 1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report 3210-b

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WAR DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 8 1932

CUBA (Political) 4-1

Subject: Present Legislature - Political Composition)

1. In the tables given below are the names of the Senators, the members of the House of Representatives, their party affiliations, dates of their entry into the Congress and the dates of their termination of office:

S E N A T E

Senator at large.

Name	Party	Date of office	Termination of office	
Carlos La Rosa	Liberal	1929	1935	(former V.Pres.)

PINAR DEL RIO

Francisco Camps	Liberal	1931	1935
Faustino Guerra	"	1935	1935
Ramon Guerra	"	1931	1940
Pablo L. Perez	"	1931	1940
Juan Maria Cabada	Conservative	1931	1940
Wilfredo Fernandez	"	1925	1935

HABANA

Alberto Barreras	Liberal	1925	1935
Agustin G. Osuna	"	1931	1935
Lorenzo F. Hermo	"	1925	1935
Carlos Guas	"	1931	1940
Viriato Gutierrez	"	1931	1940
Benito Remedios	Conservative	1931	1940

MATANZAS

Jesus M. Barraque	Liberal	1931	1935
Horacio D. Pardo	"	1925	1935
Francisco M. Fernandez	"	1931	1940
Juan Gronlier	"	1931	1940
Celso del Rio	Popular	1925	1935
Manuel V.Verdura	Conservative	1931	1940

SANTA CLARA

Enrique del Canal	Liberal	1931	1935
Baldomero Grau	Liberal	1931	1940
Carlos Machado	"	1931	1940
Clemente V. Bello	"	1925	1935
Agustin Cruz	Popular	1925	1935
Manuel Rivero	Conservative	1931	1940

CAMAGUEY

Domingo de Para	Liberal	1931	1940
Modesto Maidique	"	1925	1935
Leopoldo Suero	"	1931	1935
Jose M. Cortina	Popular	1925	1935
Justo Lamar Roura	Conservative	1931	1940

From M. A., Havana No.3658 Dated: December 30, 1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

SENATE (Cont'd.)

ORIENTE

Name	Party	Date of office.	Termination of office.
A. Duque Heredia	Liberal	1925	1935
Quintin George	"	1931	1935
C. Gonzalez Clavel	"	1931	1940
Enrique Machado	"	1931	1940
Jose Camacho Padro	Popular	1925	1935
Pedro Goderich	Conservative	1931	1940

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PINAR DEL RIO

Pedro Blanco	Liberal	1931	1938
Salvador Diaz Valdes	"	1927	1933
Martin Mora	"	1931	1938
Cesar M. Madrid	"	1927	1933
Rafael J. Ubeda	"	1927	1933
E.Alvarez del Real	Conservative	1927	1933
Alberto Bravo	"	1931	1938
Fidel Cainas	"	1931	1938
Manuel Herryman *	"	1927	1933
Oscar del Pino	"	1931	1938
Antonio M. Rubio	"	1927	1933

HABANA

Silvestre Anglada	Liberal	1927	1933
Belisario Alvarez	"	1931	1938
Antonio Bosch	"	1927	1933
Miguel A. Cisneros	"	1927	1933
Jose R. del Cueto	"	1931	1938
Felipe Gonzalez Sarrain	"	1927	1933
Rafael Guas Inclan	"	1931	1938
Alfredo Hornedo	"	1927	1933
Aurelio Mendez	"	1931	1938
Nestor G. Mendoza	"	1931	1938
Mario G. Mendoza	"	1927	1933
Ernesto Mencio	"	1927	1933
Gustavo Parodi	"	1927	1933
Oscar A. Ruiz	"	1931	1938
Rafael J. Sanchez	"	1931	1938
Ramon Zaydin	"	1927	1933
Miguel A. Aguiar *	Conservative	1927	1933
Miguel Albarran *	"	1927	1933
Manuel Castellanos	"	1927	1933
Vito M. Candia	"	1931	1938
Carlos de la Cruz *	"	1931	1938
Armando Chardiet *	"	1931	1938
Gonzalo Freyre	"	1927	1933
Carlos Frayle *	"	1931	1938
Antonio Pena	"	1927	1933
Gustavo Pino	"	1927	1933
Jose R. Cruells	Popular	1927	1933
Francisco Cuellar	"	1931	1938
Carmelo Urquiaga	"	1931	1938
Emeterio Zorrilla	"	1931	1938
Enrique Zayas	"	1927	1933

From M. A., Havana No. 3658 Dated: December 30, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MATANZAS

Name	Party	Date of Office	Termination of office.
Amado Finales	Liberal	1927	1933
Agustin Gronlier	"	1931	1938
Juan M. Haedo	"	1927	1933
Prisciliano Piedra	"	1931	1938
Aquilino Lombard	"	1927	1933
Juan R. Remirez	"	1931	1938
Victor de Armas	Conservative	1931	1938
Antonio de Armas*	"	1927	1933
Lino Marrero*	"	1927	1933
R. Perez Maribona	"	1931	1938
Andres Trujillo	"	1931	1938
Santiago Verdeja*	"	1927	1933
Francisco Campos	Popular	1931	1938
Eladio Gonzalez	"	1927	1933

SANTA CLARA

Arturo Aleman	Liberal	1931	1938
Alvaro Alvera	"	1931	1938
Elio Alvarez	"	1927	1933
Octavio Barrera	"	1931	1938
Alfredo Barrera	"	1927	1933
Santiago Claret	"	1931	1938
Ricardo Campos	"	1927	1933
Juan Espinosa	"	1927	1933
S. Garcia Ramos	"	1931	1938
M. Hernandez Leal	"	1927	1933
E. Nunez Portuondo	"	1931	1938
Emilio San Pedro	"	1927	1933
Diego Vasquez Bello	"	1927	1933
G.Wolter del Rio	"	1927	1933
Alberto Aragones	Conservative	1931	1938
Francisco Carrillo	"	1931	1938
Ramon Echevarria	"	1927	1933
Julio Fundora *	"	1927	1933
Jorge Garcia Montes	"	1927	1933
M. Martinez Fraga*	"	1927	1933
Julio Ponce	"	1927	1933
Santiago Rey	"	1931	1938
Pastor del Rio	"	1931	1938
Ramon Trinidad	"	1927	1933
Manuel Villalon	"	1931	1938
Agustin Cruz	Popular	1931	1938
Juan F. Cruz	"	1927	1933
Rafael Milian	"	1931	1938

CAMAGUEY

Jose Acosta	Liberal	1927	1933
Julio E. Castillo	"	1931	1938
Abelardo Mola	"	1931	1938
Pelayo de Para	"	1927	1933
Enrique Recio	"	1927	1933
Manuel Tome	"	1931	1938
Antonio Aguilar	Conservative	1927	1933
A.Lopez Morales	"	1927	1933
E.Martinez Quiroga	"	1931	1938
Jose Meneses *	"	1931	1938
Joaquin Messo*	"	1927	1933

From M. A., Havana No. 3658 Dated: December 30, 1931

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ORIENTE

Name	Party	Date of Office	Termination of Office
Anselmo Alliegro	Liberal	1931	1938
Juan M. Arcocha	"	1931	1938
Jose L. Albuerne	"	1927	1933
Ramon Bover	"	1927	1933
Guillermo Castelvi	"	1927	1933
Ricardo Eguilior	"	1931	1938
Luis Estrada	"	1927	1933
Luis Grau	"	1927	1933
Leon Hirzel	"	1931	1938
Ramon de Leon	"	1927	1933
Jose M. Milanes	"	1931	1938
Delio Nunez Mesa	"	1927	1933
Manuel Plana	"	1931	1938
E.Ramirez de Leon	"	1927	1933
Justo Salas	"	1927	1933
Armando Infante	"	1931	1938
Wilfredo Albanes	Conservative	1931	1938
Jose Alberni	"	1927	1933
A. Bravo Acosta	"	1931	1938
E. J. Beltran	"	1927	1933
Angel Calas*	"	1927	1933
Francisco Escobar*	"	1927	1933
Olimpio Fonseca*	"	1927	1933
Rafael Padierne*	"	1931	1938
Felix del Prado*	"	1927	1933
Aristides Rodriguez	"	1931	1938
A. Rodriguez Creme	"	1927	1933
E.Santa C.Pacheco	"	1931	1938
F. Soto Izquierdo	"	1931	1938
Gabriel Ariza	Popular	1927	1933
Cesar Camacho	"	1927	1933
M.Ramirez de Leon	"	1931	1938
Felipe Vals	"	1931	1938

*Orthodox (non-co-operating) members of the Conservative Party.

2. A resume of the composition of the Senate and the House of Representatives shows their composition to be as follows:

SENATORS

Liberals..... 25
Conservatives... 7
Populars 4
Total 36

HOUSE

Liberals 63
Conservatives... 51
Populars 14
Total 128

J. J. O'Hare,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source:
Official Documents

From M. A., Havana No. 3658 Dated: Dec. 30, 1931.

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NND 740058
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2900-b

WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Propaganda of Domestic Origin.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 20 1930

1. Dr. Cosme de la Torriente, former Cuban Ambassador at Washington, former President of the League of Nations, and now one of the leaders of the Union Nacionalista group in Cuba, recently read a paper at the Thirteenth Meeting of the Cuban Society of International Law, entitled: The Need of Substituting the permanent Treaty which Governs the Political Relations between Cuba and the United States by Another."

2. A brief summarization of the principal points stressed by Dr. Torriente follows:

a. The treaty is not the result of the free and spontaneous will of the parties, but is imposed on the weaker side by the stronger in violation of the basic principles for which Cuba struggled against Spain, that is: sovereignty and individual and political rights enjoyed by every democracy.

b. At the same time that the Cuban Constitution was being drafted, an army appropriation bill was passed in the United States Congress containing an amendment introduced by Orville Platt. This amendment was submitted to the Cuban Constitutional Assembly, which was at that time in session, and a majority of the members of this assembly was opposed to its acceptance, especially Articles II, III, VI and VII.

Due to this opposition, General Wood addressed a communication to the Assembly enclosing Mr. Root's interpretation of the Article which relates to intervention by the United States and explained that this did not mean interference in the affairs of the Cuban Government, but referred to "formal action of the United States Government based on just and substantial grounds for the preservation of Cuban independence and maintenance of a government adequate for the protection of life, property and individual liberty, etc."

The Assembly, being dissatisfied with this explanation, sent a commission to Washington to discuss it. Upon its return to Havana, this commission recommended the adoption of the amendment and while it passed by a majority vote, there was, and still is, considerable opposition to it.

c. With reference to Article I of the Amendment, Cuba has always performed all its obligations and would have performed these obligations whether or not this provision existed, because the country would not risk losing its sovereignty which it so dearly paid for. He does admit, however, that during the financial crisis immediately following the World War, Cuba was in default of its obligations, but that this state of affairs soon ended and matters again became normal.

d. In discussing Article II of the Amendment, he stated that the danger for the sovereignty of Cuba was shown after the crisis of 1920 and during President Zayas' administration, when the threat of foreign intervention was always present. He further stated that a misinterpretation of the provisions of this article was made by the United States when the President sent a Special Representative (General Crowder) to Cuba at the time a loan was being negotiated for the purpose of terminating the precarious financial situation which then existed. The specific charge of violation of this Article in this action was that this Special Representative was given powers by the United States to investigate the various public offices and departments of the government.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3308. Date: May 16, 1930.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

e. In reviewing Article III, he stated that on two occasions - in 1906 and 1917 - while the United States Government made use of this provision, the blame for the misinterpretation should be placed on the Cubans themselves because there was no danger of interference on the part of a foreign power at either time.

A new thought advanced against the Amendment was that the authority under Article III is not effective because it neither prevents revolutions in Cuba nor does it prevent unqualified abuse of authorities in power. Furthermore, the application of this Article since 1906 has proven that it does not serve either in spirit nor in its application, except for the purpose of destroying a good Cuban Government or supporting the one in power, although it may violate the Constitution and the laws, in order to perpetuate itself in power.

f. In summing up, he stated that the present treaty should be annulled and the new one substituted which would regulate the relations between the two countries; that the United States should always be prepared to come to Cuba's aid whenever its sovereignty is threatened by a foreign power; that Article II be stricken from the Treaty; that Articles III and IV be substituted by an article to the effect that Cuba shall assume all obligations which the Treaty of Paris imposed on the United States; that Articles V and VI be eliminated. In conclusion, he stated that a new treaty should be signed which would be of a much more general nature than the one now in effect, and that such a Treaty would serve to better the relations between the two countries.

3. Dr. Cosme de la Torriente has written many papers and given many lectures on the Platt Amendment, the Monroe Doctrine and Cuban American relations. While very few new thoughts were expressed in this lecture, he stated that the United States would do the people of Cuba a great deed by intervening when the government assumed more than its legal powers, the inference being that the present administration is doing this. The lecture provoked considerable comment, principally because he is one of the leaders of the group opposed to the present administration. Editorial comment, however, was brief and, in general, favorable to the ideas propounded by Dr. Torriente.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Press and Embassy.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3308. Date: May 16, 1930.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Importance of Party Organization in Political Life of Country.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 28 1930

1. Cuba celebrated the twenty-eighth birthday of her independence on May 20, 1930. The principal feature of this celebration was a military parade and review in the morning, attended by the President, government officials, and the diplomatic corps, in which the Third Attack Group of the U. S. Army Air Corps and a detachment of marines and sailors from the U.S.S.PENSACOLA joined with the Cuban Army and Navy forces. The presence of the American forces in the demonstration received very favorable comment in all the English and Spanish newspapers, and the Cuban Government, through President Machado, expressed its great gratitude for this friendly gesture.

2. In the afternoon the Liberal Party staged a demonstration of loyalty to the President. While this demonstration was advertised as being a spontaneous outburst of affection for the President, actually, it was a well organized political meeting, staged for the purpose of demonstrating President Machado's strength. Invitations were issued to all governmental employees and to all firms enjoying government contracts. While no one was required to attend, the invitations were so worded that very few to whom invitations were sent failed to be present. The entire diplomatic corps was invited and practically all of them attended, although many felt that they should not, due to its political aspect. In his speech at the conclusion of the demonstration, the President took advantage of the occasion to state that the presence of the American Army airplanes and the American marines and sailors from the U.S.S.PENSACOLA in the parade to celebrate the Cuban Independence Day was not only an indication of America's love for Cuba, but also an indication of America's confidence in his administration.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Sources: Embassy and Personal Observation.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3312. Date: May 23, 1930.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MILITARY DIV.
SEP 1930
4-1 2657-J-327
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WAR DEPARTMENT
7

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Present Cabinet

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. SEP 3 1930

1. Dr. Martinez Ortiz, Cuban Secretary of State, arrived in Havana August 28, 1930, and immediately assumed his duties. He had expected to remain in France until October, but was recalled by the President on account of the political situation.

F. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Press

From: M.A., Havana Report No. 3363 Date: August 29, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT
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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Present Cabinet.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUN 14 1930

1. The Cuban Secretary of State, Dr. Martinez Ortiz, left Havana on May 26, 1930 on his annual visit to Vichy. During his absence his duties will be performed by Dr. Francisco Maria Fernandez, Secretary of Sanitation and Charities.

2. Dr. Ortiz carried with him a commission authorizing him to discuss and negotiate commercial treaties with the various countries of Europe.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From: M.A., Havana. Report No. 3324. Date: June 11, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

DEPT. STATE OF STATE
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
SEP 17 1930

CUBA (Social) 4-1 2657-g-328

Subject: Propaganda of Foreign Origin

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. SEP 17 1930 WAR DEPARTMENT

1. Articles on the subject of intervention and annexation which recently appeared in the American press, believed to have been inspired by the so-called Cuban Junta, furnished the principal motive for editorial indignation in the Cuban press and brought forth strong denials from the Union Nacionalista group that they had ever advocated foreign intervention or ever contemplated doing so. However, there is no doubt that the articles in question were responsive to the intensified propaganda that the Nacionalistas are understood to be determined to carry on in the United States following the final breakdown of the negociations looking toward a rapprochement between them and the Government.

2. The recent visit of Senator Thomas of Oklahoma to Cuba caused many rumors of an impending investigation to be spread in spite of his insistent denials that his purpose in coming to Cuba had no other motive than a personal one. Reports that he had conferred with Colonel Mendieta and other leading Nacionalistas lent color to the view that his visit had been sponsored by opponents of the Government. These rumors have been renewed by the arrival on September 8, 1930, of Senator David I. Walsh of Massachusetts. He has also stated that his visit here is a purely personal one, but the Cubans as a whole, and especially those unfriendly to the Government, refuse to believe this.

3. A sensation was created when the Havana American published an unsigned article advocating the annexation of Cuba by the United States in connection with a column conducted by that paper of responses to the question, "What Is the Matter with Cuba?" All the press of Cuba united in condemning the publication, especially by a foreign language newspaper, of a statement considered highly offensive to Cuba's sovereignty and dignity. Many editors demanded the deportation from Cuba of John T. Wilford, publisher of the Havana American, and the Havana Reporters' Association passed a vote of censure against him and resolved to institute proceedings to expel him from their organization. Wilford explained, however, that the views expressed in this column did not in any way reflect his own opinions or those of his newspaper and the incident was closed.

4. The volume of newspaper comment on this question may be taken as an indication of the extreme sensitiveness of Cuban opinion to any reflection on Cuba's international status, however slight the provocation may seem to be.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source:

Embassy and press

From: M.A., Havana No. 3370 Date: September 11, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

3610-b

4-1 SEP 29 2657-g-329 1930

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Activities Connected with Pending Elections

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. SEP 29 1930

1. Ralph H. Burton, an attorney from Washington, D.C., accompanied Senator Walsh of Massachusetts on his recent visit to Cuba. Prior to his departure he issued a statement, an English translation of which is inclosed, severely criticising the present administration and also condemning the American State Department for its lack of action in what he considers an obligation that the United States owes to Cuba as guaranteed by the Platt Amendment. But for the fact that Mr. Burton had accompanied Senator Walsh on his trip to Cuba, no special significance would have been attached to the issuance of such a statement. However, although repeatedly denied by Senator Walsh, the press insisted on referring to Mr. Burton as Senator Walsh's attorney. During Mr. Burton's visit he received but one side of the story, that of the opposition, and as far as is known he made no attempt to communicate with the Government or to find out anything that might reflect credit upon the present administration. On his arrival in Havana he had with him letters to practically all the leaders of the opposition and, while it cannot be definitely proven, it is believed that his trip to Cuba was at the expense of the Cuban Junta in New York, the object of it being to gain more space in the press of the United States for the opposition.

2. Mr. Burton's statement appeared only in the Havana press, as the Government forbade its transmission to the press in the provinces.

3. The Government very rightfully resented Mr. Burton's statement, and questioned his right to form any opinions at all after such a short visit here, especially in view of the fact that all his informants were members of the opposition. They felt, furthermore, that no more importance should be attached to his issuance of a statement than that of any statement issued by the average American tourist in Cuba. I heartily concur with the Government's attitude in this matter and believe that no special importance should be attached to this very biased statement.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Enclosure:

English translation of
statement of Ralph H.
Burton which appeared
in Havana press

From: M.A., Havana No. 3380 Date: September 23, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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T R A N S L A T I O N

4-1 2657-J-329 1

WAR DEPARTMENT

THE FREEDOM WHICH OUGHT TO EXIST IN CUBA

"Cuba has one of the most tyrannical and despotic governments that I have ever seen. For North Americans like me the conclusions which we draw from the studies which we are carrying on here cannot be reconciled with any possible conception of personal liberty. In fact, with the suppression of the freedom of speech, the persecution of political enemies, and the Czar-like attitude of the Government in power, there is in Cuba a complete lack of liberty as we understand it in North America.

"It is extremely difficult for us North Americans to understand that one hundred sixty kilometers from our Republic is a country which, by reason of its lack of civil and political freedom, has a government comparable only to the despotism of Asiatic princes.

WHAT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IN WASHINGTON SHOULD DO

"Indeed, I must say that if our Department of State in Washington is not acquainted with the true situation that is developing in Cuba it is because it makes no effort whatever to become acquainted with it. And if it is ignorant of the situation and if for that reason it does not take the action in each aspect of the Cuban situation that it should, since such action is authorized by the prescriptions of the Platt Amendment, it gives rise to an unfulfillment of our duties to such a degree that censure against the form in which our Government carries out its obligations in foreign politics is certain to follow.

AN OBVIOUS AND POSITIVE OBLIGATION TO CUBA

"In my opinion the only possible hope of salvation for Cuba and for the freedom of its people is in the attention that the North American Senate gives to the present political problems of this nation when it convenes next December for another legislature.

"But in the meantime I can assure you that every effort will be bent to bring to the attention of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate in Washington the conditions which have arisen in Cuba on account of the elections scheduled for the coming November, with the hope that our Department of State will use all its influence and its good offices to bring about a suspension (of the elections), or, if this cannot be accomplished, to adopt the course most likely to undo the damage which our above-cited Department of State is causing this nation in leaving unfulfilled its obvious and positive obligation to Cuba."

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

CONFIDENTIAL 4-1

2657-g-330

CUBA (Political)

OCT
WAR DEPARTMENT
MIL. INTEL. DIV.

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

1. A chronological sequence of events affecting the political situation in Cuba for the past few days follows:

2. September 30, 1930.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. OCT 6 1930

(a) Several hundred students of the National University attempted to stage an anti-Government demonstration. There was considerable shooting on both sides and two students, one labor agitator, and one policeman were badly wounded. In addition to this, several policemen and an unknown number of students and some bystanders were slightly wounded. The police acted very vigorously, and in a comparatively short time order was restored. A very heavy downpour of rain immediately after the first clash aided the police and considerably dampened the ardor of the demonstrators. As a precautionary measure all approaches to the Presidential Palace were immediately guarded and traffic within several blocks was suspended.

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(b) As in all incidents of this type, there are two distinct versions of what happened. There is, however, an agreement on some of the more important facts. The meeting of the students was called to protest against the postponement of the opening of the academic year at the university (see my report No. 3382, paragraph (i), of September 25, 1930, index No. 3610-b). The secret agents of the Government learned of this and were also cognizant of the fact that elements not connected with the university intended to take advantage of this occasion to stir up trouble. Whether or not these elements actually participated in the demonstration is not known, but it is known that a large number of inflammatory handbills advocating the immediate overthrow of the Government were distributed in the city on the night of September 28. Due to this advance information, the Government took precautionary measures by having police reserves and troops stationed at the university on the morning of September 30. On this morning no one was permitted to enter the university without a pass showing that he was taking an examination. A large number of students, finding their plans thwarted by the Government, congregated in a small park in the immediate vicinity of the university. This crowd gradually grew from a few score to about four hundred, at which time the police ordered it to disperse.

(c) From this point on, the story told by the students and that told by the police are at great variance. The students claim that they were herded into the small space immediately adjacent to the park, and, as they were passing peacefully on were attacked with clubs, machetes, and revolvers by the police detachments.

(d) The Government, on the other hand, claims that students, or persons in the crowd, were the first to attack and that the police resorted to arms only in self-defense. The police point to the fact that more police were injured than demonstrators. While this is possibly so, it is generally believed that the students were treated for wounds at their homes rather than at hospitals or first-aid stations, because they feared that they would be arrested if their injuries became known.

(e) Immediately after the rioting, a body of students announced their intention of going to the Palace in order to protest against the action of the police. Their way to the Palace was barred, however, and they went instead to the office of El Pais, where another clash was narrowly averted. Several protest meetings were organized for the night of September 30, but all these were broken up by the police without difficulty. The effect that this deplorable incident has created cannot be exaggerated. Never in the

From: M.A., Havana No. 3384 Date: October 3, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

history of the Cuban Republic has a student's blood been shed in a clash with the Government. It is not a question now as to whether or not the students were to blame; the indignation that the people have against the Government is aroused solely because the police fired on students with deliberate attempt to wound or kill them.

(f) Protests condemning the action of the authorities will undoubtedly be adopted by various organizations. The Government is clearly on the defensive and is attempting to assign responsibility for the disorders to Communist agitators, rather than to the students, but its efforts in this direction are not meeting with any success.

3. October 1, 1930.

(a) The day passed with no disorders of any kind. The police were especially active and allowed no groups of more than two or three people to gather.

(b) The President announced that he intended to put a press censorship into effect and the morning edition of El Pais carried a news item to the effect that the censorship had actually been established, even going so far as to give the composition of the board of censors. However, it was later learned that this was in error, the censorship being extended only to this one newspaper, one of the leading articles on the political situation being deleted from its morning edition, on police orders.

(c) Rafael Trojo Gonzalez, one of the students wounded in the riot, died from gunshot wounds. News of his death was not announced, however, until the morning papers of October 2.

(d) The President announced that he was calling a special session of the Congress on October 3 for the purpose of suspending the constitutional rights in Havana and in the suburbs. This power is vested in the Congress under Article 40 of the Constitution and by it the President can suspend practically all the individual rights granted to Cuban citizens. It is interesting to note, however, that this power does not extend to censorship of the press. Just how he expects to establish this is not known, but it is believed that he will find some means of doing so. Should the Congress consider the President's request favorably--and it is predicted that it will--he will be legally armed with dictatorial powers. Whether or not martial law will be put into effect is problematical, but even if it is not so termed, it will undoubtedly be that in effect.

4. October 2, 1930.

(a) The funeral of Rafael Trojo Gonzalez took place in the afternoon. It was attended by a crowd estimated at 4,000. The police took all possible precautions to prevent a demonstration and police reserves in great numbers were held in readiness near the cemetery. There was no outbreak of any kind, however. The Government will not be allowed to forget his death, however, as he is already hailed as a martyr to the cause.

(b) Congressman Ramon Zaydin, a Director of El Pais, and the editor of its morning edition, appealed to the Embassy for protection, stating that the Government's agents were bent on taking his life. Needless to say, no protection was afforded him. His one desire was to get out of the country before October 3, the day on which Congress convenes to consider the President's message referred to above. Congressman Alfred Honnedo, the owner of El Pais, appealed to the Government, and Zaydin was permitted to leave the country, sailing for New York, on the condition that he would not talk or issue any statements to the press of the United States upon his arrival there.

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Zaydin will very probably join the Junta in New York, and much adverse comment may be expected from him in the American press.

5. The Government is very nervous and worried. The demand that the elections be postponed is now supported by practically every prominent Cuban out of office. Last week ex-President Zayas added his voice to the chorus in favor of postponement that has been steadily increasing in volume during the past month. That President Machado himself regards the situation as critical is evidenced by what Dr. Fernandez told the Charge d'Affaires in a recent conversation. His exact words were: "The President felt perhaps that the turning point had been reached." The President feels that he can count on every man in the Army. There has been no indication to date to show that he is not correct in this belief. I have been in daily contact with Cuban army officers and the cadets of the Military School and have not been able to find any trace of disloyalty. Leading American business men view the situation with great concern and many have expressed the opinion that the occurences of September 30 mark the beginning of the end of the Machado administration. Unquestionably, the situation is worse than at any time since the President has been in office and, in my opinion, his remaining there will depend entirely upon whether or not he can weather the political storm until after the November elections.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, press, and personal observation

From: M.A., Havana No. 3384 Date: October 3, 1930.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

3600-a / serial

WAR DEPARTMENT
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
OCT 15 1930
RECEIVED

dobson 41 2657-g-330

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action

RECEIVED G-2 W. D. OCT 14 1930

1. There is enclosed herewith an English translation of the law passed by the Cuban Congress on October 3, 1930, authorizing the President to suspend for a period of twenty days the constitutional guarantees in the city of Havana and adjacent municipalities.

2. With reference to Article 2 of this law, an endeavor is being made to secure a copy of the Law of Public Order of April 23, 1870.

3. It will be noted that the authority conferred on the executive by this law is limited both as to time and place, whereas in the President's message to Congress requesting its enactment he asked for authority to suspend the constitutional guarantees without any limitation other than that dictated by his own discretion. This should not be interpreted, however, as indicating lack of cooperation on the part of Congress, as the bill was passed as introduced by one of the President's most loyal supporters in the Senate, and was undoubtedly drafted to meet the President's wishes.

4. It was the original intention of the President to request authorization to suspend the guarantees only in the Havana district. It appears now that he either felt that it would be more politic to leave it to the Congress to decide where the measure should apply, or the receipt of reassuring reports from the provinces may have convinced him that there would be no occasion for strong measures outside the national capital.

5. The measure is not popular and it is generally regarded as constituting an unnecessary discouragement to business activities, especially to the tourist trade, which is already showing signs of suffering as a result of reports circulating in the United States regarding disturbances in Cuba.

6. In the debate prior to the passage of this bill it was brought out that an extraordinary measure of this type was hardly consistent with the Government's repeated announcements that public order was not menaced, since the article of the Constitution on which its authorization is based (Article 40) states that the constitutional guarantees shall be suspended only "when the safety of the State may require it in cases of invasion of its territory or serious disturbances which threaten the public peace."

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy

Enclosure: English translation of law passed by Cuban Congress October 3, 1930.

From: M.A., Havana No. 3386 Date: October 6, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
4-1 2657-g-330
WAR DEPARTMENT

TRANSLATION

Article I. The President of the Republic is authorized to suspend, within the Municipal District of Habana and bordering Municipalities, if he considers it necessary and for a period of twenty days, the guarantees established in articles fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, nineteen, twenty-two, twenty-three, twenty-four and twenty-eight of the Constitution.

Article II. During the suspension of guarantees determined in this Law, the Law of Public Order of April 23, 1870, ordered published in Cuba September 24, 1879, shall govern.

Article III. This law shall govern from its publication in the "Gaceta Oficial" of the Republic; but the period fixed therein shall be counted beginning with the date on which the President of the Republic may make use of the authorization thereby conferred on him.

Hall of Sessions of the Senate, October 3, 1930.

DR. HORACIO DIAZ PARDO

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. 3600-a
OCT 25 1930
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

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4-1 2657-g-330
3

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. OCT 14 1930

1. There have been no outward signs during the past few days to indicate any change in the political situation in Cuba. However, a few significant facts concerning it are given below:

(a) A special judge has been entrusted with the investigation of the Students' Riot of September 30, and has brought indictments for sedition against ten persons, a majority of whom are students of the university. Three of those indicted, Juan Marinella, a young university professor of pronounced radical views, Francisco Masique, described as a journalist, and one Samuel, accused of having been the instigators of the demonstration, were refused bail.

(b) There is still no official announcement of a press censorship, but it is obvious from their contents that the newspapers are being required to submit copies to the authorities and to delete matter which the latter consider objectionable. This procedure is undoubtedly illegal. Even should the President take advantage of the unusual powers recently granted him, there is no provision in this law authorizing him to establish a press censorship.

(c) The Union Nacionalista has announced a large political meeting on the evening of October 11. Mayor Gomez, although requested by President Machado himself not to do so, has authorized the holding of this meeting. The Secretary of the Interior, however, has made no statement as yet as to whether or not the meeting will be held. It is now generally believed that unless some other means are found to prevent the holding of this meeting the President will take advantage of the unusual powers granted him by the Congress for the suspension of constitutional guarantees and forbid this assembly. It is interesting to note in this connection that this authority was granted him for a period of twenty days and that if he takes advantage of this authority this period will cover exactly the time from the proposed meeting of the Union Nacionalista until the election day.

(d) The police are continuing to take unusual precautions against any outbreaks. They now patrol the streets in pairs rather than singly. The Government's explanation of this, however, is that they feared attacks would be made on individual policemen due to the high run of feeling occasioned by the killing of a student by a policeman in the riot of September 30. While heretofore the police, except for a very small reserve kept on duty, have been allowed to sleep at home, they are now quartered in their police stations and no leaves of absence are granted them. Another precaution taken by the police is that all automobiles and trucks approaching Havana are searched by the police prior to their entrance into the city.

(e) An interesting incident which reflects the seriousness with which the press of the United States views the present situation is disclosed by the arrival on October 6, 1930, of two correspondents from New York newspapers: Harold Denny, of the New York Times, and Alpha Johnston, of the New York Herald-Tribune. When they arrived at the Embassy they stated that they had come down and would remain here "until after the revolution."

2. The above facts, while of no great importance, are significant in that they at least show the uneasiness with which the Government views the situation. The President, however, still maintains a more or less optimistic view and states that under no circumstances will the elections be postponed. Unconfirmed reports are that disorders will break out sometime during the week-end beginning October 10, a national holiday, and that the Government is taking unusual precautions to prevent them.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, press, and personal observation

From: M.A., Havana

No. 3388

Date: October 7, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
OCT 15 1930
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

3600-a

CUBA (Political) Bodron 4-1 2657-Q-330 4

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. OCT 14 1930

1. A brief summary of events affecting the political situation in Cuba in the past few days follows:

(a) October 6.

For the second time in the past month the police entered the establishment of Karikato, a comic weekly, and confiscated all the copies of this periodical, which was to have appeared on the streets of Havana on that day.

(b) October 7.

(1) The police, armed with proper court orders, descended upon the establishment of La Semana and seized all of its copies just prior to the time that they were to be turned over to the news vendors. Some of the copies of this paper did reach the vendors, however, and a street fight between the vendors and the police took place. In order to disperse the crowds that had gathered around the office of this paper police fired several shots in the air. As far as is known no one was injured. However, the news of the police having resorted to arms again created quite an unfavorable impression throughout the city.

(2) Colonel Rosendo Callazo, a senator from Camaguey, fled the country, having been warned that his presence was no longer desirable in Cuba. Senator Callazo has been quite active in the Union Nacionalista since January of this year, at which time President Machado informed him that he would not be favorably considered as a candidate for re-election to the Senate in the November elections. He was present on the speakers' stand at the Artemesa affair of last May, and up until the time of his departure he had very constantly boasted of his bravery and had openly criticized those members of the opposition who had left the country. However, as soon as he learned of the possibility of his life being in danger he immediately sought the protection of the American Embassy, which naturally was not afforded him.

(3) Colonel Julio Aguado, commanding officer of the Seventh Military District, departed for New York on the same boat with Colonel Callazo. At the time of his departure the press announced indirectly that he was ordered to leave not because of any outward sign of disloyalty but because, as one of the officials expressed it to me, "They were not sure of him."

An interesting sidelight of his departure is that today the Foreign Liaison Officer of the Cuban War Department called me up to state that the newspaper reports of his departure were incorrect and that he had left on an official military mission to the United States.

(c) October 9.

General Machado was the object of a manifestation of loyalty by a visit to Havana of the governors of the seven provinces and the mayors of all the principal cities of the republic. Noticeably absent, however, in this gathering was Miguel Mariano Gomez, mayor of Havana. During this demonstration the President took occasion to state that the present political unrest in Cuba was due entirely to the economic difficulties rather than to dissatisfaction with his administration, and that he was sure that he had strength enough to see Cuba through its present period of unrest. As usual,

From: M.A., Havana No. 3389 Date: October 9, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

he stated that under no circumstances would the elections be postponed. An amusing sidelight of his speech was that he stated that after the elections he intended to ask Congress to appoint a special commission to investigate the administrations of former presidents Zayas and Menocal. Just what would be accomplished by this investigation seems to be very vague, and it is doubted if even he himself ever expects to take such an unwise step.

2. For the moment the Government seems to have the situation quite well in hand. No outbreaks of any kind have occurred within the last few days. While the situation is by no means cleared up, there does seem to be a little less feeling of the possibility of disorders than existed a week ago. The hurried departure from the soil of Cuba of two of the principal leaders of the opposition has had somewhat of a disquieting effect in its ranks, the feeling being, among some of them at least, that if the leaders are physically afraid they cannot very well expect the rank and file of the opposition to remain loyal to them. However, reports are still current that activity of a very violent nature is certain to break out all over the island within the next few days. While there is no reason to give these reports any great credence, the persistence and frequency with which they occur warrant their being reported.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, press, and personal contacts

From: M.A., Havana No. 3389 Date: October 9, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DIRECTS ANSWERS TO THIS CABLE AS FOLLOWS:

ADVISE WITHIN 12 HOURS if answer is unnecessary.

If answer is NOT SENT WITHIN 7 DAYS REASON MUST BE STATED.

C. H. BRIDGES,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

Copies furnished as noted:

G-2 X
TAG √

BFS

Code- **CABLEGRAM.**

OCT 17 2657-9-330 1930

Received at the War Department, WAR DEPARTMENT

7 PO October 1, 1930.

4:20 P. M.

From Havana,

To The Adjutant General.

Number 1. October 1st.

Report yesterday disturbance and press censorship cabled to State Department. Report follows.

O'Hare.

FORM NO. 0 635-3--A. G. O.
ED. MAY 15, 1922.

X INDICATES CABLE ROUTED FOR ACTION; √ FOR INFORMATION

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. SEC. DIV.
OCT 18 1930
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

3600-a

CUBA (Political) 4-1 2657-g-339 6

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. OCT 171930

27

1. The political situation in Cuba during the past few days has had a much brighter outlook than at any time during the past month. The much talked of and predicted outbreaks that were to have occurred during the past week-end failed to materialize.

2. Although there is no way of determining just how long the present calm situation will prevail, I believe that the recent statement of policy toward Cuba as issued by our Secretary of State has had a very helpful effect in Cuba. At first some of the malcontents interpreted this as an invitation to revolt, feeling that under no circumstances would our Government interfere, but the saner thinking ones of them have put a much wiser interpretation on it. It now appears that unless something very unforeseen happens in the immediate future the Government will be able to survive and have its elections on November 1 as planned.

3. As I have pointed out many times, the economic situation is, in my opinion, the real root of the present discontent in the country. Cuba, impoverished after five years of this depression, in which the price of sugar, which constitutes about 80% of the national income, has fallen to its lowest level in history, is naturally susceptible to radical and revolutionary arguments for the overthrow of the Government. Naturally, the leaders in this opposition movement are taking advantage of this bad situation. Most of the leaders of the opposition are motivated by desires for their own political gain, and not by their country's welfare. The outstanding figures of this movement are heavily in debt. Their supporters are found among the malcontents throughout the island--those who are unemployed, poverty stricken, and therefore bitter; those who believe a new Government will restore the price of sugar to a profitable level; and those who are out of office and who regard Government patronage as a means of livelihood. In addition to this group there is a small number of intellectuals of high purpose who really dream of a purification of Cuban political life and hope that in some mysterious manner a new Government may accomplish it.

4. Judged by achievements alone, there is no doubt that President Machado has given to Cuba a better administration than any of his predecessors. Also, there is no doubt that he can be justly criticized for the prolongation of some vicious Cuban political practices. Today he enjoys the support of all the political parties, and a majority of the capitalist class, who cannot see any benefits that will be derived from political change at the present time. In addition to this, he appears to have the unqualified support of the Army, and its support means more to him at the present time than any other factor. The opposition to the President claims with justice that the parties are not representative of the people and that the candidates for the elections in November are appointees of the Government machine. Last spring the American Ambassador attempted to bring about a rapprochement between the opposition and the Government and at that time the President agreed to permit its organization as a political party for participation in the coming November elections. This group refused this compromise, and after their refusal the Congress failed to pass the measure proposed by the President at that time. Unquestionably their refusal to take part in the November elections was caused by their fear that, being without money and organization, they could not win a majority in either the House or Senate, and their greater ambition for the presidency could not be gratified until the presidential election of 1934.

5. The policy of the opposition therefore has been to force the President's resignation or to start a revolution if and when there should be an opportunity for success, or, in view of the dangers of such action, to bring about diplo-

From: M.A., Havana No. 3390 Date: October 14, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

matic interposition or intervention by the United States, which at least, they believe, would not place them in a less favorable situation than they are in today. This has been their policy for some time, although no Cuban politician likes to ask openly for an intervention, and in the past the opposition has been subtle in attempts to bring this about. An interesting feature of this is that in Cuba they have decried it; while in the United States their agents have urged it. During the past year their efforts in that direction have been aided by a series of public statements by Americans, both in and out of public office, giving an erroneous interpretation of the Platt Amendment. This has encouraged this group to agitate and demonstrate in the hope of causing the United States to intervene.

6. Under the present very serious circumstances it is possible that an uprising may take place. However, it does look very much more unlikely now than it did a few weeks ago and, as stated before, the policy as outlined by our Secretary of State has had a considerable influence on this change.

7. There appears to be four separate and distinct problems in Cuba that must be solved in the immediate future to avoid a crisis:

(a) A solution of the fundamental economic problem, which in fact is the removal of the surplus of sugar. This problem has been studied all summer by a group of American bankers and American and Cuban sugar men, and it is believed that a satisfactory solution to it will soon be brought about. At the present time stabilization seems to be the only possible solution, but the history of stabilization plans is very discouraging. However, any solution that will raise the present low price of sugar will be most helpful.

(b) A restoration of Cuban political liberties. The President has repeatedly promised to carry out all the necessary reforms immediately after the November elections.

(c) A further drastic reduction in the budget and general readjustment of the Government finances. The President has sought the good offices of the American Ambassador in a preparatory study of this problem and shows, outwardly at least, every inclination to make the necessary adjustment.

(d) The prevention of the spread of revolutionary sentiments, which are particularly prevalent in this pre-election period. The opposition demands that the elections be postponed until after the political reforms have been carried out. Should the Government accept this proposal it will rightfully be considered a sign of weakness, and may cause its downfall; or at least it would probably be followed by another demand--the President's resignation.

8. The above summarization of Cuba's ailments indicates that it has a very serious problem to confront and that its most critical period will be from now until the elections. If the Government is able to weather this storm and if the President will take immediate steps after the elections to put into effect his political reforms I believe that the present administration will be able to remain in office until its legal end. If, on the other hand, the President fails to carry out his promises of electoral reforms, reduction of the budget, and general readjustment of the Government finances, the administration will not be able to survive even though it is victorious in the critical period between now and the election.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache

Source: Embassy and personal observation

From: M.A., Havana No. 3390 Date: October 14, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

NOTED-DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF
NOTED - CHIEF OF STAFF
OCT 21 1930
WAR DEPARTMENT
M.I. INTEL. DIV.

G-2 Report

4-1 2657-g-380

7

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. OCT 21 1930

1. The political situation in Cuba remains unchanged, and from every outward appearance the Government has the situation well in control. The scene has shifted somewhat from the political opposition of the Union Nacionalista to the more active and demonstrative opposition of the students of the Government schools on the island.

2. During the past few days two clashes of comparatively minor importance have taken place between the students of the University of Havana and the police. On October 14 a group of students of the National University held a public meeting for the purpose of inducing the few students who are now taking examinations there from presenting themselves for this purpose. The students numbered about 200 and as soon as they organized themselves into a parade they were dispersed by the police. In doing it, however, the police again resorted to arms, several of the policemen firing shots into the air, but as far as can be ascertained no one was seriously hurt. Several of the students were arrested and were released on small bail. On October 15 the students of the Normal School, together with some of the students of the University, staged a demonstration of protest against the continuance of police and soldiers as guards in the University. Again the police dispersed this group, but in this case they did not resort to the use of arms. A few of the students were slightly injured, but none seriously.

3. Within the last couple of days the City of Havana has been flooded with manifestoes signed by the Student University Council in which they protest against the continuance of troops within the University, and beseech students of all the Government-controlled schools in Cuba to abstain from classes as a protest against the Government. The university students have been very successful in their endeavors in this direction, for as far as is known no students are now attending any of the Government-controlled schools in Cuba, although all of the schools with the exception of the University and the Institutes at Havana, Santa Clara, and Santiago are officially open. The Institute of Havana is going to open on October 20, and the University students are planning to prevent its students from attending classes.

4. The importance of this student anti-Government attitude cannot be minimized. It is extremely difficult for Americans to realize the importance which the student bodies of Governmental schools exercise over the Cuban populace. Unlike the United States, the student body of the National University represents a cross-section of the entire country, similar to the student bodies at our Military and Naval Academies, and their attitude on all matters pertaining to the Government is respected by the vast majority of the Cuban people. Also, from his early youth, the average Cuban boy receives political education at home, so that, by the time he enters the University, he is better versed on the political affairs of his country than the average American is at the age of thirty. Furthermore, the students, through their various student councils, actually control the universities and it is impossible for the faculty to create any new policies without the knowledge and consent of its students. As the students come from all over the island their ideas are broadcasted to every village and hamlet and have a more far reaching effect on the people as a whole of Cuba than any one agency on the island. The main reason for this unusual influence is that the people consider them the young intelligentsia who will be the future leaders of the country. The fact that the Government has twice in the last two weeks resorted to arms in the dispersing of students has caused the most unfavorable impression imaginable; to such an extent, in fact, that even El Mundo, the Government's most ardent supporter, came out on October 15 with a leading editorial condemning the police for its actions against the student demonstrators.

From: M.A., Havana No. 3391 Date: October 17, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

5. That the Government feels somewhat more assured of its position than it did a short time ago is indicated by the fact that the police, while they still continue to patrol the streets in pairs rather than singly, are no longer quartered in their barracks when off duty. The system now in vogue is that one-third is on duty, one-third is on reserve in the barracks, and the other third is allowed to be at home. Also, the police have discontinued their search of automobiles and trucks approaching the city.

6. In general, I would say that the situation is more calm now than it has been for the last month, and that one of the serious situations that the Government has to confront now is that of its treatment of the students. Of course the political opposition realize that this has a very strong appeal to the Cuban people and it is going to continue maximizing the Government's errors in its dealings with the students. It is my opinion that the Government made a serious error in its dealings with them, and if a fire-hose had been used instead of arms for the dispersing of these gatherings, it would probably not only have been more effective but it would have placed the students in somewhat of a ridiculous position.

E. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and personal contacts

From: M.A., Havana No. 3391 Date: October 17, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

3600-a

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
OCT 29 1930

4-1 2657-g-33

8

WAR DEPARTMENT

27

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. OCT 28 1930

1. The political situation in Cuba continues to be outwardly calm. There have been no outward signs of any unrest since the rendering of my last report on this subject. While many interpret this continued serenity as "the calm before the storm", I am inclined to believe that for the present the climax has been reached and passed and that the Government has the situation well in control. One rather reassuring fact in this respect is that practically all of the special writers who had come down here to remain until "after the revolution" have left Cuba.

2. That the Government is continuing to give serious thought to the students' activities is evidenced by the issuance of a Presidential Decree, English translation of which is enclosed, which defines the penalties to professors and students alike for their participation in the spreading of propaganda among the students of nationally controlled institutions against the attendance of students at these schools. It will be noted that the penalties are very severe and I am of the opinion that the issuance of this Decree will have a wholesome effect among the members of the institutions, especially among the professors. Due to the bad economic depression in Cuba, it is not believed that many of the members of the faculties will be foolhardy enough to continue any activities that might jeopardize their positions, and while it is known that a comparatively small group of the professors are in sympathy with them, the students naturally look to them for advice and counsel, so that, stripped of this leadership, their activities will lose a good deal of force.

3. According to press reports, official confirmation of which are lacking, President Machado is going to ask the Congress for authority to reorganize the University of Havana. This reorganization, if authority for it is granted, will consist principally in the removal of those who were involved in the recent disturbances at the institution, rather than a change in the University's curriculum. While the students' councils will be continued, it is thought that means will be provided to strip them of some of the authority they now enjoy.

4. The political opposition to the President continues as heretofore. Indications are that there has been a rift in the ranks of the leaders due principally to the recent activities of General Menocal. He feels that he is the leader of this group with absolute authority to do as he sees fit, while the other leaders are rather loath to give up the publicity that they have enjoyed in the past. In a recent conversation with the American Ambassador, General Menocal stated that he, alone, had authority to speak for the entire Opposition. Strange to say, in this above referred to conversation, General Menocal asked the American Ambassador that the United States intervene in Cuba - this, despite the fact that the Embassy files are filled with protests from him during his administration against such action.

5. The whole political situation here now seems to revolve about the question of whether or not the elections will be held. The Government insists that they will; the Opposition insists that they will not. The Opposition has not stated what means will be employed to prevent them, and in answer to this

From M.A., Havana No.3396 Date: October 24,1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

question they merely state: "You will see." I believe that they will be held. However, there is the possibility that as a last resource the Opposition will make some desperate effort on or immediately proceeding Election Day, knowing that if they are not successful in this move, they will be no worse off than they are at the present time, and in this way they can "save their face" for some more concerted action at a later date.

J. J. O'HARE
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and
Personal Contacts.

From M.A., Havana No.3396 Date: October 24,1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICER CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
DEC 29 1930
2657-g-330
8
WAR DEPARTMENT

4-1

TRANSLATION

Whereas: in some Institutions, Normal Schools, Commercial Schools and other official Centers of Education, an abnormal condition has been created through morbid propaganda, obviously contrary to the general interests of education, which condition tends to obstruct the ordinary procedure of the classes, the personnel of the institutions themselves not being unconnected with this condition in some cases, who, influenced by unwholesome inclinations, forget the fundamental principles of professional ethics;

Whereas: it is the duty of the Government to watch over the character formation of the students who attend the said establishments, among whom are children of twelve, thirteen and fourteen years, and any attitude other than one of scholarly work and the fulfillment of their present duties helps to deform their minds and create habits of lack of discipline at an age at which consciousness of personal responsibility has not yet been formed;

Whereas: it is necessary at the present time to dictate measures of a special character, in order to put an end to this condition which, if prolonged, would render useless and idle all the efforts hitherto made by the present Government ever to give greater scope and preponderance to education, and

Therefore: in the exercise of the powers conferred on me by the Constitution and the Laws, on the proposal of the Secretary of Public Instruction and Fine Arts,

I RESOLVE:

First: Students of the Institutions, Normal Schools and Commercial Schools, or of any other Official Center of Primary or Secondary Education who do not attend classes, without justified cause in the opinion of the Director of the Institution, shall be immediately stricken from the rolls as such students. Those who do not attend and who, in addition, spread propaganda among their companions against attending, shall be expelled for a period of from one to two years. Those who coerce their companions, threaten, abuse or annoy them for refusing to support the attitude of non-attendance, shall be expelled for a period of from two to five years, always at the discretion of the respective Directors.

Secondly: Professors who spread propaganda of protest among the students, in any way assisting them to maintain such, or who do not aid the Directors in their endeavors to preserve normal attendance and instructions of students, shall be immediately suspended from employment and salary by the Directors, who shall at once bring an action which they shall present before the Secretary of Public Instruction and Fine Arts for decision, without hearing the respective faculty member.

(s) Octavio Averhoff, Secretary of Public Instruction and Fine Arts. (s) Gerardo Machado, President.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
NOV 1 1930
2657-g-330
9
WAR DEPARTMENT

~7

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. OCT 31 1930

1. Conditions continue to remain outwardly quiet and orderly in Havana and so far as can be ascertained throughout the Island. There are fewer indications of any tension; the currency of the more exaggerated rumors has largely subsided and but for the fact that the police are still patroling the streets in pairs rather than singly, there is no unusual display of this force on the streets of Havana. Since the granting of authority to the President, as yet unexercised, to suspend the Constitutional guarantees when necessary, attacks on the Administration of the President due to a practical though not admitted censorship, have been much less violent, although there is still considerable critical comment; and the President's Decree forbiding the holding of public meetings and demonstrations until after November 2nd. has effectively prevented any disturbance of the public from political gatherings.

2. General Menocal's activities in connection with the Opposition are still attracting considerable attention, and his association with Mendieta is causing much speculation as to how long it will endure, as the latter was a violent and bitter critic of Menocal during his presidency. There have been many unconfirmed reports of an open breach between the two, but from a very reliable source I have learned that all these differences were composed at a luncheon on October 27th.

3. The issuance of the President's Decree defining the penalties to students and members of the faculties of the nationally controlled schools for participating in propaganda intending to cause students to refraim from attending classes, has also been greatly beneficial - reports indicate that the attendance at these schools has increased considerably and while it is still greatly below normal, it is much better than had been anticipated; indications are now that even the University may open on November 10th, despite the fact that the students still maintain that there is no possibility of this.

4. The President has acted very firmly and wisely in his dealings with his political enemies - for the moment it appears he has emerged the victor. The Opposition still maintain that there will be no elections, but as yet have not indicated what means will be employed to prevent them. There are unconfirmed reports to the effect that this group is now working to initiate a general strike or protest against the Administration. Such a movement, if successful, would cause considerable embarrassment to the Government, for it would be forced at this critical time to resort to extreme "strong arm" methods to preserve order. As previously stated in practically all of my reports on this subject, I still cannot see how the Opposition can do more at this time than make some sort of a halfhearted demonstration, due not only to the lack of leadership of this group but also to the lack of their moral courage.

J. F. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and
Personal contacts.

From M.A., Havana No. 3398 Date: October 28, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
4-1 2657-g-330
NOV 4 1930
10
WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subjects: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

Activities Connected With Pending Elections.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 3 1930

1. In these last few days immediately proceeding the elections there has been considerable agitation but no disturbances of importance, due to the Government's effectiveness in preventing political meetings and in keeping the more radical members of the Opposition under surveillance. Reports continue to pour in of agitation that is taking place in different parts of the Island, principally in the Province of Santa Clara, involving plots to frustrate the elections, all of which are being properly checked by the Government.

2. During the past week both President Machado and General Menocal issued statements. The former urged all voters to participate in the coming elections, pointing out that the constitutionality of the elections has been upheld by the Supreme Court, and that the "free and unrestricted privilege of voting was the first and strictest of all civil duties." In the last paragraph of his statement he promised that immediately after the elections "we will reform, by means of laws and plans already studied and approved, the political situation in such a form as to insure for all time the faithful expression of the National will."

3. General Menocal's statement, English translation of which is enclosed, was a curious and ambigious text, which has been the subject of severe Press attacks by practically all the conservative newspapers in Havana. The most severe criticism of the statement was by the Government controlled Heraldo de Cuba, which called attention to the election frauds of 1916, to the assassination of General Caballero, to the corruption in Menocal's last Presidential years, to his persecution of the Press and his suppression of public liberties, to the circumstances of his reappearance in political life, and to the fact that Menocal speaks for no one, not even for the mass of the Conservative Party.

4. The renewal of activities of the students is believed to be responsible for a recent Presidential Decree closing all public institutions of learning until November 5th because of the use of these buildings as polling places. On October 26th the Student Council, representing the students of the University, made public a statement of their principles, based largely on the desire for University independence from Government control. In this statement they declared that they would not recognize any authority but that of the Faculty Administration. They asked for educational autonomy by which appointments of professors would be made by the faculty, and economic autonomy by providing, in the budget, a sufficient appropriation, the expenditure of which would be controlled by the faculty. They further demanded a certain amount of student self government in matters of examinations and schedules, and the immediate withdrawal of the military detachment stationed within the University. While no action has been taken in response to this statement, naturally many of the professors, irrespective of their political beliefs, are in sympathy with it. The Rector of the University has now announced that its re-opening, which was scheduled for November 10th, has been deferred "sine die."

From M.A., Havana No. 3400 Date: October 31,1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

5. In the meantime, the Government is proceeding quietly with its plans for the maintenance of public order on Election Day and immediately thereafter. The Army has been shifted around to strategic points in order to be in a position to quell any serious disturbances that might occur. As a general division of responsibility, the Army is charged with the maintenance of order in all places on the Island except in the City of Havana, where the National Police will handle the situation.

6. Unquestionably there will be some disturbances on Election Day. However, it is now believed even by the most radical of the Opposition that the elections will be held, although they still steadfastly maintain that they will not. Of course, if they are held both groups are going to carry on the fight for sometime after the elections, the Government claiming a very large percentage of voters had presented themselves at the polls, and the Opposition claiming a correspondingly small percentage of votes cast at the elections.

J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and
Personal Contact.

From M.A., Havana No. 3400 Date: October 31,1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ENCLOSURE NO. 2

DESPATCH NO.

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
NOV 4 1930
4-1 2657-g-330
10
WAR DEPARTMENT
7

(TRANSLATION)

EL MUNDO - OCTOBER 29, 1930.

TO THE NATION

The moments in which we are living are so grave that all of us who feel obligated through our political connections to maintain a clear attitude, should make known our opinion to the public. It is, therefore, highly important for me that my words and my purposes be not misinterpreted. The secrecy I maintained during the recent conferences held with several friends, was natural, and in accord with the statements I gave out to the press a very short time ago.

Conditions have not changed; on the contrary, they have become worse. And, therefore, it has not been possible to change the attitude which I consider to be in accord with my duties as a citizen. If some persons, either through suspiciousness or wrong interpretation of the facts, have come to believe the opposite, my political probity compels me to dispel their mistake.

Every day that passes, the horizon becomes darker. The perplexity of the mind increases. As I am conscious of my responsibility, I assume it without any hesitation. I do not wish to help make the discomfiture greater. On the contrary, I believe I speak on behalf of all the people. The reality of their right rises against a fiction which endeavors to destroy it. The electoral fiction.

The small group of those who want to reach or to maintain positions in the government and in the administration of the public interests, go straight to impose their convenience or their ambition. They still have time to stop. Let us listen to the profound voice which comes out of the bowels of Cuba. Let us not carry it to desperation. Even the atony of nations is mortal.

M. G. MENOCAL.

Habana, October 28, 1930

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.

AMERICAN EMBASSY

OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
HAVANA, CUBA.

2-1

NOV 11 1930
2657-Q-330
11
WAR DEPARTMENT

November 7, 1930.

No. 3406

Subject: Evaluation of Report No. 3390.

To: Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 11 1930

1. With reference to evaluation of Report No.3390, Index No.3600-a, the press report as given in the chronology to the effect that Mr. Jones had recommended five important changes to the Cuban Government to cure Cuba's economic ills, is in error. At no time has Mr. Jones recommended anything to the Cuban Government.

Press read this study by Mr. Jones was made for Ambassador Guggenheim's information

2. With reference to my report No.3377, Index No. 4000-e, in which it was stated that a financial commission had been named by the President to complete the study of the economic condition in Cuba, this commission has never actually been created nor has Mr. Grosvenor Jones assumed the Chairmanship of it. The report was given to the press of the formation of this commission without the knowledge or consent of Mr.Jones. Upon his arrival here he assumed his duties as financial adviser to the Ambassador, and has had no official connection with the Cuban Government at any time. He felt, and wisely so, that he could not accept such a commission, and while he issued no public statement to that effect, he allowed this report to die a natural death.

J. U. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Copy filed on 2655-Q-81/18 (CMD)

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

4-1

G-2 Report

3600-a

NOV 18 2657-9-330 1930

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 17 1930

1. While the political situation in Cuba has remained outwardly calm since the elections, the Opposition continues to employ every conceivable type of obstructionist tactics. This group, with General Menocal as its now recognized leader, continues to emphasize the wrongs of the Machado Government, and although its attitude now appears to be less belligerent than it was a month ago, hopes are still expressed by its leaders that the present Administration cannot remain in power for the remainder of its term of office.

2. Some of the themes that the Opposition are now preaching are:

(a) The election farce! - They claim that not more than ten percent of the registered voters availed themselves of the voting privilege during the recent elections, and that, of this group, a very large majority were Government employees who voted for fear of losing their positions if they failed to vote. In view of the favorable showing of the Conservative Party, over which General Menocal constantly states he is the head, such a statement is very ridiculous.

(b) Opposition to the Chadbourne Plan: The Opposition press continues to vehemently oppose this Plan. In an attempt to secure the passage of a bill putting this Plan into operation, in the House of Representatives on November 10th, so much opposition was offered by Representatives Aguiar, Rey and Cruz, all Conservatives, to consideration of the Bill, that the Session was adjourned with comparatively no discussion of its merits. It is known that for purely political reasons, General Menocal, himself a sugar planter and owner of a Colono, is very much opposed to this Plan.

(c) Attacks upon the Government's recent reduction in salaries of Governmental employees: The Opposition is attempting to cause dissatisfaction among the Government employees whose salaries were recently reduced (see my report No. 3407, Index No. 5020-b, dated Nov. 10, 1930). Their main cries against this wage cut are that had the Government taken steps earlier in the present Administration, such wage cuts would not be necessary, and that if all graft incident to the Administration were eliminated, it would not be necessary even at this time.

3. The principal hope of the Opposition group is that the entire Cuban question will be solved in the United States Senate when it convenes. It has been stated that United States Senators King and Walsh will lead in this fight on the Senate Floor, and that due to the recent gains by the Democrats in the November elections, their voices will be heeded. A circular purporting to be a summarization of the promises made to Senator King by President Hoover in a recent conversation between them, has been circularized in Havana. The demands are so ridiculous that they should receive no attention; however, the hopes of the Opposition have been greatly bolstered up as a result of this.

4. The students still continue to oppose the Government. While practically all of the secondary schools are now open, and are reported to have practically normal attendance, the University of Havana is still closed and there is little hope entertained that it will open during the present Semester.

From M.A., Havana No. 3409 Date:November 11,1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Two incidents in which the students played the principal roles are given below:

(a) On November 9th a group of approximately 200 students attempted to hold a Memorial in honor of Rafael Trejo, the student who was killed in the riot on September 30th. When they arrived at the hall where they were to have met, they were refused admission by the owner of the hall, who had presumably been intimidated into taking this line of action by Government agents. In view of the fact that the Mayor of Havana had granted them the necessary permit, a parade was formed for the purpose of proceeding to Mayor Gomez' house to thank him for his efforts in their behalf. Soon after the parade was formed, the police intervened and with very little difficulty succeeded in stopping it. Several of the students and one girl were injured - none seriously.

(b) Street fighting between students in Santiago de Cuba and the police on November 10th resulted in the death of one and the injury of approximately fifty others, three of whom are reported to have been seriously wounded. According to press accounts, this riot occurred as a result of the detention of a few students by the municipal police for having caused some disturbances in the local theatre on the night of November 9th. A group of students, together with many older men, described as members of the local Union Nacionalista group and Communists, and allegedly led by students of the University of Havana, marched towards the city jail to demand the release of their friends. Before the police could stop them, they destroyed statues of the Governor of Oriente Province and the Mayor of Santiago. The police immediately attacked the crowd and when it was found that they were unable to cope with the situation, soldiers from the First Military District under Colonel Gonzales Valdes, assisted the police in restoring order. Several of the rioters were arrested and the supposed leaders are being held "incommunicado" at the local jail. While the city is not under martial law, the soldiers of the First Military District are being held in reserve in case of further outbreaks.

(c) Student demonstrations of very minor importance have been reported in Matanzas, Camaguey and Santa Clara. From the meager information on hand, nothing of serious consequence occurred at either of these two places.

5. As previously stated, the student situation is, in my opinion, one of the most serious ones that the Government has to confront. The students are very resentful of the Government's attitude, and the death of Rafael Trejo is being constantly used by the Opposition to keep this question alive. This group is especially resentful of the continuance in office of Dr. Alverhof as the Secretary of Public Instruction. I believe that if he were removed from office, much of the agitation would die.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and Press.

From M. A., Havana No. 3409 Date: November 11, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

2 encls.

G-2 Report

3600-a

OFFICE OF THE ASST. MILITARY ATTACHE
NAVAL DIV.

4-1 2657-J-330

13

NOV 19 1930
WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. NOV 19 1930

1. Apparently heartened by the demonstrations in Santiago on November 10th, disturbances, generally misnamed "student disorders", became general throughout the country on November 12th and 13th. The most serious of these took place in Havana. While some students have unquestionably taken part in these demonstrations and disorders, the vast majority of the crowds is composed of hoodlums, rowdies, unemployed and discontented radicals, bent on wanton destruction of private property.

2. During the day and night of November 12th disorders broke out in many sections of Havana. The police had great difficulty in maintaining order on that day; shots were exchanged between them and the rioters, and while the exact number of deaths cannot be ascertained, reports indicate that at least three people were killed and scores were wounded. During the night of November 12th the rioters broke the plate glass windows in many of the leading stores in Havana, apparently without discrimination. They also destroyed many of the electric lights in the streets in the hope of being able to continue their destruction under the cover of darkness. It was not until about 4 A.M. on the morning of November 13th that the police were finally able to clear the streets of the rioters.

3. Disorders of less serious importance occurred throughout the day of November 13th. By this time the police had apparently reached the limit of their patience and used their revolvers, clubs and machetes very freely in dispersing gatherings. I witnessed one of these disorders and share the general opinion of other witnesses that the police had become much too aggressive in their measures. One very unfortunate incident occurred during the day -- that of the shooting of an American Citizen, Arturo Tagle. This incident occurred directly in front of the American Club about 3 P.M., and from eye witness accounts of it, it was the result of a fracas between Tagle and two or three troopers, in which Tagle took a machete away from one of the soldiers and was attacking them when he was shot by a secret service policeman. His condition is very serious and latest reports indicate that his chances of recovery are very slight.

4. About Noon of November 13th two battalions of the Army from Camp Colombia and Cabana Fortress were moved into town and supplemented the police force in restoring order in the city. As a result of their very efficient work, order was completely restored by about 4 P.M. and during the night conditions became so normal that the streets of Havana were practically deserted by 10 P.M. As far as is known, no further disturbances of any kind occurred.

2657-J-330/2

5. The President wavered throughout the day as to whether or not he should proclaim Martial Law. Finally at 2 P.M. he signed a Decree putting into effect the suspension of the Constitutional Guarantees under the authority granted him by Congress on October 3, 1930 (see my report No. 3386, Index No. 3600-a, dated October 6, 1930). The Press of Havana labeled this act as a declaration of Martial Law, which, of course, is not true. However, the presence of the Army in the streets of Havana, supplemented by the knowledge that the President had signed this Decree, had a very salutary effect on the disturbing elements.

6. On November 13th the Government closed all of the Nationally controlled secondary schools throughout the Island. They further forbade the students of these schools to wear their distinctive uniforms until classes were resumed. This precaution was taken because the Government

From M. A., Havana No.3411 Date: November 14, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

felt that many of the disturbing element, both male and female, were wearing the distinctive uniforms of these schools, although not members of them, in order to gain public sympathy. The President stated that he has appointed Senator Barerras, a commission of one, to solve the student situation.

7. On November 12, 1930 a Decree was published, which had been signed by the President on November 9, 1930, appointing military supervisors to the various Provinces for the maintenance of public order. The purpose of this Decree, English translation of which is enclosed, is to have one man in each Province to co-ordinate the efforts of the various municipal police forces throughout each Province.

8. On the morning of November 13th the Diario de la Marina was suppressed. This newspaper, up until a comparatively short time ago, was one of the most conservative newspapers in the Island. However, in order to gain popular appeal and increase its circulation, it has recently become one of the most severe critics of the Administration. Similar action was taken against El Pais. As a result of this action, the Cuban Press Association met last night and its members voted to suspend publication of their papers until the Government assured them of complete freedom of the Press. The newspapers affected by this agreement are El Mundo; Diario de la Marina and El Pais, all dailies, and Social; Carteles, La Semana and Kariakto, all weeklies. This leaves only the Heraldo de Cuba and La Lucha, both strong Government supporters, in the field of daily newspapers in Havana. It is believed, however, that at least El Mundo will weaken in the next day or two and resume publication.

9. From reports received from the various Consular districts and from biased Governmental reports, disorders in other parts of the Island during the last two days were of very minor importance.

10. The situation is very tense at the moment, but I believe that the President's determination to deal with the disturbing elements with a firm hand, and, especially, his immediate recourse to the Army, all of whom have apparently remained loyal, will cause at least temporary return of public order on the Island. By no means should these disorders be entirely attributed to the students. All impartial observers have agreed that these latest disorders were unquestionably inspired by the political Opposition and labor agitators, who desired to take advantage of the public sympathy which would be created by student participation. Great capital will undoubtedly be made of the shooting of the American Citizen referred to in paragraph 3, and will undoubtedly cause outbursts of indignation in the Press of the United States. It is possible that the Opposition will now let up slightly in their agitation, feeling that the shooting of an American Citizen will bring about the result most urgently desired by them -- an investigation by the Senate, and, possibly, American intervention.

11. There are enclosed herewith two pictures from the Havana Post of today, showing groups of individuals who were arrested during the riots of November 12th and 13th. While this paper is a strong Government supporter, I believe that these pictures show a good cross section of the average crowd that participated in the riot.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and
Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3411 Date: November 14, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ENCLOSURE NO. 1.

DEPT. OF STATE
NOV 19 1930
WAR DEPARTMENT

(TRANSLATION)

DECREE No. 1498

Whereas: Disturbances in the public order have been occurring in recent days in various places comprised within the territory belonging to the six provinces into which the Republic is divided, disturbances provoked by groups of students aided by other elements acting in opposition to the authorities of the State;

Whereas: The Government is obliged to take precautions to avoid such acts by adopting the measures which the case requires, in order to maintain public tranquillity and not to permit the peace to be disturbed in any way;

Whereas: In order to carry out the measures which the Government proposes to adopt for such ends, it becomes indispensable to effect uniformity of action in everything which may conduce to the maintenance of the public peace;

Therefore: In the use of the powers conferred on me by the first clause of Article 68 of the Constitution and other concordant laws and on the proposal of the Secretary of the Interior, and having learned the views of the Secretary of War and of the Navy,

I RESOLVE:

1. To appoint as Supervisor of the Department of the Interior in the province of Pinar del Rio, Captain Jose Federico Quintero Cuervo of the National Army, to assume command of all divisions of the Municipal Police in the said province and to whose authority there shall likewise be subject the military supervisors appointed by the Executive, in any section of the area mentioned, in order to watch over the maintenance of public order, or to reestablish it, if that should be necessary.

2. The Secretary of the Interior is charged with the execution of the provisions of this Decree.

Given in Habana, at the Presidential Palace, November 11, 1930.

GERARDO MACHADO
PRESIDENT

MANUEL J. DELGADO
Secretary of the Interior.

(COPY)

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DIRECTS ANSWERS TO THIS CABLE AS FOLLOWS:

ADVISE WITHIN 12 HOURS if answer is unnecessary.

If answer is NOT SENT WITHIN 7 DAYS REASON MUST BE STATED.

C. H. BRIDGES,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

Copies furnished as noted:

G-2 X
TAG √

BFS

Code- CABLEGRAM.

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
MAY 2 1931
2657-2-330
WAR DEPARTMENT

Received at the War Department.

WN 40 November 14, 1930.

9:00 A. M.

From Havana.

To The Adjutant General.

Number 3. November 13th.

Disorder continual throughout country. Full report given in telegram to State Department this date. Report follows.

O'Hare.

FORM NO. 0 635-3--A. G. O.
ED. MAY 15, 1922.

X INDICATES CABLE ROUTED FOR ACTION; √ FOR INFORMATION

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DIRECTS ANSWERS TO THIS CABLE AS FOLLOWS:

ADVISE WITHIN 12 HOURS if answer is unnecessary.

If answer is NOT SENT WITHIN 7 DAYS REASON MUST BE STATED.

C. H. BRIDGES,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

Copies furnished as noted:

G-2 X
TAG V

Jan 13

Code - **CABLEGRAM.** JJ

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.

2657-2-33

Received at the War Department.
November 15, 1930.

Jan 13
WAR DEPARTMENT

2 P. M.

From Havana

To The Adjutant General.

WN 33

Number 4. November 15th.

No serious disorder reported yesterday or up to noon today.

O'Hare.
(Mil Attache)

X INDICATES CABLE ROUTED FOR ACTION; ✓ FOR INFORMATION

FORM NO. 0 635-3--A. G. O.
ED. MAY 15, 1922.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
NOV 24 1930
WAR DEPARTMENT

4-1

3600-a

2657-G-330

14

27

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. NOV 22 1930

1. From every outward appearance, the situation in Cuba is calm, no disorders of any importance having taken place since those of November 13th.

2. The American Ambassador had a lengthy conference with President Machado on November 15th, in which the latter expressed confidence that the situation was tranquil throughout the Island and would remain so. He further stated that he expected to issue a Decree within a few days countermanding the one of November 13th, in which he suspended Constitutional Guarantees. As yet, no such Decree has been published, but should the situation continue calm for the next two or three days, it is believed that he will abide by this decision. As proof that the President considers that he has the situation in hand, the armed forces were withdrawn from patroling the streets of Havana on November 16th and only one battalion is held in reserve within the city limits.

3. By Presidential Decree No. 1514, dated November 13th, 1930, a Press censorship was put into operation affecting all cables, radio telegraph, radio telephone, and cable messages, both within the Island itself and to foreign countries. By this Decree the use of all codes in communications is prohibited. The Decree will remain in force during the twenty day period in which the Constitutional Guarantees are suspended. Commercial companies engaged in this work have issued unofficial statements to the effect that code messages will be accepted by them, provided the sender files with the company the code used.

2657-G-330/13

4. The members of the Press Association are still taking a firm stand against press censorship and no change has been made by the newspapers since the rendering of my report No. 3411, Index No. 3600-a, dated Nov. 14, 1930. However, the Director of El Mundo assured me that an agreement would be made with the Government within the next two or three days for the publication of all the papers and periodicals who are now protesting against the Government's censorship.

5. The Press of November 16th carried a front page article stating that a Communist plot had been discovered in which the agitators were planning wholesale destruction of American property in Havana, for the purpose of enlisting the aid of American business men in Havana in securing the withdrawal of Ambassador Guggenheim because of his stand in supporting the present regime. No confirmation has been received of any such plot and it is believed that its origin is absolutely baseless. One incident of very minor importance which was greatly exaggerated in the Press occurred on the night of November 14th in the vicinity of the Embassy residence. From such accounts as are available, it appears that a passer-by threw a stone at one of the policemen guarding the Embassy. The latter retaliated by firing several shots at his assailant. These shots naturally attracted considerable attention, and the press story went so far as to state that an attempt was being made to assault the person of the Ambassador. As policemen have been the object of much missile throwing during the period of the excitement, this incident would not have received any attention but for the fact that it occurred in the vicinity of Mr. Guggenheim's residence.

6. Ambassador Guggenheim has attempted to bring about a "rapprochment" between the Opposition and the Government. This was done at the request of an emissary representing General Menocal, and the Editor of Diario de la Marina,

From M. A., Havana No.3413 Date; November 18,1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

and with the consent of President Machado. Nothing resulted in these negotiations, principally because the American Ambassador very rightfully told this emissary that he preferred to deal with General Menocal himself. An appointment was made for this meeting, but General Menocal failed to keep it, stating that his views and those of the Ambassador were so far apart that no possible good could be obtained by their meeting.

7. The Student situation continues to be the most serious one that the Government has to confront. Dr. Alberto Barreras, Liberal Senator from Havana, who apparently enjoys the respect and confidence of the Opposition, was named by the President to study this situation and make recommendations for its solution. The "Student Directorate" of the University recently held a session in which it was reported that a resolution was presented to Senator Barreras stating the conditions under which the students would return to the University. These are as follows:

(a) A demand for the resignation of several government officials considered as responsible for the recent clashes between students and government officers.

(b) A demand that complete liberty of action be restored at the University and all other centers of learning in Cuba so that the Student Federation recently ordered disbanded by the government may continue to function as previous to the government orders for disbandment.

(c) A complete reorganization of the system of education and curriculum of studies at the National University of Havana.

(d) Removal of all specially designated professors of the University. These professors had been appointed by presidential decree and not in accordance with the by-laws of the institution which demand that public competition be held for their appointment.

(e) Complete liberty to the students to choose their own dean for the University.

(f) Under no consideration will public armed forces be ordered to occupy any section of the University or the campus.

While these demands are very severe, the President is now in a very conciliatory mood insofar as the students are concerned, and it is believed he will meet most of them. Negotiations are continuing daily between the students and Senator Barreras and it is hoped that a solution will soon be reached. As an indication of the Government's attitude toward the students, fifty of them who were charged with sedition and disturbance of the public peace as a result of the recent riots, were released on a bond of $2000.00 each.

8. From latest reports, Arturo Tagle, the American Citizen who was shot in the riot of November 13th, is progressing as well as can be expected. While his condition still remains serious, hope is now expressed that he will not die.

9. For the present at least, the situation is well controlled by the Government. How long it will be able to cope with it is problematical. The President, however, is doing everything possible to meet all reasonable

From M. A., Havana No. 3413 Date: November 18, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

demands of the Opposition. He fully realizes that the economic situation is the real basis of all the trouble in Cuba and with this in mind, he gave his most loyal support to the passage of the Chadbourne Bill. He has sent a message to Congress requesting the passage of a Bill to bring into immediate effect the so called Crowder Code. He has also restricted the Public Works Program to the completion of the Central Highway and the Santiago de Cuba Water Works. While this restriction will have a salutary effect on the economic situation of the Government itself, the other problem that will have to be faced is the number of unemployed that will be caused by the decrease of Public Works.

10. In conclusion, I believe that General Machado is acting very wisely and sanely. I do believe, however, that some of the police have acted too aggressively in enforcing the law. This, however, can be attributed to the Latin temperment. The President is confronted with the most serious situation that any of his predecessors has had to face, and should he "pull through" he will undoubtedly go down in the history of the Republic as one of Cuba's greatest men.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and
Personal Observation.

Note:
Please consider that portion of paragraph 5 that deals with an alleged attempt of assault on Ambassador Guggenheim, and paragraph 6, as confidential.

From M. A., Havana No. 3413 Date: November 18, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

3600-a

Dodson 4-1 NOV 29 2637-g-330 1930

15

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 29 1930

1. For the past three or four days quiet has prevailed in Havana and, as far as can be ascertained, throughout the Island with the exception of minor and isolated outbreaks involving at most only a very few individuals. The suspension of constitutional guarantees, involving the censorship of newspapers, the censorship of cable and telegraph messages, the revocation of licenses for the carrying of arms, and enforced by the cooperation of the military with the police, has effected, outwardly at least, restoration of order throughout the Island. As stated in my last report, very little evidence is seen of soldiers on the streets, although one battalion is still held in reserve in the old City Hall of Havana.

2. Taking advantage of this quiet, the Government has made an effort to mediate its differences with the Press and with the students. So far, however, it has not been successful in either of these endeavors. The President appointed Dr. Clemente Vasquez Bello, President of the Senate, as his representative in effecting an understanding with the directors of those newspapers who have not published since November 12th, including all of the Cuban newspapers of any importance except the Heraldo de Cuba. The directors of these papers are still maintaining the attitude that they would prefer not to publish at all rather than submit their publications to censorship. A Government inspired editorial in Heraldo de Cuba of November 19th censored this attitude and stated that while the Press should be free, its freedom cannot be absolute and that in times of stress it must be subject to limitations. In answer to this editorial the Press Association issued a manifesto to the Public which appeared in the English dailies of November 20th. It stated in substance that its attitude was not that of combating the Government but merely an insistence on its part to the rights afforded the Press by the Constitution. Just how much longer the Press will be able to maintain this attitude is very uncertain. The director of one of the non-publishing papers informed me that it is costing him about $3000.00 a day by not publishing, and that while he will be able to hold out for sometime longer, he doubted if the other papers would be able to do this.

3. On November 19th Senator Barreras announced the failure of his negotiations with the students, stating that the latter were not content to confine their discussions to the question of University autonomy but extended their demands to political questions in the form of an ultimatum calling for the resignation of the present Government. The Senator announced that this was beyond his province as special representative of the President and that further efforts on his part were useless, beyond the transmission to the President himself of the document containing the ultimatum. Unquestionably the failure of these negotiations will add to the seriousness of the situation unless some way can be found for their resumption.

4. On November 20th the President sent a message to Congress requesting authority to extend the suspension of Constitutional rights previously granted to him, to include the entire Island. This measure was passed by the Senate on November 20th by vote of 16 to 4. The House will not convene until November 24th and it is expected that on that day it will sanction this additional power to the President.

From M. A., Havana No. 3416 Date: November 21,1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

The President stated that the reason for the request for this extension of suspension of Constitutional Guarantees was brought about not only by the recent ultimatum by the students, but also because of the fact that with his present authority he was unable to cope with the situation, due to the fact that the various agitators have fled to the interior in order to avoid arrest and trial in Havana. By this additional power granted to him he will be able to cause the arrest and transportation to Havana of any of those people who have taken advantage of the loophole in the authority previously given him. A special Judge has been appointed in Havana to try all charges of sedition and revolution against the present Administration.

5. Arturo Tagle, the American who was wounded in the riot of November 13th, died this morning. The Embassy has addressed a strong note of protest to the Cuban Government, requesting an investigation. As previously stated, this death will no doubt be broadcast in the Press of the United States and will give the Opposition much "ammunition" to use to try and bring about American intervention.

6. The Army, from all outward signs, is still remaining loyal to the President and he fully realizes that his one great hope for being able to "carry on" is its continuance of loyalty to him. I have continued to be in constant contact with members of the Army, and as far as I have been able to observe, there has been no weakening on their part. Fortunately for the President, he has in General Herrera, the Chief of Staff, a man to whom the entire Army seems devoted, and there has been no flinching in his loyalty to General Machado.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and
Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3416 Date: November 21,1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

3600-a

4-1 DEC 16 1930 2657-g-330

WAR DEPARTMENT 16

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 15 1930

1. A brief summary of events affecting the political situation in Cuba since the rendering of my last report on this subject, follows:

(a) November 26th:

The Bill authorizing the President to suspend Constitutional Guarantees throughout the Island was passed by the House of Representatives by a 80 to 14 vote. This Bill was contested very bitterly by the opposition in the House and it was passed only after two sessions.

(b) November 27th:

1. Much apprehension was felt that the students incited by leaders of the Opposition, would organize a demonstration on this day - the Anniversary of the Student Tragedy of 1871. However, the day passed without disorders.

2. President Machado, following a petition of the Association of Reporters acceded to the request that the censorship be lifted on newspapers. In addition to this, the censorship of cables, telegrams, and radio was removed by Presidential Decree.

(c) November 28th:

All the Spanish newspapers in Havana resumed publication. Much space was devoted in each of them to a resumé of the difficulties with the Government. A defense of the stand taken by the Press was made in each of the papers. Apparently no change in policy was made by any of the papers, El Pais resuming its role as the leader of the Opposition, with the Diario de la Marina a close second.

(d) November 30th:

Dr. Rodriguez Molina was appointed Rector of the University. The students had remained calm for the week previous and it was thought that this appointment would be met with enthusiasm by them.

(e) December 1st:

1. In view of the outward calm that had existed in Havana and the provinces for ten days previously, the President revoked Decree No. 1512 of November 13, 1930, which had suspended Constitutional Guarantees. All troops were removed to their respective stations with the exception of a small detachment which was held in reserve in the old city hall of Havana.

2. The Government felt the situation was so well in hand that a Decree was issued providing for the reopening of the University of Havana; the Havana Normal School, and the School of Commerce in Santa Clara, the latter of which was the only secondary school at that time outside of Havana which was not functioning. At the same time an announcement was made that the students would have a right to assemble and discuss their problems at any time within the limits of the schools, providing authority was granted by the head of the school.

From M.A., Havana No. 3422 December 9, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

3. The Congress passed a Bill re-establishing the Crowder Electoral Code, which among other things, provides for a new Electoral census. (A detailed study of this Code will be submitted at a later date.)

(f) December 3rd:

1. The University of Havana reopened. A mass meeting of the students, previously authorized by the University authorities, was held on the campus. This meeting developed into a riot, in which the students left the campus and wrecked the office of the Rector. After this demonstration a line of march was formed by about 3000 students who then headed toward the center of the city, apparently for the purpose of staging a demonstration in front of the President's Palace. The police remonstrated with the students in a very calm manner, stating it was impossible for them to have a parade without a permit. When this failed to stop them, the police were obliged to attempt to halt them by force. A riot ensued in which one policeman was killed and another seriously injured. Several of the students received minor injuries and forty of them were arrested, but were released on small bail on the same day.

2. The Act re-establishing the Crowder Code was published in the Official Gazette.

(g) December 4th:

1. The University remained open, but only a handful of students attended the classes.

2. Dr. Rodriguez Molina resigned as Rector of the University, and Dr. Carlos de la Torre was appointed temporary Rector.

(h) December 8th:

1. Clashes between the students of the University together with those of the Institute and the Normal School and the police resulted in injury of four students and six members of the police force. As a result of this last act, President Machado suspended indefinitely classes in all public schools in Havana, including the University, high schools, Normal School, and the School of Commerce. The University was immediately occupied by two companies of Infantry and its doors closed.

2. Dr. Carlos de la Torre refused to accept the post as Director of the University,and the same action was taken by Dr. Jose P. Alacan and Dr. Aristides Agramonte.

3. In that practically one Semester of the school year has been lost as a result of the students' activities, it is believed that all the schools, certainly the University, will be closed for the remainder of the school year.

II. It would seem from the above, and from past actions, that the Government has done everything within its power to cope with the situation. However, the Opposition, and especially the students, incited by others, have taken such an unreasonable stand that the President would be justified in doing almost anything to maintain order in the Republic. Indications are now that the Anti-Machado propagandists will redouble their efforts in the United States to induce intervention in Cuba; this, despite a recent announcement of our State Department that no such action will be taken. The political

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

history of the Republic is one of periodical attempts to overthrow the Government. The means inevitably employed for this is the establishment of a "Junta" in the United States for the distribution of propaganda to the public in general and to our Congress in particular. The recent efforts in Cuba have been due in no small measure to the successful campaign of these propagandists who have been encouraged to renew their efforts to force our intervention in the Country.

III. It is hoped that these efforts will not in any way precipitate the thought of an intervention. Intervention has always been resented by the Cuban people in the past, and it would be particularly resented today. Even the Opposition, which has been using all of its powers to secure intervention, would object very seriously to it, if it did not result in immediate overthrow of the present regime. At first the tactics of this group were to create the impression that Machado was maintained in power by our Government; but when this failed, as a result of the policy of non-interference by the State Department, these tactics were changed for a direct promotion for intervention. As previously stated, this intervention is sought for with just one thought in mind, and that is for our Government to come here and remain only long enough to replace the present Government. Our Governmental Agencies would not be in Cuba two weeks before a clamor would be raised for their immediate removal, and a very active propaganda throughout the United States and Latin America would tend to cause an even deeper resentment to the United States than exists in the minds of a large number of Latin Americans today.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and
Personal Observation.

From M.A., Havana No. 3422 December 9, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

. THE SECRETARY OF WAR DIRECTS ANSWERS TO THIS CABLE AS FOLLOWS:

ADVISE WITHIN 12 HOURS if answer is unnecessary.

If answer is NOT SENT WITHIN 7 DAYS REASON MUST BE STATED.

C. H. BRIDGES,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

Copies furnished as noted:

Jan 16

G-2	X
TAG	V

Code - **CABLEGRAM.**

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
MAY 2
JJ
2657-2-33
1931
WAR DEPARTMENT

Received at the War Department.

November 29, 1930.

9:15 A. M.

From Havana

To The Adjutant General.

WM 40

Number 5. November 28th.

Congress authorized President suspend Constitutional guarantees throughout Cuba. Telegraph and press censorship removed. See cables to State Department November 22, November 26 and November 28. No disorder reported.

Quesada.
(2d Lt Air Cps)

X INDICATES CABLE ROUTED FOR ACTION; ✓ FOR INFORMATION

FORM NO. 0 635-3--A. G. O.
ED. MAY 15, 1922.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DIRECTS ANSWERS TO THIS CABLE AS FOLLOWS:

ADVISE WITHIN 12 HOURS if answer is unnecessary.

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C. H. BRIDGES,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

Copies furnished as noted:

G-2 X
TAG V

BFS

Code-Radio

CABLEGRAM.

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
MAY 2 26572-330 1931
WAR DEPARTMENT

Received at the War Department.

WN 31 December 3, 1930.

4:15 P. M.

From Havana.

To The Adjutant General.

Number 6. December 3d.

See cables to State Department December 1st and December 2d regarding restoration Crowder code constitutional guarantees and reopening of University. Political situation greatly improved.

Qesada.

X INDICATES CABLE ROUTED FOR ACTION; ✓ FOR INFORMATION

FORM NO. O 635-3--A. G. O.
ED. MAY 15, 1922.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DIRECTS ANSWERS TO THIS CABLE AS FOLLOWS:

ADVISE WITHIN 12 HOURS if answer is unnecessary.

If answer is NOT SENT WITHIN 7 DAYS REASON MUST BE STATED.

C. H. BRIDGES,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

Copies furnished as noted:

G-2 X
TAG V

3w16

BFS

CABLEGRAM.

Code-Radio

OPTION CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
MIA 2657-2-330 (3)

Received at the War Department.

3w16
WAR DEPARTMENT

FWN 50 December 4, 1930.

4:30 P. M.

From Havana,

To The Aduutant General.

Number 7. December 4th.

See State Department cable December 3d reporting disorder in University.

Quesada.

X INDICATES CABLE ROUTED FOR ACTION; ✓ FOR INFORMATION

FORM NO. 0 635-3--A. G. O.
ED. MAY 15, 1922.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DIRECTS ANSWERS TO THIS CABLE AS FOLLOWS:

ADVISE WITHIN 12 HOURS if answer is unnecessary.

If answer is NOT SENT WITHIN 7 DAYS REASON MUST BE STATED.

C. H. BRIDGES,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

Copies furnished as noted:

G-2 X
TAG V

Cipher ± **CABLEGRAM.**

JJ

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MILITARY INTEL. DIV.
MAY 2 2657-2-330 151

Received at the War Department. 3w 16
WAR DEPARTMENT

December 11, 1930.

5:10 P. M.

From Havana

To The Adjutant General.

W 15

Number 9. December 11th.

Cabinet meeting today at request of President to determine whether he should resign in best interests of country.

O'Hare
(Mil. Att.)

3w 16

X INDICATES CABLE ROUTED FOR ACTION; ✓ FOR INFORMATION

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

DEC 19 1930
WAR DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 18 19

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

1. During the past few days disorders of a very serious character broke out throughout the Island, the principal ones occurring in Havana. The Press reports published from Camaguey, Cienfuegos, Santa Clara, Santo Domingo, Guantanamo and Sagua La Grande indicate that while the violence at these places had not quite obtained the proportions as in November, there is reason to believe that the present movement is only in its preliminary stage.

2. The rioting in Havana reached its height on December 11th, on which day hoodlums and students, numbering about 3000, staged demonstrations in various parts of the city throughout the day. The police were very cautious in dealing with them during the morning, but in the afternoon, apparently having become tired of being pushed and mauled around by the crowds, changed their tactics and used all the force that was necessary to quell the disturbances, with the result that by nightfall everything was quiet in the city. From such reports as are available, it appears that only about twenty of the rioters were injured in the clashes, none of these seriously, and that the police escaped without injury. During the day considerable property was destroyed, principally plate glass windows on Obispo and O'Reilly Streets, and while some of this property is American owned, there is nothing at present to indicate that the demonstrations were Anti-American. At one time during the day the report was circulated that the students were headed toward the American Embassy, but this report could not be confirmed other than that a crowd was marching up Havana Street, at the head of which is the Embassy.

3. Throughout the day rumors were current that the President had resigned at noon, but his actions in the afternoon, which are discussed below, indicate that there was no foundation to the rumors.

4. At 2 P.M. on December 11th, the President signed a Decree putting into effect the suspension of Constitutional Guarantees throughout the Island for a period of sixty days. This Decree was issued in accordance with a law which Congress passed on December 1, 1930. As stated in my report No.3422, dated December 9, 1930 (Index No. 3600-a), the President had restored the Constitutional Guarantees on December 1, 1930. This was merely a fine gesture on his part as he was on the same day armed by Congress with the new authorization which permitted him to suspend the Guarantees for a much longer period of time. However, he did not actually sign this latter law until December 8, 1930.

5. The student agitation continues to occupy the center of the political stage and is attracting the editorial attention of all the leading newspapers. It is interesting, however, to note that the newspapers on the whole are less sympathetic to the present demonstrations than they were to those which reached such serious proportions on November 13th last. The Government has been willing to grant practically all the students' demands for University autonomy, but it is now obvious, both from the statements and the actions of the students, that their campaign is political rather than academic. It was thought by some that the appointment of Dr. Carlos Miguel de Cespedes would be somewhat pleasing to them. However, as soon as his appointment was announced the students gave vent to their feelings by destroying a plate bearing his name at the University. Upon his withdrawal from the cabinet, he issued a statement to the effect that after many conferences

From M. A., Havana No.3424 Date: December 12,1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

with the students and professors of the University, he thought that the Government had not treated the student problem correctly from the very start and that his sympathies now were with the students rather than with the Government.

6. The University, Normal Schools and secondary schools throughout the Island were closed on December 8th, 1930, only after their facilities had been misused for non-educational purposes, and no attempt has been made to re-open them.

7. The opposition to the Government is increasing in strength and unity of purpose. The direction and inspiration of the Opposition remains with the political element which have combined against the President. Their demands find expression through the voice of the students and is leading into disorders by mobs in which neither the students nor decency is easily discernible, but which have the benefit of the direction of agitators. While the Cuban people are undeniably and overwhelmingly opposed to the President, attributing to him the responsibility for the present economic situation, it is believed that the responsible element of a large non-political opposition would condemn the measures used by the political opposition to keep their cause before the public.

8. It is my belief that the situation now is more critical than it has been at any time during President Machado's regime. He has lived up to all his promises of political reform, but the public is apparently dissatisfied with anything he does other than give up his office. With the Army apparently still loyal, he can probably hold out for sometime longer, but should dissatisfaction break out in it (and the Opposition is using every means within its power to cause this), the movement would spread very rapidly and there would ensue a period of chaos until such time as some leader, either a non-political or a military man, would come forward to form a provisional government.

F. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press
and Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3424 Date: December 12,1930

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DIRECTS ANSWERS TO THIS CABLE AS FOLLOWS:

ADVISE WITHIN 12 HOURS if answer is unnecessary.

If answer is NOT SENT WITHIN 7 DAYS REASON MUST BE STATED.

C. H. BRIDGES,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

Copies furnished as noted:

G-2 X
TAG V

Cipher - CABLEGRAM. JJ

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I.D. INTEL. DIV.

Received at the War Department. 2657-2-330

December 12, 1930. 20-17

WAR DEPARTMENT

4:15 P. M.

From M.A. Havana

To The Adjutant General.

7

SECRET

Number 10. December 12th.

Disorder throughout the whole Island yesterday. Constitutional guarantees suspended for 60 days. Cabinet recommended that President not resign until such time as a Liberal successor can be agreed upon.

O'Hare.

X INDICATES CABLE ROUTED FOR ACTION; ✓ FOR INFORMATION

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

4-1 DEC 22 2657-g-330
18
WAR DEPARTMENT
7

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 22 1930

1. From all outward appearences and from such reports as are available, everything is now tranquil in Cuba. Apparently the suspension of Constitutional Guarantees was in itself sufficient to dampen the ardor of even the most radical of the anti-governmental forces, for, since that time, no disorders of importance have been reported. While the suspension of Constitutional Guarantees has been put into effect, no extraordinary measures have been taken by the armed forces to make the situation appear anything other than normal. In other words, unlike the previous suspension, the Army is not patrolling the streets of Havana nor have any additional armed forces been sent to the City. Press reports state that the military are supplementing the police in a few of the smaller towns on the Island. It is true that the leaves for officers and passes for enlisted men have been curtailed, but this is only natural with the situation as acute as it is.

2609-2-330 (4)

2. Considerable space in the Press has been given to the trial of Colonel Aguado and four lieutenants of the Army for alleged rebellion. Reference was made to Colonel Aguado's departure in my report No.3389 (Index No. 3600-a), dated October 9, 1930. The trial has been completed and it is believed that Colonel Aguado and three of the lieutenants were found guilty. However, the final approval of the Court's findings have not yet been made. (A complete report on this trial will be furnished in a separate report.)

3. On December 13th President Machado called a meeting of all the Chiefs of all the Military Districts of Cuba, and, in addition, practically all of the officers of the Army of rank of Lieutenant Colonel or above. While no public statement was made as to the purpose of or what transpired at this meeting, it is generally believed that its purpose was to determine whether or not there have been any signs of disloyalty among the armed forces on the Island. As far as is known, there have been no signs of weakening on the part of the Military forces in their loyalty to the President. He is naturally extremely anxious to keep their support. In fact, but for their support, it would be impossible for him to continue in power.

4. During the last few days the Press has printed the names of some five hundred persons whom the Government claimed to be the leaders of the Anti-Government forces, and against whom charges of various degrees, including sedition, are going to be made in the Courts. To date, some fifty of these persons have been arrested by the authorities, but, with few exceptions, they have been released on nominal bail.

5. The University and secondary schools throughout the Island remain closed, with the Military still occupying the campus of the former. There is no more indication of a solution of this problem than before. In fact, the breech between the students and the Government seems to be widening rather than healing.

6. The situation is extremely grave, although as previously stated, tranquility exists to the casual observer in Havana. The President has openly stated that he has no intention of resigning. However, it is

From M. A., Havana No. 3428 December 16, 1930

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AM NARS, Date 05/04/89

impossible to forecast just how long he will be able to hold out under existing conditions. The suspension of Constitutional Guarantees seems to have a magic effect upon the Oppositionists but I believe that after they get used to this condition, they will become bold again and riots similar to those that have occurred in the past will break out, probably with increased intensity, throughout the Island. Should this condition arise, it will then become merely a matter of how long the President will be able to hold out; for it is doubted that a rule by force alone can endure for a protracted period.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and
Personal Contacts.

From M.A., Havana No. 3428 Date: December 16,1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

DEC 29 1930
OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
WAR DEPARTMENT

4-1 2657-G-330
19

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 23 1930

1. The situation in Havana continues to be outwardly calm. This condition apparently exists throughout the Provinces, as no reports of disturbances from them have been received.

2. On December 16th President Machado approved the findings on sentence of the general Court Martial which was convened for the trial of Colonel Julio Aguado and the five lieutenants who were tried jointly with him for conspiracy to incite rebellion. The sentences, as approved, are as follows:

Colonel Aguado - dismissal and two years confinement at hard labor.

Lieutenant Manuel J. Villada)
Lieutenant Pedro Luis Diaz) Dismissal and confinement at hard
Lieutenant Garcia Pola) labor for one year and six months.

Lieutenant Feliciana Maderne - dismissal and confinement at hard labor for one year.

Lieutenant Emelio A. Laurent - Acquitted.

As these sentences had been forecast prior to their publication, the Press comment on them was comparatively meager. Furthermore, Colonel Aguado was not especially popular even with the Opposition, and it has been found difficult to stir up much enthusiasm for his cause. Although complete details are lacking concerning exactly what transpired at the trial, I believe that the purpose of this trial was more for that of setting an example for the rest of the Army, and for crimes of omission on the part of the officers concerned rather than those of commission.

3. The Government has apparently decided to deal with the Press with a very firm hand. On December 15th the editors of Karikato were arrested for the printing of inflamatory articles. They were held "incommunicado" in one of the Havana city jails until December 18th, when, at the petition of the Association of Newspaper Directors, they were released without trial. However, on the same day that these men were released, the managing editor of Diario de la Marina was arrested and charges preferred against him. At the same time, a Decree was signed forbidding the printing of this paper for an indefinite period. All the remaining copies of the edition of December 18th were confiscated. While from the two above cited cases it appears that the Government is going to deal firmly with the Spanish language papers, the Havana American has been able to continue its campaign against the Government with apparently no interference. For the past few days this paper has been printing very strong articles against the Cuban Government and the American State Department, and as far as is known, no action of any kind has been taken to stop its publication. The natural reaction to this on the part of the editors of the Spanish language papers is that the Government is afraid to take action against it because its editor is hiding behind the cloak of American citizenship.

4. The Government is continuing its campaign of arrests of the leaders of the various anti-government forces. While the exact number of these arrests is not known, it is estimated as about one hundred and fifty, of whom about

From M.A., Havana No.3430 Date: December 19, 1930.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

twenty percent have been held "incommunicado", the remainder being released on bail. Most of those arrested are the young so-called "intelligencia", and to date, none of the real leaders, either of the Union Nacionalista or the Menocal group, have been arrested. It is interesting to note that in most cases those who have been arrested have disclaimed any participation in any anti-government acts. When faced with the probability of a prison sentence, most of them have immediately lacked the moral courage that they boasted of prior to their arrest, and have used every means possible for securing their release. In one case, a young "man about town", whom I know personally and whom I have heard on many occasions giving vent to his feelings against the Government, immediately sought the intervention of the American Embassy when arrested. Needless to say, no intercession was made for him nor has any been made for any of the others. This class, as a whole, is very loud in its denunciations of the American Government and of the United States' policy in Cuba up until the time of their arrest, when they immediately seek its aid. In this case, it is interesting to note that the Consulate has been flooded with applications for registration of students who have any claim to American citizenship. Most of these claims are on Porto Rican parentage.

5. The students have become much less active during the past few days and no demonstrations of any kind have been reported. The University and secondary schools throughout the Island remain closed and there is no indication of any solution of the student problem. In a recent Decree, the Government dismissed practically all of the professors at the University and provincial institutes. The Opposition Press made great capital of this and it is thought that one of the articles on this subject which appeared in the Diario de la Marina of December 18th, was the cause for the closing of that paper.

6. In the session of the House of Representatives on December 17, 1930, a motion of adhesion to the Government and support of its present policy was passed by an overwhelming majority. This motion was a direct result of one introduced the previous day by Congressman Cruz, Conservative, to the effect that all members of the Legislature resign as a protest against the present policy of the Government. When the counter motion referred to above was proposed, Congressman Cruz and his seven followers absented themselves from the session. The motion as it was passed, reads as follows:

"First: That the date of expiration of our mandate is fixed by the Constitution and by law, and Congress, of its own accord, has no authority to amend it.

"Second: That there is no reason of public interest which advises the resignation of the members of Congress before the normal expiration of their terms of office and that they consider, to the contrary, that in so doing they would establish a sad precedent of very serious future results.

"Third: The House of Representatives offers to the opposition and to the people of Cuba in general, in the sphere of its functions, full guarantees for the exercise of their rights within a regime of order and of peace; but at the same time it offers to the Government, if said normalcy continues disturbed, the full cooperation that it might need in order to defend the institutions of the powers of the republic and of the nation itself."

7. Some space was given in the Havana Press to the recent statements of Senator Walsh of Massachusets on the Floor of the U. S. Senate. However,

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with few exceptions, only those portions of Press comment in the United States favorable to the present policy of the American State Department have appeared in the daily press here. The position in which the United States has now been placed is a unique one; the Opposition is using every means possible to secure intervention in Cuba, and the Government is exhausting all its means to keep America's friendship. However, this does not mean there is any real change in the feelings of the Cubans toward the United States -- it is merely a means to an end, and as previously emphasized so many times, the United States should not even think of intervention at the present time when the situation is purely an internal political one which should be solved by the Cubans themselves.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and
Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3430 Date: December 19,1930.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

3600-a

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.

G-2 Report

2657-g-330
20
WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 31 1930

1. There has been no outward change in the political situation in Cuba since the rendition of my last report on this subject. With a few minor exceptions, everything remains outwardly calm in Havana, and reports from the provinces indicate that the same state of affairs exist there.

2. During the past week many bombs have been set off at various parts of the City of Havana. None of these have done any material damage and it is believed that their purpose is more for intimidation than to damage property. Most of them have been set off late at night, with no apparent discrimination as to their location. Reports from the provinces indicate that the same tactics are being employed in some of the provincial towns. Another means of annoying the people has been the placing of odoriferous bombs in such places of assembly as motion picture theatres, with the result that the attendance at these theatres has so fallen off that one of the principal theatres in Havana has had to close its doors.

3. The suspension of the Diario de la Marina is still effective and its editor is still incarcerated. So far, the Government has turned a deaf ear to the protests of the other newspapers for the resumption of the publication of this paper and for the release of the editor. The Press, as a whole, has been a bit milder in its tone of denunciation of the Government than for some time past; in fact, El Pais in one of its recent editorials blamed the people for thrusting so much power on General Machado rather than blaming him for taking advantage of these unusual powers.

4. There has been no change in the student situation, all the schools remaining closed. It has been intimated, however, that an attempt will be made to open the Provincial Institutes after the first of the year. It is doubted if this will actually take place. No student outbreaks of any kind have been reported within the last few days.

5. The Government is having considerable difficulty in its campaign of arresting those who have taken an active part in the Opposition, due to the fact that a considerable number of them have gone into hiding. However, the officials apparently are making a very concerted effort to arrest all of those on the lists that were recently published in the Press, but are holding only those against whom serious charges are to be lodged.

6. In brief, the situation remains practically the same as it has been for the past week, and the suspension of Constitutional Guarantees is still acting as a club over the heads of those who might be inclined to give violent vent to their feelings.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press
and Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3434 Date: December 23, 1930.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

C-2 Report

4-1 2657-g-330

CUBA (Political)

21

27

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 7 1931

1. From outward appearances during the past week, the political situation in Havana and the Provinces remains unchanged. However, from the Government's actions, as enumerated below, it can be seen that the surface conditions are not true indications of the actual state of affairs, and, while to the casual observer the situation appears to be quiet, it is actually far from it.

2. The malicious practice of setting off bombs has practically ceased for the time being, only a few having been reported during the past week. Also, thanks to the vigilance of the police, there have been no reports of odoriferous bombs being set off in places of public assemblies.

3. The Government reported a plot by the Opposition to stage a demonstration on Christmas Eve. According to the reports, a large number of army uniforms had been secured and issued to men for the purpose of masquerading as soldiers. At a given time this group was to stage an anti-government demonstration to prove to the people that President Machado had lost his hold on the Army. That the Government took this plot very seriously is evidenced by the fact that on Christmas Eve all officers and soldiers were held "on the alert" in barracks, and orders were issued that, if called out, they were to "shoot to kill" any of the rioters appearing in Army uniforms. Apparently the Opposition learned of the Government's knowledge of the plot, as nothing happened on that night. The Government's agents reported that Colonel Aurelia Hevia, one of the leaders of the Union Nacionalista, was the perpetrator of this plot and he was arrested on that night and confined at the Cabana Fortress. It has been announced that he will be tried by a Military Court Martial co-jointly with Lieutenants Reina and Nin of the Cuban Army, who were arrested at the same time for complicity in the plot. The police are searching for Colonel Hevia's son, Carlos, who is now in hiding. It is interesting to note that the latter is the only Cuban ever to be graduated from the United States Naval Academy.

4. The suspension of the Diario de la Marina was lifted on December 24, and its publication was resumed on December 25th. On December 26th a Decree was issued cancelling the naturalization of the managing editor of the paper, as fraudulent, and restoring the effect of an order of expulsion issued by a previous Administration. Although an Italian by birth, the Press reports are that he will be allowed to choose the country of his future domicile. Simultaneously with the lifting of the ban on the Diario de la Marina, a suspension was placed on Karikato for an article appearing in its last issue. This weekly has been in constant difficulties with the Government for the past several months. The Press, as a whole, continues to be quite mild in its tone, due to the fear of suspension in the event that their articles become too inflammatory. Protests against the Government's actions, especially concerning the treatment of the Student movement, continue to occupy considerable space in the Press. Most of these articles are quite mild, however, and, as explained to me by one of the editors, the only reason for their appearance is the fear that a boycott would be placed on any paper that refused to publish them. However, almost as much space is now being given to adhesions to the Government as to denunciations.

5. On December 27th, the Governor of the Province of Havana issued a Decree closing the Havana Yacht Club. This club is one of the principal clubs of Cuba's society, and is affiliated with most of the leading Yacht Clubs in the United States. The Government felt that it was being used for political

From M. A., Havana No. 3437 Date: December 30, 1930

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

purposes, rather than for the purposes for which it was founded. It is true that Menocal and his associates used to meet there almost daily, and that a large majority of its members were openly opposed to the present Administration, but its closing was, in my opinion, a stupid act. President Machado could have asked the Board of Directors of the Club to curtail the political agitation of the Club, and it is possible that his request would have been respected, but by this arbitrary act he has incurred the hatred of the entire membership (some 1400), including many who had been friendly to him. The Press has been unanimous in its denunciation of the Government for this act. Even El Mundo came out in an article today, condemning the Administration for this.

6. It is seen from the above that, although on the surface everything is tranquil, there is considerable rumbling going on underneath. The Government has made no intimation as to what it expects to do or how long the suspension of the Constitutional Guarantees will remain in effect. It was hoped that during this period of the Suspension, some comprehensive plan would be arrived at to solve the difficulties. However, as far as is known, the Government and the Opposition are no nearer an accord than before; if anything they are more apart. The longer the period lasts, the more united the Opposition becomes in its demands for the retirement of the Machado Government.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press, and
Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3437 Date: December 30,1930.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

6300-a

4-1 2657-g-330

JAN 13 1931

WAR DEPARTMENT

27

CUBA (Combat)

Subject: Loyalty and Discipline.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 13 1931

1. The findings and sentences of the General Court Martial which was convened for the trial of the five officers of the Cuban Army for "inciting a military rebellion" were published in General Orders No. 186, Cuban War Department, dated December 16, 1930. These sentences which were approved by the President on December 16th, 1930, were:

Colonel Julio Aguado y Andreu:	Dismissal from the Army, loss of all pay and allowances due and to become due, and confinement at the Military Prison of Fort Cabana for two years.
1st.Lieutenant Manuel J.Villada y Garcia-Pola 1st.Lieutenant Pedro L. Diaz y Rivero	Same as Colonel Aguado, except confinement was for one year and six months.
2nd.Lieutenant Emilio A.Laurent y Pubet	Acquitted.

2. From the testimony introduced during the trial, it was shown that while no definite line of action had been formulated by these officers, they had met at various times prior to October 5, 1930, usually in the office of Colonel Aguado, and had talked over possible plans to bring about a military rebellion. The principal witnesses against them were two sergeants on duty at the Headquarters of the Seventh Military District, of which Colonel Aguado was in command.

3. In addition to these conferences, the War Department learned that these officers were holding nightly meetings at Colonel Aguado's quarters, which were attended by civilians of known anti-government tendencies. Realizing the seriousness of the situation, the War Department gradually stripped Colonel Aguado of his command, and did it to such an extent, in fact, that on October 5, 1930, his command consisted of one machine gun platoon. In order that the investigation might be carried on as secretly as possible, Colonal Aguado was sent to the United States in October "on a military mission" with orders to return to Cuba at the expiration of this duty. This order appeared in paragraph 3 of Special Orders No. 172, War Department, dated October 9, 1930, and he was given Five Hundred Dollars ($500.00) for the mission.. During the interim from October 10, 1930 until November 22,1930, Colonel Aguado remained in New York, apparently unaware of the fact that his activities were being investigated. When the investigation was completed, he was ordered to return to Cuba, but plead that he was too sick to travel. A Cuban Army Medical Officer on temporary duty in Washington was ordered to examine him and found him to be in good health, so there was nothing left for him to do but return. Upon his arrival in Havana, he and the four Lieutenants who were later tried with him, were placed in confinement at Fort Cabana.

4. The Order convening the Court Martial was issued on December 1, 1930, by the Superior War Council, of which Captain Julio Morales Coello, Cuban Navy, is president. According to Cuban Court Martial procedure, any officer of the rank of Colonel or above must be tried by a Court named by this Council.

5. The trial was a public one and the Press gave it considerable space. However, it was very difficult, even for the Opposition, to stir up much enthusiasm for Colonel Aguado's cause, as he had been in difficulties with previous Administrations. It was generally agreed that he, always a rather

From M.A., Havana No. 3439 Date: January 5, 1931 (1930)

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

boastful type, had "talked too much", but that while he may have had hopes of starting a military rebellion, this would have been impossible, due to the fact that even if he were able to secure sufficient arms, he could not get sufficient followers, even from his own command.

6. An appeal has been registered by Colonel Aguado's Counsel for a review by the Supreme Court of Cuba on the ground of technicalities involved in the Order convening the Court, and in errors during the trial.

7. Lieutenant Laurent has submitted his resignation to the President, but it has not yet been acted upon. According to Press reports, he absented himself without leave immediately after the submission of his resignation and is now being sought as a deserter.

8. While the charges and the findings of the Court Martial are very serious ones, it is believed that the comparatively light sentences awarded are the best indication that the Government did not have an especially strong case against the officers involved. I believe that the trial was held in order to make examples of these officers and to warn the Army as a whole of the absolute loyalty expected of the armed forces during this critical period, rather than for the acts committed.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Official Documents,
and Press.

From M. A., Havana No. 3439 Date: January 5, 1931.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF M.I. INTEL. DIV. 3600-a

4-1 JAN 14 2657-g-330 1931

2-3

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 13 1931

1. While it can be seen from the events enumerated below that the situation in Cuba is far from normal, still to the casual observer everything is quiet with nothing on the surface to indicate the unrest that actually exists.

2. The Government is continuing its campaign of arresting all those who, by their actions have shown themselves to be active enemies of the present regime, and during the last week at least one hundred persons, including some women, were arrested. On the afternoon of December 31, 1930, the police surrounded the house of General Menocal and arrested everyone, with the exception of the General himself, who emerged therefrom. Among those arrested on that day was Colonel Pujol, a retired army officer, who has been an active associate of Menocal for many years. He was released on a nominal bond, however, a few days later, as have been most of the others who have been taken into custody. To date, as far as is known, none of those arrested for their anti-government utterances have been tried, and just what the Government's policy is going to be or what line of action is going to be taken against those arrested, is difficult to say. Colonel Hevia, whose arrest was reported in my last report on this subject, is still held in the Cabana Fortress together with Lieutenants Reina and Nin. A special investigator, Lieut. Colonel Delgado, has been appointed to work under the Secretary of the Government in connection with the plot of December 24th. The results of his investigations have not yet been made public.

3. While the practice of setting off powder bombs has practically ceased, the use of odoriferous bombs has increased. One of the most glaring incidents of the use of this type of bomb was at the opening of the new National Hotel in Havana on December 30, 1930. On this occasion which was attended by representatives of the Government, the Diplomatic Corps, and hundreds of tourists, tear and odoriferous bombs were set off during the night and greatly marred the brillancy of the occasion. On New Year's Eve the same tactics were resorted to at the functions held at the Country Club of Havana and at the National Casino. The leaders of the Opposition have denounced this practice and have denied all knowledge of anything pertaining to it, ascribing it to foolhardy youths who have no connection with them. Apparently they realize that this type of action hinders, rather than helps, their cause.

4. During the past week two of the leading newspapers, El Mundo and the Diario de la Marina have come out with leading editorials praising the attitude taken by our State Department and the work done by the American Ambassador -- especially praising him for the execution of the "hands off" policy in Cuban internal affairs, announced by our State Department some months previously. These articles were entirely unexpected and it is believed that they have strengthened the Embassy's position here, letting the great mass of the Cuban people realize that the Cuban's internal problems must be settled by Cubans themselves, without hope for any outside aid from the United States Government.

5. The Havana Yacht Club still remains closed, although it is expected that the ban on it will be lifted within a few days. The Vedado Tennis Club, which threw open its doors to the members of the Yacht Club when the latter was closed, has been threatened with closure although no action has as yet been taken against it. In fact, it is believed that the members of the Vedado Tennis Club feel somewhat slighted by the fact that their Club has not been closed. In this connection, it is interesting to note that, although he has not been acting as such for the past month, the President of this Club is

From M. A., Havana No. 3440 Date: January 6, 1930

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President Machado's son-in-law. The recent elections of the Union Club, the most prominent of the down-town Clubs, became a real political struggle, in which President Machado emerged the victor. He has been President of this Club for two years past and at these elections his successor became Carlos Miguel de Cespedes, former Secretary of Public Works, while President Machado was unanimously elected Honorary President. Dr. Cespedes, who made the extreme blunder of siding with the students at the time of his temporary departure from the Cabinet, has since found that he had become so identified with the present regime that his presence in the Opposition was not welcomed. Realizing his mistake, he has now become a strong advocate of the Administration and is doing everything possible to regain his lost favor with it. However, what he did has caused him to lose favor not only with the Government but he also found that his welcome in the ranks of the Opposition was not too warm, due to his long and intimate alliance with the Machado Government. The reason for giving so much space to the activities of the three leading Clubs in Havana is that Club life here plays a much more important part in the life of the average Cuban than can be imagined, and since the situation has become critical, practically nothing but politics is ever discussed, especially during the cocktail hours, when the Clubs are all crowded with members.

6. Senator Thomas Walsh of Montana was a visitor in Havana for the Holidays and he became greatly interested in the political situation. While here he called on the President, and prior to his leaving, stated that the impressions that he had received while here were most favorable. The Press of Havana has stated that the Cuban situation is going to be discussed on the Floor of the United States Senate within the next few days, and it is believed that should this occasion arise, Senator Walsh will be a strong advocate of the State Department's policy of non-intermeddling with Cuban internal affairs.

7. The Student problem has not been solved nor is there any hope of its being solved within the near future. It is not believed that any attempt will be made to open the secondary schools or the University for sometime to come. Practically all the professors at the University and the instructors at the secondary schools have been dropped from the Government payrolls. Many of the saner students of the University have departed or are going to depart for the United States or Mexico to resume their studies in the Universities there.

8. Many feel that the situation is improving and that with the beginning of the sugar cane grinding on January 15th, much of the political agitation will cease. However, I am still of the opinion that the situation is dark and while I agree that some of the agitation may cease when many of the unemployed are put to work on the sugar crop, the only thing that can possibly help is to have the price of sugar by some miracle go up, so that those people interested in this industry will receive a fair return for their money invested. The Opposition still states that the only solution acceptable to it is the resignation of the Machado Government.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press,
and Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3440 Date: January 6, 1930.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
3600-a
JAN 20 1931
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24
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 19 1931 2657-g-320/18

1. As predicted in my report No. 3428, dated December 16, 1930, the Cuban people became accustomed to the restraint placed upon them by the suspension of Constitutional Guarantees and gave vent to their feelings to such an extent during the past week that disorders of major importance occurred in Havana and lesser ones in the Provinces, indicating that the Government may soon be confronted with the problem of maintaining order in the Island with the use of all its armed forces.

2. On January 7, 1931, a comparatively small number of students organized a protest against the detention of their Directorate, and succeeded in creating a considerable disturbance in one of the City's principal shopping streets before the police could disburse them. Many shop windows were broken by missiles thrown by the students as they marched through the street, and fifteen of the ring leaders were taken into custody.

3. On January 8th another demonstration was staged in the business section of Havana, resulting, this time, in serious rioting during which five persons were wounded. The principal participants in this affair were about one hundred women and girls who assembled in the neighborhood of the President's Palace carrying banners on which were inscribed demands for the resignation of President Machado. According to reports, the police acted with moderation until a large number of male sympathizers joined forces with the women after the latter had been released from the central police station whither they had been conducted under arrest. The injured included four men and one woman, none of whom were students. Three of the men had bullet wounds, and the fourth, Alfredo Quiles, editor of the weekly review, Carteles, and his wife, were apparently injured by policemen's billies.

4. On January 9th further disorders again broke out in the downtown section, but were of a relatively minor nature and the police succeeded in quelling them without difficulty. Women and girls were again principally involved. It is interesting to note that the active participation of women in political disturbances is without precedent in Cuban history.

5. On January 9th President Machado ordered the suspension of all Spanish language newspapers and weeklies in Havana, excepting purely commercial newspapers, La Lucha, and Heraldo de Cuba, the latter two being purely Administration organs. At the same time, the Havana American, an English language daily, reference to which has been made in some of my recent reports, was also suspended. The owner of the Havana American has protested to the American Embassy against the suspension of his publication. In view of the strong anti-government and anti-American State Department attitude assumed by this newspaper during recent weeks, it is not believed that the Embassy will take any action to intercede in its behalf. In suspending these newspapers, Article VI of the Spanish Law of Public Order of 1870 was invoked, and the accusation is made that all the newspapers affected not only gave exaggerated reports of recent disturbances but also published editorials condoning them. Since this date, the publication of several Spanish language dailies and weeklies in the Provinces have been suspended. It is not known how long the suspension will last, but apparently the President is determined to make the newspapers a source of information for only such news as he sees fit for them to print. It is understood that his theory in this action is that anything other than the printing of bare facts of any disturbances serves to incite the people to renew their energies in anti-government demonstrations,

From M. A., Havana No. 3443 Date: January 13, 1931.

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and that the average Cuban is so swayed by exaggerated reports in the newspapers that this extreme measure is taken for the safety of the public.

6. On January 7, 1931, President Machado and General Menocal met in order to discuss the probability of a solution of the Cuban political problem. It is understood that their thoughts were so far apart as to the proper means of a solution of this problem that not only did no good come of this meeting, but that actually the breach between the Opposition and the Government was widened by it.

7. The Government is now greatly concerned over a plot alleged to have been discovered to burn the cane fields. The police and the Army are cooperating in trying to prevent such a movement, but it is admittedly an almost impossible task, should a concerted effort be made to do this. While for many years past it has been feared that such a movement would be made, and while many cane fields have been burned, apparently maliciously, in past years, the political situation at the present time is so acute that much more apprehension is felt now than heretofore, and great preventitive measures are necessarily being taken.

8. On January 7th the Havana Yacht Club was permitted to reopen, and has again become a meeting place for many of the leaders of the Opposition.

9. Despite the announcement by the Government that extreme penalties would be meted out to persons should they be found in possession of explosives, hardly a night passes without the exploding of small bombs in different parts of the Island and on several occasions during the past week tear gas and odoriferous bombs have been used with effective results at large social gatherings.

10. On January 10, 1931, by Decree No. 57, English translation of which is enclosed, each member of the armed forces was given absolute police power. This is the most unusual authority that has yet been granted to the military forces and is an excellent indication of how serious the Government regards the present situation.

11. The authorities have succeeded in apprehending comparatively few of the persons responsible for these anti-government activities, but it does not appear to be greatly perturbed by this. Unquestionably the Government still holds the upper hand, and as yet there has been no question of the loyalty of the Army and police force. President Machado replied to criticism of his Administration on New Year's Day, once more announcing that he had no intention of resigning, declaring that "Presidents are not overthrown by scraps of paper."

12. It can be seen from the above that marked change in the outward tranquility in the Island has transpired during the past week and that while the Government still has the situation well in hand, it is very significant that the "bluff" that the Suspension of Constitutional Guarantees has had on the people since it was put into effect, has apparently lost its hold. To date, the Government has been able by the use of its police force to maintain order, but should further disturbances occur, it will be forced to resort to its last means of maintaining order -- the calling out of the armed forces to supplement the police -- and should this means fail, nothing but chaos will result.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press, and
Personal Observance.

From M. A., Havana No. 3443 Date: January 13, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
41 JAN 20 2657-g-330 (31)
24
WAR DEPARTMENT
7

TRANSLATION.

(COPY)

DECREE NO. 57.

In the exercise of the powers conferred upon me by clause 17 of Article 68 of the Constitution and by the Organic Laws of the Army and of the National Navy, on the proposal of the Secretary of War and of the Navy.

I RESOLVE:

1. To order that, until the disappearance of the state of sedition and of serious disturbance to the public order which has forced the Government to make use of the authorization to suspend the constitutional guarantees which the Congress conferred upon it by the Law of December 8, 1930, all the forces of the Army and of the Navy be used, in addition to the Rurel Guard, in the service of conservation of domestic order and protection of persons and property; without its being necessary for the Military to be previously summoned by the Civil Authority in order that the said forces may occupy urbanized locations and therein afford the service mentioned above.

2. To order that, while such state of sedition and serious disturbance to the public order endures, all members of the Land and Sea Forces shall have the character of Agents of Authority and that, for all legal purposes, they are always on duty in the military service, in whatever place or under whatever circumstances they may find themselves, within or outside the military zone and in relation to all acts performed by them.

3. That the Secretaries of the Interior and of War and of the Navy are charged, in what concerns them, with the fulfillment of the provisions of the present Decree.

Given at the Presidential Palace, Habana, the ninth day of January, 1931.

GERARDO MACHADO
President.

C. M. de Rojas
Secretary of War and of the Navy

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DIRECTS ANSWERS TO THIS CABLE AS FOLLOWS:

ADVISE WITHIN 12 HOURS if answer is unnecessary.

If answer is NOT SENT WITHIN 7 DAYS REASON MUST BE STATED.

C. H. BRIDGES,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

Copies furnished as noted:

G-2 X
TAG V

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV
JJ
2657-2-330
WAR DEPARTMENT

Code - CABLEGRAM.

Received at the War Department.
January 10th, 1930.

11:50 A. M.

From **M.A. Havana**

To **The Adjutant General.**

WN 17

CONFIDENTIAL

Number 13. January 10th.

January 9th daily and weekly newspapers suspended by Presidential decree. Occasional disorder reported.

Quesada.

FORM NO. O 635-3--A. G. O.
ED. MAY 15, 1922.

X INDICATES CABLE ROUTED FOR ACTION; ✓ FOR INFORMATION

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
WAR DEPARTMENT

3600-a

G-2 Report

4-1 2657-J-330
25

7

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 21 1931

1. During the past few days the situation in Cuba has again become tranquil on the surface -- no untoward incidents occurring in Havana, nor have any been reported from the Provinces. While the political "pot" is still brewing, probably with increased intensity, nothing has occurred to indicate to the casual observer that anything but tranquillity is reigning on the Island.

2. Ambassador Ferrera, who has been spending a short holiday in Havana, departed for Washington on January 14th, after having made a futile attempt to bring together the President and the Opposition. It is generally conceded that he was responsible for arranging the conference between President Machado and General Menocal and that but for the unfortunate incidents of January 7th and 8th, some progress might have been made in these negotiations. However, the President's stand now is that he will deal with the Opposition only when he himself conceives the idea and will then set his own terms. In other words, he has apparently decided to continue dealing with this group with a firm hand and make them come to his terms.

3. Reports of the deportation of Mr. John T. Wilford, Editor of the Havana American, have been current for the past few days, but as yet, no official publication of the Decree announcing it has been published. He has remained in hiding, however, during the past week to such an extent, in fact, that even his lawyer was unable to get in touch with him for several days. If he is deported, he will unquestionably seek assistance from the anti-Cuban group in the American Senate, and it is believed that considerable adverse publicity will result from it. However, his attitude has been so bitterly anti-Machado, even going to the extreme of demanding his resignation, well knowing that his American citizenship afforded him a cloak of protection, that very few persons in Cuba, Cubans and Americans alike, will listen to his pleas with a sympathetic ear.

4. While the Government is continuing its campaign of arresting its enemies, very few arrests have been reported during the past few days, many of those being sought apparently remaining successfully hidden.

5. While on the surface the situation appears calm and the Government continues to hold the upper hand, it cannot be forecast how long this situation will remain unchanged. The influx of American tourists during the month of February may, and probably will, furnish a sufficiently spectacular opportunity for the Opposition to again "break loose."

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press,
and Personal Observation.

From M.A., Havana No. 3444 Date: January 16, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

3600-a

4-1 JAN 2657-9-330

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 26 1931

1. In the following paragraphs is given a study of the work of the Cuban Congress from April, 1923 to the end of the year 1930. The work of the Congress from the beginning of the Republic until 1923, was completely covered by General Crowder while Ambassador in a memorandum entitled "The Actuation of the Congress of Cuba." Therefore, this study will be confined to the periods from the Eleventh Legislative period through the eighth session of the Thirteenth Legislative period. In analyzing the work done by the Cuban Congress, especially during the years 1923 and 1924, it must be borne in mind that at this time General Crowder's status was changed from that of Special Envoy to Ambassador, and that after this change in status President Zayas acted practically entirely upon his own, feeling that it was no longer necessary to take the advice of his very good and honest adviser, General Crowder. It was at this time that President Zayas obtained the loan from the American bankers and started a very strong Nacionalistic campaign without regard to the advices or his past promises to General Crowder. It is very interesting to note that prior to the securing of this loan, President Zayas was extremely careful to heed any advice given him, but that as soon as it was secured and General Crowder's status was changed, his manner became entirely different, the climax coming with the enactment in June, 1924, of the Amnesty Law which virtually opened the gates of the jails to all classes of criminals. During the last two years of President Zayas' Administration, the Government was in extreme financial difficulties and found it very hard even to meet thepayrolls of the officials and employees. Nevertheless, during this period vast expenditures were made, consisting principally of Highway, Aqueduct and Sewerage constructions, none of which were ever actually constructed. Probably the most outstanding examples of "graft" during these two years were the purchase of the Santa Clara Convent and the expropriation of actual Government property for the extension of the Malecon in Havana. While it is impossible to give in detail each and every act passed by the Legislature during the period under review, it can be seen from the record given below that the Cuban Congress has very consistently disregarded practically all laws which were necessary to consolidate the Republic. In fairness to President Machado, however, efforts in this direction were made in 1925 and 1926.

2. During the period under review three hundred and twenty-four laws were passed by the Cuban Congress. In order to classify these laws they will be dealt with in the succeeding paragraphs under the following headings:

(a) Constructive Laws.
(b) Appropriations (for public works or otherwise).
(c) Amnesty Laws.
(d) Loan and Debt Statutes.
(e) Customs Exemptions Laws.
(f) Fiscal (other than loans).
(g) Pensions.
(h) Donations (of Government money or property).
(i) Beaurocratic.
(j) Budgetary.
(k) Municipal.
(l) Judicial.
(m) General.
(n) Political.

3. In studying the laws enacted by the Cuban Congress, thirty seven of them are taken as being constructive. It may be of interest to note that of these thirty seven only five were promulgated during the last two years of

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President Zayas' Administration. They are as follows:

1. Reorganization of the School of Medicine, October 15, 1923.

2. Increasing the pay of officials of the judiciary. January 29, 1924. This was enacted as a means to prevent the immoralities in the judiciary due to the small pay being alloted to higher officials.

3. Creating a Labor Intelligence Committee to discuss and solve problems between dock workers and their employers. June 9, 1924.

4. Increasing teachers' pay 33%. To obtain a higher standard of teachers. July 8, 1924.

5. Regulating Army and Navy Pensions. To prevent retirement of men still fit for the service. August 21, 1924.

6. Creating a Department of Communications. July 2, 1925.

7. Reorganizing the College of Law. July 2, 1925.

8. Reorganizing Engineering School. July 2, 1925.

9. Public Works Law. July 15, 1925.

10. Granting Executive authority to revise the Customs Tariff. February 11, 1926.

11. Authorizing the Executive to reorganize the Army and Navy. Might also be said to be political. March 6, 1926.

12. Crop limitation law. To stabilize sugar prices. May 3,1926.

13. Modifying Normal School curriculum. February 27,1927.

14. Amending Judicial Retirement Law. To prevent early retirement of men still fit for active service. April 2, 1927.

15. Amending the curriculum of the School of Medicine. March 29, 1927.

16. Amending the Divorce Law of 1918. July 4, 1927.

17. Providing penalty for practicing a profession without proper legalization of a foreign degree. July 1, 1927.

18. Maritime Workers' Retirement Law. July 4, 1927.

19. Creating a National Tobacco Defense Committee. July 12,1927.

20. Creating a National Sugar Defense Committee. September 4, 1927.

21. Amending the Divorce Law. May 7, 1928.

22. GrantingCuban Courts cognizance of interstate successions of foreigner dying in Cuba. May 31, 1928.

From M. A., Havana No. 3447 Date: January 19, 1931.

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23. Amending the Divorce Law. June 4, 1928.

24. Amending the Game Laws. June 28, 1928.

25. Amending the Divorce Law. July 31, 1928.

26. Notarial Code. February 20, 1929.

27. Amending Order 92 of 1899 in order further to facilitate revision of civil cases. March 11, 1929

28. Amending Code of Commerce to provide for organization of Limited Companies. April 26, 1929.

29. Providing regulations for Agricultural Schools. May 5,1929.

30. Providing the Cuban women shall not lose their nationality upon marrying a foreigner. July 9, 1929.

31. Complete amendment University Regulations. July 10, 1929.

32. New Railway Employees Retirement Law. October 7, 1929.

33. Creating an Advisory Committee to take up pending claims. December 14, 1929.

34. Complete Revision of Divorce Law. This is a compilation of the law of 1918 as amended several times, in a new text, February 6, 1930.

35. Creating a School of Optometry. March 8, 1930.

36. Restoring Crowder Electoral Code. December 2, 1930.

37. Census Law. December 4, 1930.

4. For extra budgetary expenditures during this period forty seven appropriation laws have been enacted, principally for public works, attendance of delegates at foreign conferences, and various conferences in Cuba. These appropriations have amounted to $3,222,316. Of this total, twenty seven were enacted the last two years of President Zayas' Administration, which called for appropriations totaling $2,231,266, the greater portion of which was appropriated for Public Works which were never completed, and very often not even started. During the five and a half years of President Machado's Administration, twenty laws of this type have been passed, totaling $991,050, of which approximately $600,000 was spent for international conferences. While this figure makes a very favorable showing for the present Administration, especially insofar as appropriations for Public Works are concerned, it must not be forgotten that the Machado Administration has had the advantage of the Public Works Taxes, collections of which were very high, but not quite high enough to cover expenditures. Nevertheless, the balance is greatly in favor of the present Administration, especially in view of the fact that the Public Works for which money was appropriated have actually been either undertaken or completed.

5. There have been in all five Amnesty Laws passed by the Cuban Congress during the period under review. Of these five Laws, the only one which was particularly outstanding was that of 1924, which General Crowder worked so hard

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to have defeated. Although President Zayas repeatedly promised that he would not permit such a law, as soon as the loan of $50,000,000 was received from Morgan & Company in 1925, this Law was put into effect. So far reaching was it in its effect that it covered even the crime of homicide and the entire list of frauds and falsities penalized by the Electoral Code. Investigation proved at this time that this Law was applied to over 3000 cases.

6. During the seven and a half years period in question, twenty special pension laws were enacted, calling for pensions amounting to $89,100, as an extra drain on the budget. It should be remembered that this increased list of pensions is in addition to the large appropriations provided for in the budget for pensions for the Veterans of the Wars of Independence.

7. Twelve Budgetary Laws were passed during the period under review. It should be borne in mind, however, that only five of these are actual budget laws, the remaining seven being laws amending the Budget Law, authorizing the Executive to reduce budget items, or laws increasing the Fixed Budget to allow increases in legislative appropriations.

8. Of the Judicial Laws, the vast majority are laws creating new municipal or correctional courts; courts of first instance, and in some cases, amending the Organic Law of the Judiciary.

9. Under Political Laws are included the several laws which affected the Electoral Code, the non-reorganization of political parties and the creation of new municipal districts.

10. For purposes of comparison, the following table gives the division of Laws enacted by the Cuban Congress in three distinct periods, namely, 1902 to 1921; 1921 to 1923, and 1923 to 1931:

Classification		1902 to 1921		1921 to 1923	1923 to 1931	Totals
1. Constructive		158		7	37	202
2. Appropriation					47	47
3. Amnesty		16			5	21
4. Loan		13		2	1	16
5. Custom Exemption		79		1	7	87
6. Fiscal					24	24
7. Pension		349		8	20	377
8. Donations		54		5	18	77
9. Beaurocratic		269		40	17	326
10. Budgetary		7		3	12	22
11. Municipal		49			8	57
12. Judicial		51		4	33	88
13. General	(1)	365	(2)	8	67	440
14. Political					28	28
		1410		78	324	1812

11. The above gives a fairly complete picture of the achievements, or lack of achievements, of the Cuban Congress since the organization of the Republic in 1902. The main criticism of the Congress is that it has failed

From M. A., Havana No. 3447 Date: January 19, 1931.

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to create the laws necessary to supplement the constitution and has never attempted to modernize the Codes of the Civil, Commercial and Criminal Laws. No attempt has ever been made to study administrative laws or in any way modernize them, the result being that Cuba now has the same Codes that Spain left with it and the same backward administrative laws, most of which Spain herself has cast aside and modernized in her own country.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy.

From M. A., Havana No. 3447 Date: January 19, 1931.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

3600-a

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
JAN 28 1931
WAR DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 26 1931

6-1 2657-9-330

27

CUBA (Political)

27

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

1. Whether because of the suppresion of the anti-government Press, or due to the extraordinary measures adopted by the authorities, there have been no indications of serious unrest in Havana during the past few days. This also appears to be true of the situation in the provinces, judging by the lack of reports to the contrary.

2. In addition to the newspapers closed on January 9, 1931, by Executive resolution, several other journals have now been suspended, including Siboney, a third rate Havana Liberal daily, which the President stated had been suspended on account of violent and indecent personal attacks which he could not countenance upon his political opponent, General Menocal; Independencia, of Santiago de Cuba, and two or three minor provincial papers. There is yet no indication as to when these papers will be permitted to resume publication, although considerable credence is attached to a rather persistent report that their suspension will continue until a new Press Law, now in preparation, will be enacted. The newspaper Ahora appeared on the streets this morning. It is being run by the employees of El Mundo and with the consent of the Government. From its appearance this morning, its policy seems to be to print all the news that El Mundo used to print with the exception of any news pertaining to the local political situation. The owner of El Mundo stated that the reason for this publication is to provide means of livelihood for his many employees until such time as an agreement is made with the Government for the republication of the regular Havana dailies.

3. On January 14, 1931, President Machado signed the Decree, English translation of which is enclosed, for the deportation of Mr. John T. Wilford, Editor of the Havana American, and he left Cuban territory by Pan-American Airways plane on the afternoon of the 16th. On his arrival in Miami, Mr.Wilford gave an interview to a Press correspondent concerning his deportation, which appeared in the New York dailies of January 17th. His son, who was arrested about three weeks ago as one of the leaders in the student movement, is still confined at the Cabana Fortress.

4. The President recently appointed a Committee of Public Order, composed of the Secretaries of War and Navy and of high military and police officials, empowering them under the provisions of the Law of Public Order of 1870, which Law is in full force and effect during the suspension of the Constitutional Guarantees, to carry out measures for the prevention of disorders and other subversive activities.

5. On January 10, 1931, the Subsecretary of Government announced that the male parents of minors engaging in subversive activities would be punished by forced removal of their domicile to a point 120 Kilometers from their actual place of residence, under authority derived from the provisions of the Law of Public Order and Article 41 of the Constitution.

6. In order to discourage further disorderly demonstrations in the vicinity of the Presidential Palace, the Commandant of the Palace has issued orders that his subordinates make free use of their firearms whenever occasion might appear to warrant it.

7. The sugar grinding season began on January 15th, and it is hoped that the resulting decrease in unemployment may exert a tranquilizing influence.

From M. A., Havana No. 3448 Date: January 20, 1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

There is still, however, considerable apprehension that the prevailing anti-government sentiment may find expression in the wholesale burning of the standing cane, and the authorities have announced that every possible measure is being taken to protect the canefields from incendiarism.

8. Senator Jose Manuel Cortina has taken Ambassador Ferrera's place in trying to bring about a rapprochment between the Government and the Opposition, but without success, the President still holding to his point that negotiations of this type cannot be carried on until there is a much calmer atmosphere prevailing in the Capital.

9. According to information published in the Government Press, there are but 102 political prisoners in the Havana jails. This is rather less than the general estimate which exceeds 200 and probably fails to take into account the persons incarcerated in the Cabana Military prison.

10. The practice of setting off odoriferous bombs has practically ceased for the time being, but there has been an increased activity on the part of those resorting to powder bombs, several having been set off recently, usually around midnight or shortly thereafter, in various parts of Havana.

11. While the situation remains unchanged and there has been no outward signs to indicate that any change can be expected in the immediate future, the rumbling beneath the surface seems to be getting louder and louder. It is impossible to forecast what will happen or what the Government intends to do when the suspension of the Constitutional Guarantees is lifted.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press, and
Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3448 Date: January 20, 1931.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Enclosure No.1.
encl 1

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WAR DEPARTMENT

TRANSLATION

(Copy)

WHEREAS: In the proceedings formulated in the case of the American citizen John T. Wilford, it has been possible to prove that the said foreigner, through the medium of the newspaper "The Havana American", of which he is manager and owner, has been realizing a frankly seditious campaign against the legally constituted powers, encouraging and applauding Communistic elements in their plan subversive to public peace and tranquklity;

WHEREAS: In the edition of the aforementioned newspaper "The Havana American" corresponding to the 9th instant, an article appears entitled "The Situation Goes from Bad to Worse", in which, without regard for the truth, the President of the Republic is attributed with having endorsed a reign of terror in the Country, allowing Public Forces and the Police to invade private residences and cast the occupants thereof into prison, and in which it is asserted that Cuba, theoretically a Republic, has become an absolute monarchy, and that the slightest demonstrations against the procedure of the President are classed as treasonable;

WHEREAS: From reports submitted by Police forces in this Capital it appears that the foreign citizen John T. Wilford has, in fact, for some time been working in opposition to the Government and, in particular, to the President of the Republic, imputing absolutely false actions to him and eulogizing, on the other hand, all acts contrary to the social order.

WHEREAS: For the reasons set forth above, the foreigner above referred to is prejudicial to the Country and should be expelled from the national territory, as coming under clause (C), article I, of Presidential Decree No. 1601 of July 27, 1925;

WHEREAS: It is the firm intention of the present Administration to adopt without delay measures conducive to the strict execution of the provisionsof the said Decree;

NOW, THEREFORE: In the name of the Republic of Cuba, and on the proposal of the Secretary of the Interior,

I RESOLVE:

1. To expel from the national territory, as an undesirable alien, the native citizen of the United States of America, John T. Wilford.

2. The Secretary of the Interior is charged with the execution of this Decree.

Given at Habana, in the Presidential Palace, the fourteenth day of January, 1931.

(s) GERARDO MACHADO
President

(s) JOSE CLEMENTE VIVANCO
Secretary of the Interior.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

OFFICE OF CHIEF 3600-a
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
4-1 2657-g-330
WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. FEB 2 1931

1. The political situation in Cuba for the last week has been outwardly more tranquil than at any time during the past two months, no disorders of any kind having been reported either in Havana or in the Provinces.

2. Apparently this condition has been brought about principally by the discussion that is now rampant on the new Tax Bill (report of which was made in my report No. 3450, Index No. 5000-c, dated January 21, 1931). This Bill was passed by the House of Representatives on January 23rd. with several amendments, and is now being considered by the Senate. Objections to many of the features of this Bill have been registered by many of the leading trade bodies, American, Spanish and Cuban alike, and it is believed that when it is finally passed several of its most objectionable features will be stricken from it. The Opposition feel that should this Bill be passed the Government will be armed with sufficiently additional funds to permit it to continue in office considerably longer that it had hoped for, and its leaders are concentrating all their energies on the defeat of this Bill in the Senate.

3. The newspapers are still suppressed -- the only dailies appearing on the Havana streets, other than the purely Government controlled ones, being the Havana Post and the Evening Telegram (both in the English language), Ahora, a product of the employees of El Mundo, and Informacion, an afternoon daily put out by the employees of Diario de la Marina. According to reports the new Press Law will be given precedence in the Congress as soon as the Tax Law has been passed in its final form.

4. The Government has announced that in the immediate future a new law will be passed supplementing the Law of Public Order of April 23, 1870, resort to which has been made by the Government in each of its suspensions of Constitutional Guarantees.

5. The student situation remains unchanged, all of the Government controlled institutions remaining closed. According to recent announcement by the Secretary of Public Instruction, an attempt is going to be made within the next few days to open the elementary schools of commerce. However, no intimation has been made that any of the secondary schools will open at any time in the immediate future, and it is now believed that they will remain closed for the rest of the scolastic year, unless, of course, some radical change is made in the political situation.

6. Whether by intent or not, President Machado has succeeded in diverting the Opposition from the general political agitation to a very special one, that of the new Tax Bill, and its effect has been to cause almost complete tranquillity on the Island. Whether this condition will continue to exist after the passage of this Bill is doubtful, but in any event, even the most bitter of his opponents recognize his political acumen in introducing the measure at this particular time.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press
and Personal Contacts.

From M. A., Havana No. 3451 Date: January 27, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT
FEB 5 1931

G-2 Report

4-1 2657-9-330
29

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action. 1931.

1. During the past few days no disorders of any kind have been reported in Cuba -- the outward tranquility that has existed during the past two weeks remaining undisturbed. However, political events of special significance have occurred and are enumerated below.

2. On January 27th the House of Representatives approved a measure authorizing the President to suspend Constitutional Guarantees whenever and wherever he may consider it necessary and without limitation as to duration. There appears to be considerable doubt as to whether or not this measure is constitutional due to the fact that Article 40 of the Constitution stipulates that Guarantees may be suspended only temporarily, although there is no indication as to what is meant by "temporarily". In the absence of any new authorization, the present period of suspension of Constitutional Guarantees will terminate on February 11th. This measure has been sent to the Senate, but as yet, no action has been taken on it. The Opposition stated that this measure was passed in the House without a quorum, and that the same tactics will probably be employed in securing its passage in the Senate.

3. The Emergency Tax Bill passed the Senate on January 29th and was signed by the President on the same date. While considerable of the "sting" has been taken out of this measure in the amendments that were made in the House of Representatives, opposition to it is still quite generally universal with the commercial and property-owning classes. In fact, the Opposition leaders are quoted as expressing the opinion that should these taxes go into effect, the result will merely be to make doubly sure the downfall of the Machado Government, although the temporary increase in revenues will probably enable him to stave off bankruptcy a few months longer than would otherwise have been the case. (A detailed study of this Law will be reported when the official copies of it are available.)

4. The newspapers, El Mundo and Diario de la Marina, resumed publication this morning. These papers are being published purely on sufferance of the Government, and the orders for their suspension were rescinded only after the editorshad agreed to refrain from printing anything which the Government might consider obnoxious. At this writing it is not known whether or not El Pais will appear this afternoon, as its owner has not given any indication of his intentions. This temporary agreement between the Government and the Press is an extremely unsatisfactory one insofar as the newspapers are concerned, the owners of both of these papers feeling that they may gain considerable popular disfavor by publishing under conditions imposed upon them by the Government. It is understood that the new Press Law which is to be sent to the Cuban Congress within the next few days, will meet great opposition due to one of its clauses which stipulates that no member of the Cuban Congress is eligible to become a director of a newspaper. This clause has been inserted by the Government in order to prevent newspaper editors from escaping punishment for their acts due to their Congressional immunity.

5. A feeling is prevalent that the Opposition is weakening, but the only indication that I personally have observed that would warrant such a feeling is that there is considerably less "loose talk" now than heretofore.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and
Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana

No. 3454 Date: January 30,1931.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT

27

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. FEB 10 1931

1. There has been no outward change in the political situation in Cuba during the past week, nothing having transpired to disturb the public peace in Havana, and, according to reports, the same condition exists in the Provinces.

2. On February 2nd. the Senate approved the Bill granting the President the right to suspend Constitutional Guarantees after the present suspension expires on February 11th. There were but five opponents, all Conservatives, to this Bill when it was considered by the Upper Body. The President signed it on February 1st., and it is presumed that a continuation of the now authorized suspension will go into effect immediately after the termination of the present one on February 11th, thus making the suspension continuous. The Government fears, and probably rightfully so, that the Opposition would take advantage of any period when Constitutional Guarantees were not suspended to stage demonstrations, feeling that the time would be especially propitious due to the presence of a large number of American tourists.

3. A one-day general strike was scheduled for February 4, 1931, as a demonstration of sympathy in behalf of the striking fishermen of Havana Harbor. However, this strike was practically a complete failure, the only agencies participating being the Typographical Union, with the result that all the Spanish language papers in Havana failed to publish on that day. The Government had taken precautionary measures to quell any disturbances, but as far as is known, none of any serious consequence occurred.

4. Very little progress has been made with the new Press Law and the Government now states that it will not be ready to be presented to Congress for at least two weeks. In the meantime all of the Spanish language dailies, with the exception of El Pais, have resumed publication, although their tone is considerably milder than it was prior to their suspension. According to Press reports, the Havana American has been permitted to resume its publication and will appear on the streets in the near future under the editorship of Mr. Steverding, formerly an associate editor of that paper.

5. A few of the commercial schools have opened in the Provinces, but the Student question is no nearer a solution than heretofore, and little hope is felt that any of the Government controlled Provincial institutes or the University of Havana will be opened during the present scholastic year.

6. The whole political situation seems to be very much calmer than at any time since last fall. This does not mean that the Government's position is actually any stronger than heretofore. In fact, the passage of the Emergency Tax Law seems to have cost President Machado the loss of friendship of what few supporters, other than Government employees, he had had.

F. C. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press
and Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3461 Date: February 6, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT
7

C-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAR 7 1931

1. For the two weeks immediately subsequent to the rendition of my last report, everything pertaining to the political situation in Cuba remained extremely calm, no untoward incidents of any kind occurring until the week beginning February 22nd. For many days prior to that time rumors had been current that the Opposition was about to make a supreme effort in its endeavor to cause the collapse of the Machado Government. Apparently true to their promise, a series of bombs were set off at various localities in the City on the nights of February 22nd and 23rd, none of which resulted in any serious damage. The police were extremely vigilant during this time, especially in view of the fact that on February 24th, a Cuban National holiday, President Machado was due to make a public address on the steps of the new Capitolio on the occasion of the dedication of that building and the Central Highway. True to his promise, he appeared on that date and made a speech in which, as is his custom, he thoroughly flayed his political opponents for their insidious campaign against him and his Government. However, no incident occurred at that time. In order to come to the Capitolio and return to the Palace, President Machado drove through the streets which were thronged with people, many of whom he knew were his political opponents. His adherents felt that this was an unnecessary chance to be taking at a time when it would be very easy for a fanatic to assassinate him, but he insisted on doing it, and as a result, even the most bitter of his critics were forced to admit that he was not lacking in moral courage.

2. One incident of grave importance occurred on February 23rd., in which an attempt was made to assassinate the President by means of a bomb which was placed in the Palace. It was not until after the incident had received wide publicity in the United States that the Cuban government on February 26th confirmed the report and gave to the newspapers full details as to the manner in which the bomb had been placed and the damage caused by its explosion. Since that time newspapers have published full accounts of the Government's investigation of this outrage.

3. From the most authentic sources available, it appears that the bomb was lowered from the roof of the Palace through a ventilation pipe by a cord of sufficient length to reach the President's bathroom. It lodged, however, in an elbow of this pipe at the fourth floor level in a partition between the servant's laundry and a room occupied by the children of one of the President's daughters. The bomb exploded at about 4:30 A.M., the hour at which the President customarily takes his morning bath. The partition between the laundry and the aforementioned bedroom was completely destroyed and other material damage was inflicted. Fortunately no one was injured, which, in view of the circumstances, may be regarded as a little short of a miracle.

4. At first, suspicion fell upon employees of the Compania Cubana de Electricidad, who had been making preparations for a special illumination of the Palace in preparation for the inauguration of the Central Highway and the new capitol on February 24th. These employees were able to establish their innocence and the investigation proceeded along other lines. The fact that the person who had placed the bomb had knowledge of the existence of the ventilation pipe and of the direction in which it lead was considered to indicate conclusively that such person must have been familiar with the plans of the Palace. Furthermore, as the Palace has for some months past been under heavy military guard, it seemed quite unlikely that any person outside of the Palace personnel could have gained access to the roof and to the ventilation pipe without the connivance of one or more of the guards. Further investigation lead to the arrest of a private soldier who was unable to account for certain suspicious actions on the evening preceding the explosion. When arrested and questioned this soldier admitted he had placed the bomb which, he alleged, he had received from a former municipal official named Francisco

From M. A., Havana No. 3478 Date: March 3, 1931.

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Diaz, who had delivered the bomb to him, promising him substantial recompense, in the doorway of the residence of Miguel Marino Gomez, who, until the establishment of the Central District on February 24, 1931, was Mayor of Havana, and who has long been one of President Machado's principal political adversaries. The soldier further alleged that the ventilation pipe in which the bomb had been placed was shown him by Major Manuel Espinosa, who had been one of President Machado's Military Aides for the last five and a half years, and whose wife is a sister of ex-Mayor Gomez. Espinosa was promptly arrested and is now being held in Cabana Fortress pending further investigation.

5. This attempt against the life of President Machado caused wide-spread indignation and universal condemnation by the Cuban Press. However, the apparent attempt of the government to connect ex-Mayor Gomez with the crime, as seen not only in the accusations against his brother-in-law and a former official of the municipality known to be loyal to Senor Gomez, but also in the dissemination of circumstantial evidence of a seemingly incriminating nature, has to some extent diminished the resentment which characterized the public's first reaction toward the outrage. Senor Gomez himself, and a great many other people, profess to believe that the Government is trying to implicate the former Mayor in order both to destroy his great popularity and to intimidate him to such an extent that he will deem it necessary to leave the City. However, there is as yet no real evidence that such a conspiracy is on foot.

6. Another of Senor Gomez' brothers-in-law, Captain Morales Cuello, the President's principal Naval Aide, has at his own request been permitted to withdraw from his duties at the Palace, but is still carrying on in his capacity as President of the Supreme War Council.

7. Since the incidents cited above, there has been no outward manifestation of unrest and the thousands of American tourists in Havana at this time are enjoying the winter season exactly the same as in past years.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press,
and Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3478 Date: March 3, 1931.

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G-2 Report

Opr. 1 Incl 3600-a
M.I. Rec'd. Div.

4-1 2657-9-330

MAR 17 1931
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WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G-2 W. D. MAR 18 1931

1. In order to control the use of explosive substances in all forms, the President, on February 27, 1931, signed Decree No. 289, English translation of which is enclosed, empowering the Secretary of War and Navy to control the production, importation and sale of these substances.

2. In this Decree the following is provided:

(a) The definition of "explosive substances".

(b) The requirement that allwho import, export, store, manufacture, distribute or use explosive substances shall hold a special license issued by the Secretary of War and Navy.

(c) Permits for the importation of these products must show the quantity to be imported, the name and address of the importer, name and address of the exporter and the period in which importation must be effected.

(d) Importers can sell these substances only to pharmacists, druggists, laboratories and industries which have been legally established, and in each case the purchaser must file one copy of his purchase order with the Military Superior of the District.

(e) A register must be kept by all dealers in these substances, showing the stock on hand, quantity sold, name and address of purchaser, and remarks pertaining to the sale.

(f) These materials can be imported through the ports of Havana, Mariel, Matanzas, Cienfuegos, Sagua, Nuevitas, Santiago de Cuba, Antilla, and the sub-port of Santa Lucia.

3. It is believed that this measure will be beneficial to the Government in its campaign to stamp out the pernicious habit of setting off bombs. The issuance of the Decree at this time is especially significant in view of the recent attempt to assassinate the President by this means.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Official Documents.

From M. A., Havana No. 3487 Date: March 10, 1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT

TRANSLATION.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR AND NAVY.

DECREE No. 289.

WHEREAS: for some time past disturbances of the public peace have been taking place and the lives and property of citizens endangered through the explosion of bombs and the use of inflammable substances or gaseous products.

WHEREAS: this Executive deems it convenient, for the purpose of preventing the repetition of such deeds, to establish an absolute control over the production and sale of the aforementioned substances.

THEREFORE: In use of the powers granted me in the Constitution and the Laws, and on proposal of the Secretary of War and Navy,

I RESOLVE:

I. - Explosives substances are considered to be:

(a) Every composite mixture or body, the combination or decomposition of which may give rise to rapid formation and detachment of gasses capable of producing dynamic effects useful in mining, public works, ballistics and pyrotechnics.

(b) All incendiary substances easily inflammable, such as white phosphorus, sulphur of carbon, and the products of the distillation of wood or of pit-coal or of any other.

(c) All gaseous bodies, simple or combined, or atomized or solid liquids finely divided or pulverized, or which upon being spread in the atmosphere through any other process render the atmosphere noxious, asphyxiating or unfit for breathing, such chlorine, sulphur of bychlorated ethyl, "cloropicrina", "bromotolueno" and arsenic substances.

(d) All preparation of substances with which to make mixtures such as "Hack-a-Rock" "Break-Hille", Rock-Brakers (Rompe-Rocas) and other analogous preparations. Explosives of the Sprengel type and all prime substances of any kind which could be used in the manufacture of explosives, incendiary substances or gasses applicable in war such as chlorate or perchlorate of potash, of ammonia and of sodium; sulphurs, nitrates of potash, of ammonia, strontium and baryta; magnesium, sulphid, aluminum, mirbane Oil; chlorydric; sulphuric, nitric and pioric acids, etc.

(e) Explosive nitric carbonates, explosive nitric ethers (Nitro glycerine) derivative explosives of sugar and polyglucose explosive derivatives of nitro- cellulose explosive derivatives of phenol; explosive derivatives of benzoic acid (nitro-benzoic acid) etc.

(f) Cartridges in general, fuses, fulminants of every kind, "tetryl", quick-match and missiles of every kind, as well as phrotechnic implements.

(g) Every new adaptation, preparation or invention having explosive or incendiary effects, or which may be applied in the chemistry of war.

(h) All substances intended for the manufacture of tingeing materials or of perfumery, such as Michler acetone, anilines, etc.

II. - Everybody who imports, exports, stores, manufactures, distributes or uses the aforementioned substances or products shall obtain a license issued by the Department of War and Navy.

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III. - The license for the importation of the products and substances mentioned in this Decree shall be issued by the Department of War and Navy, and it shall set forth the quantity to be imported, the name and address of the importer, the name and address of the exporter, and furthermore, it shall express the period during which the importation is to be effected.

IV. - The Division of War Material of the General Staff of the Army shall keep a book of Register in which shall be recorded, in chronological order, the authorization or license granted for the importation of said substances and products, the quantities received by the importers, when they were received, their distribution and the stock in hand kept by every importer.

V. - The importers shall only be able to sell said substances and products to Pharmacists and Druggists, Laboratories and Industrialists legally established, by means of a receipt in duplicate signed by the owner, person in charge, professional director or technician of the purchasing establishment, keeping one of said receipts in his files and forwarding the other copy to the Office of the Chief of the District or Captaincy of Squadron of the territory wherein he resides.

Those residing in the Province of Havana shall forward said duplicates to the Chief of the Division of War Material of the General Staff of the Army.

VI:- The importer shall make a record in the Book Register, in chronological order, of the incoming and outgoing merchandise, setting forth the name and address of the Pharmacist, Druggist, Director of Laboratory or Industrialist making the purchase. In case the importer be a Pharmacist or Druggist having a Pharmacy annexed to his Drug Store, he shall make a record in his Book of Registry of the quantities which are passed by the Pharmacy for the filling of prescriptions.

VII. - These substances or products can only be imported through the ports of Mariel, Habana, Matanzas, Cienfuegos, Sagua, Nuevitas, Santiago de Cuba, Antilla and the Sub-port of Santa Lucia.

VIII. - Every establishment which sells, or every laboratory which manufactures the substances or products mentioned in this Decree, shall keep a Book of Register having a column for every one of the following particulars: Quantity of substances or products in hand. Quantity sold, name of purchaser, address, remarks.

IX. - The licenses for the traffic in, and distribution of, the substances and products mentioned, shall be issued by the Department of War and Navy.

X. - The Chief of the Division of War Material of the General Staff of the Army, the Chiefs of the Military Districts of Oriente, Camaguey, Santa Clara, Matanzas and Pinar del Rio, and the Chiefs of Squadrons of the Rural Guard of said Districts, shall keep a Book of Register like the one described in Article VIII, in which they shall record all the operations contained in the duplicate receipts forwarded to them by the laboratories or sellers of said substances or products.

XI. - The laboratories and sellers shall make an entry every day in the Book of Register of the operations effected, and shall make a daily balance of the stock in hand of said explosive substances or products.

XII. - For the inspection and vigilance of the fulfillment of the provisions of this Decree, the Secretary of War and Navy shall appoint an officer of the same District who shall have the capacity of Inspector General of Explosives, and the Chiefs of Military Districts who guard the Provinces of Oriente, Camaguey, Santa Clara, Matanzas and Pinar del Rio, shall appoint an officer of the same District and whose duty shall be to inspect the ware-

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houses, magazines, pharmacies, drug stores, laboratories and other establishments where explosives substances or products are sold or manufactured.

XIII.- The inspections shall be every month, or whenever deemed convenient by the secretary of War and Navy or the Chief of the Military District wherein the establishment is situated.

XIV. - The infringers of the provisions of this Decree shall be placed at the disposal of the proper judicial authority as liable for the offense included in section three of Article 3 of the Law of July 10, 1894, relative to the repression of assaults through explosives.

XV. - All Decrees, orders and regulations opposed to the provisions of this Decree are hereby repealed.

Given at the Presidential Palace, in Habana, the 27th day of February, 1931.

GERARDO MACHADO,

President.

C. M. De Rojas,

Secretary of War and Navy.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

3600-a
CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
MAR 19 1931

G-2 Report

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WAR DEPARTMENT

RECEIVED G-2 W. D. MAR 18 1931

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

1. For the last ten days nothing of special importance has occurred to change the outward appearance of the political situation in Cuba, but there has been a continuation of the throwing of bombs both in Havana and in the Provinces. Although the Army and Police are still extremely active in trying to run down those guilty of these pernicious acts, and while the Government still continues to place all responsibility for it on Communists, bombs continue to explode almost nightly in various parts of Havana. Fortunately, however, they are generally nothing more than noise-making bombs and have done practically no property damage, and, except for one incident in which a child was injured, no bodily harm has resulted from their explosions.

2. On March 6, 1931, President Machado issued a decree rescinding the one of January 9, 1931, and authorized all newspapers and periodicals which were affected by the latter referred to decree, to resume their publication. The authorization to resume publication was immediately availed of by El Pais, which immediately came out with self-laudatory editorials which were designed to impress the public with the great sacrifice its owner, Alfredo Hornedo, had made in refusing for two months to submit to the conditions to which the other newspapers had agreed to in order to obtain permission for the resumption of their publications. According to these editorials, there is to be no departure from the independent policy which the present management of this paper has proclaimed as its guiding principle. As a matter of fact, this paper has had the courage to renew, although in a somewhat more moderated tone, its criticism of the Government, and there is already apparent a tendency in this same direction on the part of the other two leading dailies (El Mundo and Diario de la Marina), which are finding it a most difficult task to choose between a course incurring the Government's displeasure and seeing their circulation fall off in favor of El Pais.

3. But one of the suspended weeklies has made its reappearance, but the owner and publisher of La Semana, Seiguio Cabro, who was recently released from prison after forty-two days confinement, stated that his paper will appear next week. The comic weekly, Karikato, which has been in difficulties with the Government on and off for the past year, resumed its publication with an edition on the night of March 9th. This edition contained numerous personal attacks on the officials of the new Federal District, but no sooner had it appeared on the streets than a gang of armed men descended on its place of publication, wrecked the office, and inflicted bodily harm on several members of the editorial staff. This outrage brought forth general condemnation and the Government has announced it will spare no effort in its attempt to find the guilty persons.

4. The proposed Press Law, reference to which has been made in previous reports, now appears to have encountered very serious difficulty prior to even being formally submitted to Congress, and it now appears unlikely that any action toward its enactment will be taken during the present Congressional session.

5. The Government is still investigating the incident at the Presidential Palace on February 23rd. in which an attempt was made to assassinate the President by means of a bomb. No new developments have been announced and Major Espinosa is still being held "incommunicado" at Cabana Fortress. In my conversations with the Army officers on this subject, I have gained the impression that most of those who formerly felt that the charges against Major Espinosa were too ridiculous to be true, are now of the opinion that the evidence unearthed since his incarceration seems to point toward his guilt. The President has announced that he will be given a fair trial by an Army Court Martial at a time and place to be designated later.

From M. A., Havana No.3491 Date: March 13, 1931.

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6. An new attempt is being made by the Government to solve the student problem, and for this purpose a committee composed of representative professors of the various schools of the University of Havana have been appointed to draw up a pact, acceptable by the Government and the students, under which the University can function. However, little hope is entertained for the solution of the problem in this manner.

7. While it appears from the surface conditions that everything is quite tranquil in Havana and the Provinces (the people having become accustomed to the bombs), the Opposition is still active in its propaganda and nothing has occurred in recent months to make the Government any more popular with the masses, other than those receiving compensation from it, than it has been for the last six months.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and
Personal Contacts.

From M. A., Havana No. 3491 Date: March 13, 1931.

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MAR 24 OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF M.I. INTEL. DIV.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Diplomatic and Consular Representatives Accredited from Foreign Countries.

RECEIVED 2/2 W. D. MAR 21 1931

1. On the night of March 14th, about 10 P.M., a bomb exploded in the driveway which leads to the garage of the house which my family and myself occupy. At the time of the explosion neither Mrs. O'Hare nor myself were in the house, but from the accounts of my son and the servants in my house, the force of the explosion caused the house to shake and did some material damage to the roof of the adjoining house. Shortly after the explosion the police arrived and conducted an investigation, but as far as is known, no arrests were made.

2. This incident has not been published in the Cuban Press and it is not believed that any special significance should be attached to it. I believe that whoever planted the bomb did so merely because the darkness of the driveway together with the approaches to it offered an especially favorable opportunity for the planting of the bomb as a part of the terrorist campaign that is now being carried on, and in a neighborhood which has heretofore been practically exempt from these activities.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From M. A., Havana No. 3494 Date: March 17, 1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

MILITARY INTEL. DIV.

3600-a.
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WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAR 25 1931

1. Since the renewal of their campaign of bomb throwing about February 20th, bombs have been set off nightly both in Havana and in the Provinces. In fact, during the past two weeks this malicious practice has been on the increase, despite the vigorous measures adopted by the police and the fact that the death penalty is possible for those convicted of manufacturing or distributing bombs with felonious intent.

2. A brief review of some of the most outstanding cases of the use of bombs during thepast two weeks follows:

(a) On the night of March 6th, bombs were discovered in the Central Railway Station of Havana and in the recently re-constructed City Hall. Neither of these exploded.

(b) On March 7th, one boy was seriously injured by the explosion of a bomb which he had inadvertently picked up, thinking it was a ball. On the same night bombs exploded on the roof of the house adjoining the Central Police Station (presumably intended for it), and in the garage adjacent to the residence of Senator Wilfredo Fernandez.

(c) On the night of March 10th, the building occupied by the Spanish Embassy was slightly damaged by the explosion of a bomb in a house directly across the street from it. The watchman on duty at the time went to notify the police of the incident, and, upon his return, found the body of an unidentified man hanging from a beam of a part of the building that was being remodeled. This incident caused considerable newspaper comment, and in order to make a "good story" out of it, practically all the press stated that the explosion occurred in the Embassy itself. This, the Spanish Ambassador denied. However, the identity of the dead man was not made known, and the Spanish Ambassador expressed his confidential opinion to members of this Embassy's staff that the person who planted the bomb was caught and summarily executed by the authorities.

(d) While making a bomb on March 14th, in a rooming house on San Rafael Street, it exploded, resulting in the arrest of the two "students" who were injured by it.

(e) A bomb exploded on the evening of March 16th, at cocktail time, just outside the grill room of the new National Hotel. It did damage only to the lawn surrounding the Hotel.

3. The efforts of the police to suppress this campaign have met with only fair success. On March 5th the police announced the arrest of two individuals who were found in a cave on the shores of the Almendares River, and who had bomb-making materials in their possession. According to press reports, they confessed that they had orders for a hundred and twenty bombs. On March 14th, the police raided the residence of Dr. Rafael Fiterre Rivera, formerly a University professor, and discovered a large quantity of chemicals generally used in the making of the type of bombs which have recently been set off. Dr. Fiterre Rivera and four men, two of whom are students, were arrested. The police had been looking for one of those found at this house for a long time (Sonado Vilanesca Forren), and he has been charged with distributing bombs for the purpose of creating alarm. Other than the arrests referred to

From M. A., Havana No. 3496 Date: March 19,1931.

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in this paragraph and those referred to in paragraph No. 2, the efforts of the police to suppress the bombing have been fruitless.

4. On March 12th, sixty-seven political prisoners, mostly students, were transferred from Principe Castle to the model prison at Nueva Gerona, Isle of Pines. This transfer was made on orders from Lieutenant Colonel Erasmo Delgado, an Army Judge Advocate, who has been charged with the prosecution of all cases involving conspiracy against the Government. The Government's action in this regard elicited very unfavorable press comment, especially by El Pais, principally on the ground that this would cause unnecessary hardships on the prisoners and deprive their families of the opportunity of visiting them. In reply to this criticism, Colonel Delgado stated that he had learned of a plot of a prison break on the part of the political prisoners and that the transfer had been made not only to frustrate this, but also to avoid any unnecessary bloodshed.

5. The student question is still far from solved, and Senator Ricardo Dolz, who assumed the ungrateful task of trying to find a compromise, recently stated that in the absence of a more conciliatory spirit on the part of all concerned, he would have nothing more to do with the discussions.

6. The Opposition is continuing to be active, with no signs of a compromise between them and the Government yet in sight. Menocal and Mendieta have been having almost daily conferences, but nothing has leaked out as to their intentions. Unfounded rumors are now circulating to the effect that something serious is going to take place within a fortnight, but dates of this type having been fixed so often in the past without anything happening, that no great importance is being attached to this one.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and
Personal Contacts.

From M. A., Havana No. 3496 Date: March 19,1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G-2 W. D. APR - 3 1931

1. The Opposition group continues to employ all available means for keeping the people of Cuba, and especially the residents of Havana, in a state of uneasiness, principally by the means so many times previously described: bomb explosions almost nightly in various parts of the Island.

2. During the past week several persons have been arrested by the police and most of them have been charged with violations of the Law of Explosives. Two of the more prominent of those arrested, however, Celestino Baizan, former Governor of the Province of Habana, and Dr. Tomas Guatimo Menocal, brother of the ex-President, were exceptions to this rule. The former is charged with having taken part in the conspiracy to seize the Havana Arsenal on Christmas Eve of 1930, and Menocal is alleged to have attempted to foment agitation among officers of the Army in the Province of Oriente. The disposition made of political prisoners during the past few months has brought about a conflict of jurisdiction which has not been satisfactorily settled by the Courts. During this time some of these cases have been placed at the disposal of the Military, and others at the disposal of the Civil authorities. About the middle of February the Government in an effort to settle the matter by Congressional intercession, introduced a bill which would authorize Military Tribunals to take cognizance of all cases involving civilians accused of violating the Law of Explosives and of setting fire to standing sugar cane during the sugar harvest. Last week this bill was amended in the Senate so as to restrict its application to periods during which the Constitutional Guarantees are suspended. A session of the Lower House was called for on March 22, in order to give urgent consideration to this bill, but there was no quorum of that body on that day, and it now appears that the present Congress which will come to an end next week, will be adjourned without this bill becoming a law. Naturally, this proposed legislation is very unpopular, and has been severely criticized by practically all the responsible press, with the single exception of Heraldo de Cuba.

3. The police force has been strengthened not only in order to enable it to meet any threatened disorders but also because of the many rumors now circulating with respect to the intentions of various elements hostile to the Government. While none of the rumors or reports of alleged conspiracy appear to haveany foundation, they have at least created what is believed to be their real aim: that of keeping alive the spirit of alarm and apprehension. In the bolstering up of the National Police Force one platoon has been equipped with machine guns and several bomb squads have been created. In addition to this, orders have been issued for systematic search of private dwellings and other buildings in which it is supposed there may be stores of arms and ammunition. In their zeal to carry out these orders several seizures of fire arms in the possession of gun makers or collectors of fire arms have been reported.

4. There has been no let-down by the Opposition press in decrying the action of the Special Military Judge, Lieut. Colonel Delgado, in transferring the political prisoners to the Isle of Pines. Several of the prisoners have been returned to Havana upon orders of the Civil Courts, but so far, the Military authorities have refused to comply with a Writ issued by a Havana Judge of First Instance, ordering that all prisoners be brought back to the city. In the meantime, the students and others who are being held in the Isle of Pines jail appear to be well cared for and subjected to the very minimum of disciplinary rigors. The reports in the newspapers by the reporters who were permitted to visit there on Sunday last were, on the whole, very favorable as to the treatment the prisoners are receiving.

From M. A., Havana No. 3504 Date: March 28, 1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

5. There are some indications, although not of a very substantial nature, that a real effort is being made to settle the student problem. A law was recently passed authorizing the President to reorganize the University and other institutions of learning, granting the former such autonomy as may be deemed proper. A Committee of the faculty of the University has been named to represent it in these negotiations. This Committee immediately issued a statement supporting the complete program of the Student Directorate, which includes, among other things, a demand for an immediate change of Government. However, the students no longer appear to have a united front, as some three hundred of them recently signed a published declaration which advocated the reopening of the University, subject only to the conditions that the institution be made autonomous, and that all the other schools and institutions be reopened; all professors to be appointed after competitive examination.

6. The Veterans of the War of Independence have recently attempted to take a hand in affairs during the present political crisis. General Jose Marti, son of the famous Cuban patriot, recently issued an invitation for the Veterans to meet for the purpose of considering the state of the Nation. This invitation, however, failed to bring a favorable response from the Association, and it is now doubted if anything more can be done by this Organization which has played such an important part on past occasions in Cuba's history. In this connection, however, it is interesting to note that General Marti is a strong adherent of General Menocal, and held public office under him.

7. Public interest is at the present concentraging on the Court Martial of Major Espinosa and Private Camilo Valdes, who are accusted of perpetrating the plot for the bombing of the President's Palace on February 23rd. The trial began day before yester'ay after the Counsel for the defense failed in his efforts to have the trial placed under the jurisdiction of the Civil Courts. From all information now available, things look very black for Espinosa although he issued a statement prior to his trial declaring his innocence. (A full report of this trial will be made at a later date).

8. While things are outwardly calm in Cuba at this time, except for the setting off of bombs, there is a very strong feeling of uneasiness in the air, and even the most loyal of the Government's supporters appear to be apprehensive lest something of a very serious nature occur within a very short time.

Source: Embassy Press and Personal Observation.

F. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

From M.A., Havana No. 3504 Date: March 28,1931.

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MESS & CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. 3600-a.

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WAR DEPARTMENT
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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. APR 8 1931

1. There has not been any change in the political situation in Cuba since the rendition of my last report on this subject.

2. The trial by Court Martial of Major Espinosa is continuing to attract very much interest, and the oral testimony thus far has revealed a mass of conflicting statements which have failed to indicate either the guilt or the innocence of the accused.

3. Bomb explosions continue to occur almost nightly, and of the more recent ones the following three seem to be worthy of mention:

(a) A bomb tossed from a passing automobile injured two young women who were walking on San Rafael Street, in the heart of Havana's shopping district.

(b) At about 11 A.M. on March 27 a bomb exploded in the lavatory of the Havana City Hall, doing a moderate amount of damage but not injuring anyone.

(c) On the night of March 29th a large bomb exploded in the Spanish Consulate at Santa Clara. The Consul and his family were not at home, but according to press reports much damage was done to the building and furniture.

4. The searching of private homes for arms and ammunition has not yielded important results despite the fact that police have been aided by sanitary experts detailed for the purpose by the Department of Health. A large number of weapons have been confiscated by the searchers or given up by the owners in anticipation of the visitations by the authorities, but only one or two large caches of arms have thus far been discovered. There have been many complaints regarding the conduct of the police in carrying out these searches, and the press reports that Lieutenant Calvo, Chief of the Detectives, has been cautioned to observe a more tactful and considerate bearing.

5. The invasion of private dwellings without warrants must now be temporarily discontinued in Havana and Santa Clara Provinces due to the issuance on March 28 of a decree which restored the suspended constitutional guarantees in certain districts pending the holding of partial elections which the Central Electoral Board has called for April 20th. This decree affects only those districts where new elections are to be held, and it provides specifically that as soon as the elections have been held the guarantees will once more be suspended.

6. The reaction to the Supreme Court's decision declaring the executive resolution of January 9, 1931 (suspending the newspapers) unconstitutional, continues to be extremely favorable. El Mundo, the successful appellant in the case, intends to file a suit against the Government for damages incurred by reason of its inability to publish during the period of three weeks which elapsed before the order of suspension was rescinded. It appears that the other newspapers which were affected by the aforementioned resolution cannot bring similar damage suits because of their failure within ten days following the order of

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the suspension to file appeals similar to that taken by El Mundo.

7. The student group which favors a conciliatory policy and which recently published a manifesto advocating the reopening of the University on the condition that the institution be made self-governing and that all the other normal schools and institutions be reopened, with faculties composed exclusively of professors appointed after competitive examination, has now added a third condition, namely, that all professors and students now detailed or imprisoned be released and granted full pardons. This body of students is now endeavoring to conduct a referendum on the above proposals, and ballots are being distributed among all the professors and students asking that the votes be submitted before April 20th. However, very little hope is held that this delicate problem will be solved in this manner.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy & Press.

From M. A., Havana No. 3507 Date: April 2, 1931.

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G-2 Report

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4-1 2657-G-330

APR 16 1931

WAR DEPARTMENT

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CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G-2 W.D. APR 15 1931

1. Since the rendition of my last report on this subject, the political affairs of Cuba have assumed a brighter outlook and the Government, by its conciliatory actions, is apparently making a real endeavor to bring about political peace on the Island.

2. As an indication of the Government's attitude, the following cases are cited:

(a) On April 7th Aurelio Hevia, Nacionalista leader, who has been confined in the military prison at Cabana Fortress since the latter part of December, charged with instigating a conspiracy to seize the Arsenal on Christmas Eve, was released without trial, despite the fact that a very prominent member of the Government stated to the American Ambassador that the Government felt that he was guilty of the accusation.

(b) On the same day Colonel Celestino Baizan, former Governor of Havana Province, who, together with Sr. T. Guatimo Menocal, brother of the ex-President, was arrested about two weeks ago, accused of being involved in the same plot, was also released. Press notices state that Menocal will be set free in the near future.

(c) On April 8th the sixty seven political prisoners, mostly students, who were recently sent to the prison at the Isle of Pines, were transferred to the Cabana Fortress and on April 9th forty one of them were released without trial.

(d) On April 8th Lieutenant Colonel Delgado was relieved as Special Military Judge, charged with the prosecution of special sedition cases. He was succeeded by Sr. Antonio Pinedo, whose first official act was to order the release of Hevia and Baizan.

3. The conciliatory gestures on the part of the Government described above are generally ascribed to the conferences now taking place for the solution of Cuba's political problems. The Government is willing to make very great concessions to the Opposition in order to bring about political peace and it is now merely a question of the two groups getting together for this solution. One act on the part of the Opposition was that nothing came of a widely announced plot to create serious disturbances on April 6th at the Capitol building at the opening of the present Congressional session. General Menocal sent a message to the Ambassador stating that he had persuaded the students to refrain from staging a demonstration of five hundred men that was to take place in Havana on that occasion.

4. The press is expressing the hope, and even the expectation, that these are but the first steps in a very general program of conciliation, and some of the newspapers go so far as to predict that the next step will be the transfer of all civil cases to the judiciary of the Civil Courts, which will be followed by the release of all the political prisoners.

5. From the above it will be seen that the outlook for the discontinuance of political ills in Cuba is brighter than it has been for sometime. It had been hoped that negotiations for the "rapprochment" between the Opposition and the Government could be carried on without publicity. However, the press has now received this news and is devoting considerable space

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to it, and, unless properly handled by it, it is possible to prove the undoing of all the good work that has gone forward for the past two weeks.

J. T. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and Press.

From M. A., Havana No. 3511 Date: April 10, 1931

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NND 740058
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CUBA (Combat)

Subject: Loyalty and Discipline.

1. The findings in the Court Martial of Major Manuel Espinosa, Aide-de-Camp to President Machado, and Private Camilo Valdes, for the bombing of the Presidential Palace on February 23, 1931, were announced on April 9, 1931. Major Espinosa was acquitted and Private Valdes was found guilty and sentenced to death. It is believed, however, that his sentence will be computed to life imprisonment.

2. The charges and specifications made against Espinosa and Valdes, follow:

"CHARGE NO.1: For a crime against the interior safety of the Republic and the free functioning of its constitutional powers, in the degree frustrated, in violation of number one of Article 53 of the Military Penal Law.

"SPECIFICATION: In that Major Manuel Espinosa y Espinosa and other unnamed persons having acted in accord for the purpose of killing the President of the Republic of Cuba, General Gerardo Machado y Morales, agreed to use for the execution of their purpose, Private Camilo Valdes y Valdes of Troop 5 of the Rural Guard, who rendered services at the Palace as member of the Presidential Guard and who was known to Major Espinosa inasmuch as he had worked on a farm belonging to relatives of his before his enlistment in the Army; and Espinosa, taking advantage of the influence which he had over Private Valdes due to his long acquaintance and military rank, proposed to him the execution of the death plan agreed upon, introducing him for this purpose to one of the persons implicated in said plan, so that that person might offer him, as he did, in payment of his services, the sum of $4,000.00 and the promise of making him a cadet in the Army, which proposal and offer were accepted by Valdes, it having been agreed by all that the latter would take advantage of the opportunity offered him by his status of soldier of the guard, in order to place an explosive bomb in the ventilation pipe which abuts over the roof of the Palace wherein resides the President of the Republic and his family, and which corresponds to the bath room of his private rooms, to which effect Major Espinosa, who, through his position of aide-de-camp of the President of the Republic, was aware of his customs and of his intimate life, and knew the hour at which he regularly arose during the night to go to the bath room, told private Valdes the place, day and hour in which he should place the bomb and light the wick which would make it explode, which bomb was given to Valdes by another one of the persons implicated in the plan, on February 20th of this year, at a spot in this City known as "Cuatro Caminos".

"Private Camilo Valdes y Valdes following the instructions which he had received from Major Espinosa, taking advantage that he, Valdes, was on sentry duty on the roof of the Palace, and taking advantage of the fact that he had to relieve his fellow-soldier, Luis Hernandez y Rodriguez, fifteen minutes before the time fixed for his entering on duty, in order that the bomb might explode at 4:00 A.M. on February 23rd. that being the hour at which the President was accustomed to arise and go to the bath room; and when Valdes saw himself alone, taking advantage of the shadows of the night, went to the sentry box existing on the roof and taking therefrom the explosive bomb which he had received a few days prior, and which he had hidden there, he betook himself to the part of the roof on the Colon Street side using two stairways existing there, and seeing the ventilation pipe which had been pointed out by Major Espinosa, who had previously advised him that said pipe had no covering, introduced said bomb therein and lit the wick with a cigarette which he had asked on that same night one of his comrades for, and withdrew to his sentry-post; the explosion of the bomb which was charged with dynamite took place fourteen minutes after the wick was lit, and the plot to kill the President of the Re-

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By AMF [illegible], Date 05/04/89

public was frustrated because the infernal machine did not go down the whole length of the pipe until it reached the bath room of the President, as was expected by the accused, due to the fact that it was stuck in an elbow in the pipe, which was put in after the construction of the building, and which circumstance was unknown to Espinosa and Valdes, exploding on the fourth floor of the Palace with grave peril of the persons therein sleeping. This took place at the Presidential Palace on the day and hour mentioned.

"SECOND CHARGE: For violation of the Law of Explosives of July 10, 1894, second paragraph of number one of Article first. The specifications agree with those copied above.

"As a consequence of the expansive forces of the gasses produced by the chemical elements contained in the said bomb, great damage was done to a dividing wall contiguous to the Dentist Room which exists on the fourth floor, three doors being broken, the glasses of which fell upon the bed wherein slept a child, grand-daughter of the President of the Republic, and a concrete column upon which rests the system of beams of the building was cracked, which damages have been appraised in the sum of three hundred dollars, official currency.

"This, in the Presidential Palace, on the day and hour above referred to."

3. The composition of the Court was:

Colonel Jose Gonzalez Valdes.
Lieut. Colonel Jose M. Iglesias.
Lieut. Colonel Miguel Guerra.
Lieut. Colonel Abelardo Herrera.
Major Leopoldo Alonso
Major Alberto Rosell (Trial Judge Advocate)

4. The trial, which was a public one, started on March 26th, but the attendance was limited by the issuance of passes. Sessions were held almost daily until April 2nd, 1931. Some of the interesting sidelights in connection with the trial, follow:

(a). As soon as the Court was sworn, Dr. Dolz, civilian counsel for Major Espinosa, challenged its competency on the following grounds:

1. That the Presidential Palace could not be considered as a military zone, but the private residence and official headquarters of the President of the Republic.

2. That the President was a civilian, elected by the will and vote of the majority of the people, and could not be considered a military man.

3. That the attempt against the President's life was the act of an Army man against a civilian and not between two Army men, and, therefore, it was incumbent upon the Civil Courts to pass upon the charges.

The Court over-ruled the protest of Dr. Dolz and the trial continued.

(b). The first witnesses called were the two accused. Major Espinosa stated that during the period in which he was alleged to be conspiring against the life of the President, he was confined to his home with a severe case of grippe. Private Valdes then took the stand and stated that Major Espinosa together with Raoul Martin, Francisco Diaz and Emilio Machado, had

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given him all the necessary instructions for the placing of the bomb in the palace, and that he was to be rewarded for this act by a monetary gift of $4000.00 and a cadetship in the Army School at Morro Castle.

(c) During the trial no witnesses were introduced by the prosecution to substantiate the story of Valdes insofar as Major Espinosa's alleged conspiracy with him was concerned. Many witnesses were introduced by Major Espinosa to substantiate his claim that he was sick during the period in question, and the only one to refute this testimony was Sr. Jose Emilio Obregon, the President's son-in-law, who stated that he had seen Major Espinosa in an automobile in Havana on February 21st.

(d) Valdes was recalled to the stand several times and, except for a few minor points, he stuck to the story he had told at the beginning of the trial.

(e) One very sensational incident occurred when Valdes and Espinosa were called upon to face each other -- the former again accusing Espinosa of the crime, and the latter denying categorically each charge.

(f) On April 3rd. after the completion of the trial, a prisoner was placed in the same cell with Valdes and induced him to retract his accusation against Espinosa before unseen witnesses.

(g) On April 4th Raoul Martin, an employee of the Havana Electric Company, and one of those charged by Valdes as perpetrating the crime, was found dead in his prison cell, his death being apparently the result of his having hanged himself by a sheet and his own belt. In spite of the fact that the dead man's father stated to newspaper reporters that he was convinced that his son had committed suicide, the public in general is inclined to believe that Martin met with foul play at the hands of his jailers.

(h) The most recent and undoubtedly the most sensational act in connection with the trial took place on April 7th in the President's Palace. In the presence of some two hundred persons, including Cabinet members, senators, congressmen, newspaper editors, and high military officers, the President had Valdes brought before him and urged him to tell the truth, making it clear that Major Espinosa had been acquitted andthat he, the President, would approve the decision of the Court. He further pointed out to Valdes that he had nothing to lose and probably something to gain by withdrawing his accusation against Major Espinosa. The soldier, however, very calmly and firmly maintained the truth of his original confession and again stated that Major Espinosa was the real instigator of the plot. It is natural that there should be considerable conjecture as to what prompted the President to carry out this extraordinary act, and one newspaper editor characterized it as an episode in a national moving picture film which should be burned. The only plausible explanation for this act is that the President took this means to disprove the allegation that he had "framed" Major Espinosa by inducing Valdes to make a false confession. I believe there is no doubt in the President's mind of Espinosa's guilt and that he was deeply shocked and geniunely grieved by what he considered to be irrefutable proof of disloyalty to him on the part of an officer he had trusted and befriended. This last act of the President in connection with this sensational trial, may have one very bad and possibly serious reaction, and that is that some of the officers of the Army very much resent his apparent belief in a soldier's testimony rather than the sworn testimony of an officer of the Army, which was upheld by the findings of the Court Martial.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press,
Official Documents and
Personal Contacts.

From M. A., Havana No. 3512 Date: April 10, 1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
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WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. APR 20 1931

1. The political situation in Cuba continues to be outwardly calm and while hopes are expressed for a definite arrangement to be agreed upon between the Opposition and the Government for the cessation of the political chaos that has existed for the past few months, nothing of a definite nature has yet been done.

2. All prisoners who were retained on charges of sedition and placed at the disposal of the Military Judge, have now been set free, with the exception of those persons who have been referred to the Civil Courts and refused bail. On April 10th T. Guatimo Menocal, brother of the ex-President, was released from Cabana Fortress.

3. The negotiations between the Government and the Opposition which have been carried on for the past three weeks, have now reached a most delicate point, and within a few days some definite announcement of the result of the workings to bring about a real truce between the two groups should be made. The only unfavorable feature at the present writing is that the news of these negotiations have reached the press and have been broadcast both in the newspapers here and in those of the United States, with the result that each of the members of the Opposition and the Government is now "blowing off steam" for the purpose of letting the world know of the responsibilities which he is assuming. However, when this period passes, the group may again get down to "brass tacks" and it is hoped that something of a definite nature will result.

4. According to the most reliable reports, the bases of the present negotiations are as follows:

(a) The Government to take immediate steps to reform the Constitution of Cuba, discarding all amendments to the original draft and restoring it to its original provisions as adopted on May 20, 1902.

(b) The relinquishment by President Machado of the last two years in office of his present term, thus making him leave office on May 20, 1933, instead of two years later.

(c) A new and correct political census of the Island.

(d) Re-establishment of the Crowder Electoral Code.

5. Following is a list of the group that has been carrying on these negotiations:

General Mario G. Menocal,
Representing the Conservative Party.

Colonel Carlos Mendietta,
Representing the Union Nacionalista

Dr. Ramon G. San Martin,
Representing the Student Directorate.

Senator Cortina,
Originator of the bases of consideration.

From M. A., Havana No.3515 Date: April 14, 1931.

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For negotiations between the Opposition group and the Government, Dr. Antonio Mendoza has been acting as an intermediary.

6. While it is understood that President Machado himself is willing to grant the concessions referred to above as a basis for agreement, he is, however, unwilling to disclose his willingness to these bases at this time, because he feels that if the Opposition is sure of being granted these concessions they will immediately seek greater ones. He is also fearful that the Liberal Party will, as a whole, be unwilling to accept these concessions.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and Press.

From M. A., Havana No. 3515 Date: April 14, 1931

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT
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CUBA (Combat)

Subject: Loyalty and Discipline.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. APR 22 1931

1. The resignation of Major Manuel Espinosa, recently acquitted by General Court Martial for complicity in the Presidential Palace bombing of February 23rd last, was accepted by the President on April 16, 1931, and he departed for Europe on the same date.

2. Upon being relieved from confinement on the day of his acquittal, Major Espinosa applied for leave of absence. This was denied him and he was ordered to report to the Commanding Officer of the Second Military District at Camaguey for duty. He once again submitted a request for leave, and, this being denied, he resigned. It is not known whether or not he contemplates remaining in Cuba.

3. Considerable space in the press is still being given to the incident of the bombing of the Palace and the Court Martial trial subsequent to it. While it still remains an unsolved mystery insofar as the perpetrators of the deed are concerned, many responsible Cubans, including those of strong anti-government tendencies, have expressed themselves as being convinced of Espinosa's guilt. Certainly there was nothing introduced by the prosecution during the trial to substantiate the story of Valdes, and there was nothing for the Court to do but acquit Espinosa on the testimony presented to it. However, the impression is prevalent that had the Government wanted to get at the real truth, it would not have been difficult. Of the four men -- Raoul Martin, Emilio Machado, Major Espinosa and Francisco Diaz -- originally accused by Valdes of the conspiracy, but one, Diaz, remains to face trial. As previously reported, Raoul Martin was found dead in his prison cell, apparently a victim of self-extermination (In this connection, his father, who had stated at the time of his death that he was convinced that his son had been a suicide, has recently announced that he is sure that he met with foul play). Emilio Machado has mysteriously disappeared. (It is the generally accepted belief that he was summarily executed by the authorities) Espinosa is free. Diaz is being tried by a Civil Court, having been transferred to this jurisdiction from the Military in the recent conciliatory move on the part of the Government.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache

Source: Press and Personal
Contacts.

From M. A., Havana No. 3520 Date: April 16, 1931

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WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. APR 22 1931

1. The political situation in Cuba continues to be a very complex one, and while nothing of a definite nature has yet resulted from the conferences between the Opposition and the Government, it is hoped that a settlement, based on mutual conciliation, will become effective in the early future. Newspapers still continue to devote considerable space to the situation and the most responsible elements of the Cuban press are urging both sides to come to an agreement.

2. President Machado has been absent from Havana for the past week, and has issued no statement on the present negotiations other than to say that to date he has not agreed on any formula for a solution of the situation, nor will he accept any solution not agreeable to the leaders of the Liberal Party. According to press reports, he will not return to Havana until April 21st., the day after the partial elections that are being held in certain sections of the country as a result of the disputed elections of November 1st, last.

3. One thing that the negotiations have apparently accomplished is the consolidation of the Opposition. Daily conferences are being held, and although Menocal is attempting to become (and apparently has succeeded in it) the real leader of this group, they are apparently working in harmony. As a result of this united front, a bloc of thirteen Congressmen has been formed in the Cuban House of Representatives, for the purpose of offering a unified opposition to all bills introduced by the representatives of the Machado Government. On April 13th, the following wills were presented to the House of Representatives by this bloc:

(a) a bill avocating the Law of Public Order of 1870 and giving the Civil Courts exclusive jurisdiction over all offenses committed bt civilians.

(b) A bill providing for the general amnesty to include all persons accused of political offenses which have not been attended with fatal consequences.

(c) A series of proposals for Constitutional reform which are to be further elaborated at a subsequent date, and which include:

1. The establishment of a parliamentary form of Government with Ministerial responsibility and the reduction of the presidential term to four years with no re-election.

2. The creation of an independent Court of Accounts.

3. Complete independence of the judicial branch of the Government.

4. An effective habeas corpus law.

5. A constitutional provision preventing Congress from delegating any of its powers to the Executive.

6. A limitation of the Executive's control of the General Staff of the Army.

7. Restriction of pardon powers.

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8. Autonomy for the University.

9. Prohibition against creating large landed estates.

10. Restoration of the Municipality of Havana.

11. Votes for women.

4. The ambitious program of legislative and constitutional reform referred to above will probably come up for consideration in the House of Representatives during the coming week. This program has been inspired by ex-President Menocal in his desire to increase his own prestige. He is endeavoring to allocate to himself the absolute leadership of all the Opposition elements and, although he still confers with the leaders of the other elements of the Opposition, he is attempting to make himself so indispensable that all credit for any agreement that is made will be given him.

5. The press has announced that in the very early future the duties of the military supervisors will cease and that the work performed by them will be carried on by the Governors of each province. It is believed that an incident which took place in Santiago on April 11th in which Major Arsenio Ortiz, Military Supervisor of the Province of Oriente, took the most prominent part, was responsible for this new move of conciliation on the part of the Government. On the night of April 11th Major Ortiz was attacked by three individuals when emerging from the house of one of his relatives in Santiago. As a result of this attack he received a flesh would in his shoulder and one of his assailants was killed by his chauffeur. It developed that the man who was killed, Vincente Rodriguez Cuello, was an ex-member of the Santiago police force and known to be an active member of the Opposition in Santiago. On the following morning, Fidel Rodriguez, brother of the assailant, was found dead together with another unknown person in the outskirts of Santiago. On the same morning three men were found dead and hanging to lampposts in different sections of the city. While it has been impossible to definitely attribute these killings as retaliation measures on the part of Major Ortiz or his friends, the implication is very strong in this direction. Since the appointment of Military Supervisors, the Opposition has been very bitter in the denunciation of all their acts, and the recent adverse criticism of Major Ortiz' acts, coupled with the general conciliatory attitude assumed by the Government, is believed to be responsible for this action. The Government has stated, however, that the proposed move is being made because of the lack of their necessity, due to the general state of quietude that now exists throughout the Republic.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache

Source: Embassy, Press, and
Personal Contact.

From M. A., Havana No. 3522 Date: April 17, 1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT
APR 28 1931

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CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. APR 27 1931

1. The political situation in Cuba remains outwardly calm and the acts of the Government enumerated below, coupled with the fact that no disturbances of any kind have occurred in Havana during the past fortnight, are indications that the attempt to bring about a conciliation between the Government and the Opposition is bearing some fruit.

2. On April 18th the Government issued a decree restoring constitutional rights in the Provinces of Oriente, Matanzas and Pinar del Rio. It was explained at the time of issuance of this decree that a similar one would be issued pertaining to the other three provinces as soon as conditions warranted, and that if conditions do not warrant this restoration for any province in its entirety, constitutional rights will be restored in individual cities, towns and municipalities.

3. According to the Opposition press, all political prisoners have been released from Cuban jails with the exception of Francisco Diaz, the alleged conspirator in the bombing of the Presidential Palace on February 23rd, last.

4. The partial elections, as a result of the contested elections of November 1st, last, were held on April 20th. From such accounts as are available, a very small percentage of the voting public (about fifteen percent) participated in them, and it is doubted if they will in any way affect the results of the November elections. No disorders of any kind were reported in connection with these elections.

5. Major Ortiz, former Military Supervisor of the Province of Oriente, to whom reference was made in my last report on this subject, arrived in Havana on April 20th, presumably at the call of the Chief of Staff of the Cuban Army, to answer charges lodged against him by the Opposition press to the effect that he had greatly exceeded his authority while performing the duties of his office. While these charges have not been made public, it is known that Lieut. Colonel Cruz Bustillo has been appointed to investigate his conduct while in office.

6. President Machado returned to the Palace on April 20th, after an absence of about ten days. As yet, he has made no statement concerning the negotiations which are taking place for the bringing together of the Opposition and the Government. His acts during the past two weeks are, however, indicative of his conciliatory mood, and a statement explaining his position and that of the Liberal Party is expected to be forthcoming in a few days.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press, and
Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3527. Date: April 21, 1931.

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G-2 Report

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
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WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Combat)

Subject: Military Prisoners.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. APR 30 1931

1. Major Arsenio Ortiz, former military supervisor of the Province of Oriente, continues to occupy the political limelight in Cuba. His actions while in office are being broadcast by the Spanish and English language newspapers to such an extent that his trial by Court Martial now seems probable. Colonel Cruz Bustillo is now in Santiago investigating the charges made in the Opposition press that no less than forty persons were executed by him and his henchmen without trial.

2. Major Ortiz has made a flat denial of all the charges and has accused the press of being responsible for the false accusations being made against him. He has already challenged two well known Havana newspaper men to duels and it is reported that his seconds have been sent to others.

3. Something of a sensation was caused by the death (apparently suicide) of Lieutenant Filipe A. Valle, former assistant of Major Ortiz, in Santiago on April 22nd. A note found, allegedly written by him, stated that "knowing I shall face a firing squad for causes for which higher authorities are responsible, I would rather take my own life."

4. The news of ill treatment of political prisoners is not being confined solely to Major Ortiz. La Semana's most recent edition contained three letters regarding the alleged ill treatment of persons arrested on charges of conspiracy against the Government.

5. The first of these letters was signed by the mother of Jose Machado, whose disappearance about a month ago followed his arrent on suspicion in the bombing of the Presidential Palace on February 23rd, last. In this letter she stated she had not seen or heard from her son since he was supposed to have been freed by the military authorities.

6. The second letter was from the father of Raoul Martin, who was found hanging by his sheet and belt at the military prison on April 4, 1931. (Reference to this letter was made in my report No.3512, index No. 6300-a, dated April 10, 1931). 2657-Q-330/39

7. The third, and by far the most sensational, of these letters was sent by Sr. J. A. Borges, a former Conservative candidate for Congress, who was suspected of having some connection with the placing of the bomb in the City Hall on March 27, 1931, and was incarcerated in the Atares Prison on the same day. An English translation of this letter is enclosed.

8. The publication of these communications, together with the unfavorable publicity in connection with Major Ortiz, has created a considerable sensation, and the majority of the newspapers have demanded an immediate and thorough investigation. A resolution to this effect has been introduced in the Congress by Representative Manuel Castellanos Mena, independent Conservative. With so much pressure brought to bear, the Chief of Staff announced that he had appointed Lieut. Colonel Joaquin de la Maza y Mendez to investigate the conduct of all officers connected with political investigations and imprisonments.

9. All of this publicity has had a very detrimental effect on the public's opinion of the Army and has affected to some extent, the Army's morale. I am sure that the majority of the Army Officers, and especially those of the junior grades, are not in sympathy with the system of using the

From M. A., Havana No. 3529 Date: April 23, 1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Army for political purposes. This is especially true among those officers who have been educated at our service schools or who have served with our regiments. While the influence of these officers is being felt in the Service, the true value of this generosity on the part of our Government will not be fully appreciated until the Army is rid of the present crop of senior officers.

J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No.3529 Date: April 23, 1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
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COPY
ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Mr. Sergio Carbo,
Editor of LA SEMANA,
HABANA.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. APR 30 1931

Friend Carbo:

You asked me two questions in your courteous note. First: "Is it true, as I have been informed, that you were subjected to torture and ill-treatment during your imprisonment at the Castillo de Atares?" Second: "Have you any objection - in case the versions which have reached me are true - to telling me what occurred?"

I am willing to tell you of something of which, as a man and as a Cuban, I am ashamed, but I believe that it is my duty not to be silent, as so many have been silent for motives of which I am ignorant, in the hope that a stop may be made to so great an evil, to acts so censurable, without the pale of any civilization, which, if continued in, must destroy nationality. Unhappily for Cuba, more than for me, dear Carbo, it is true that in the Castillo de Atares - after having been arrested by two members of the Secret Police and taken there forcibly, without being allowed communication with family or friends to testify to where I was - I was barbarously subjected to torture and to inquisitorial interrogation.

I was arrested at eleven in the morning at the door of the building in which is housed the Central District and immediately taken to Atares. After being there for four or six hours, I was removed from prison and taken before the Military Judge. "Who gave you the bomb which you placed in the Ayuntamiento this morning ?" I was surprised at this question. I had not been in the Ayuntamiento that morning, either before the explosion of the bomb in question or at the time it exploded, so I did not even hear it. I learned of it in Cuba and Empedrado (streets) as I was going to the Ayuntamiento. Accordingly, I denied any participation in such affair.

"I know nothing about what you are asking me, Colonel--" I said to him, giving other arguments which he would not listen to. "What, you won't tell what you know? Very well, you'll talk tonight. Indeed you will talk!" He turned to the Captain who was present and ordered him: "You know how, Captain: See to it that he talks tonight."

He half turned and went out. I was imprisoned again. Night arrived, and with it millions of mosquitos; the cannon went off at nine, and about an hour or an hour and a half later the door of my cell was opened and the figure of a sergeant appeared who ordered me to follow him. I was taken to the same offices where, in the afternoon, I had borne the questioning and the presence of the Military Judge, Colonel Erasmo Delgado, finding myself now before the Captain who had received orders from the Colonel. He had me sit down in front of him, and I was informed ofthe accusation against me, inasmuch as it was not the same one; now I was accused of having delivered the bomb in question to a certain "Pupo". I again denied it. I believe that I succeeded in convincing the Captain of my innocence; nevertheless he told me that his was the unfortunate position of forcing me to talk "by any means whatever, including the extreme of killing me, since his duty obliged him to do so". "It will be useless, Captain, it will be useless: I know nothing and I can say nothing."

"Very well: you have ten minutes to think over what you are to do, because I should like to save trouble for you and for me; you heard the orders ..." I was silent. Or I made a denial, I do not remember. The Captain turned to the sergeant, the corporal and the soldiers who were waiting and said to them - "Very well, take charge of him."

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I was tightly tied, elbot to elbot. I was thrown face down on the floor, and, in this position, my feet were drawn up towards my back, being tied and cruelly pulled, until they were fastened to my shoulders, thr e infantry rifles being put on the lower part of my back, the locks of which pricked my skin. Thanks to the trousers I was wearing, of cashmere and very thick, my knee-caps were not broken, as occurred to others who suffered the same torment and which is publicly spoken of.

The studied sufferings to which I was subjected were not able to introduce into my mind something unworthy which would allow the condemnation of an innocent person; I continued my denials. I knew nothing. They turned off the lights and left me alone for some time, how long, I do not know. They continued to question me and I again repeated what I knew: I knew nothing. My body was swimming in the perspiration which flowed onto the cement floor, My hands lost all feeling. I imagined them to be huge, like boxing gloves. The blood did not reach any of my extremities. I could only move my hands to beat my thighs, trying to stimulate circulation, but it seemed as if I was hitting myself with a piece of wood...

How much time had passed when they set me free? I do not know. Afterwards I was told that my torture had lasted more than half an hour; I can neither deny nor affirm. For me, whole hours had elapsed. When they released me, I felt the sharpest pains. I thought all my joints were broken. The cords had made deep furrows in my arms and legs, as I have been able to show you, and when I showed them to you, seventeen days had passed. Afterwards, there was much friendliness and much massaging. A bed with great stains of clotted blood. Whose blood could it have been?

Do you not believe that I must await with anxiety the understanding among Cubans? I feel very, very "cordial", filled with pure patriotism. This desire to serve my country, even at the cost of my life, has forced me to relate to you what happened to me in my Free Cuba, thinking that there is still time to prevent such savagery from continuing to be committed in the future.

A coincidence: the day of my arrest was the thirty-sixth anniversary of the imprisonment of a brother of mine in Jaruco and his being brought by the Civil Guard to the Cabana as a conspirator. He was released in three days, without other disturbance than his detention. I left Atares after five days, but cruelly tortured. Accordingly, filled with gratitude for the first act, I feel obliged to cry: "Long live Spain!"

Hoping that you will be satisfied with the true accounts which I have just given you, I remain,

Your friend and servant,

(S) J. A. Borges.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
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MAY 12 1931
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 12 1931

1. There has been no material change in the political situation in Cuba since the rendition of my last report on this subject. From outward appearances everything is very calm, and while rumors continue to persist of the possibility of an uprising, there has been no indication or manifestation in any form that such an undertaking is being seriously considered.

2. As a further indication of his desire to return normalcy in the Island, President Machado signed a decree on May 1, 1931, restoring the suspended constitutional guarantees in the provinces of Santa Clara and Camaguey; the guarantees remaining suspended only in the province of Havana. The restoration of guarantees in this province will be made as soon as the Government feels that conditions warrant such action.

3. On May 5th President Machado issued a public statement, in order to combat the persistent reports which have been circulating throughout the Island to the effect that he intends to resign in the immediate future, in which he stated that he will not resign until the end of his present term. In this statement he did add, however, that he is willing to accept anything that the Congress may desire on the matter of constitutional reforms, even if this brings about his termination of office prior to 1935.

4. The affairs of Major Ortiz still continue to occupy a prominent place in the Cuban press, but practically the whole discussion now revolves about the question of proper jurisdiction for his trial, the decision of the Supreme Court in this matter not having come forth to date.

J J O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and Press.

From M. A., Havana No. 3537 Date: May 8, 1931

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 12 1931

1. The political situation in Cuba has become very complex during the past few weeks due to various causes, the principal one being the failure of the Opposition and the Government to get together on some sort of a mutual understanding. While the negotiations between the two groups were going on secretly, high hopes were entertained that a solution would be found, but, as predicted, as soon as the press became aware of these negotiations and devoted considerable space to them, the attitude of each side quickly changed. The Government was in a very conciliatory frame of mind and was willing to do everything within reason to bring about a political truce, but after the radical public declarations of the leaders of the Opposition, there was little left for President Machado to do but to withdraw from all negotiations with the Opposition group. This he did about a week ago, stating at the time that it would be impossible to carry on negotiations with the Opposition group and that henceforth anything pertaining to a political agreement between his representatives and the Opposition would have to be done through the Cuban Congress. Another factor entering into this decision was that the Congress could not openly countenance any impairment of its prerogatives.

2. There is no question of a popular demand for thorough Constitutional reforms, the main and most pressing issue being the time when general elections will be held. Congress has been informed by the President that he will approve any laws which that body may adopt in order to restore political peace and quiet in Cuba, and it is generally believed that he is now very favorably disposed toward accepting any reduction in his own term of office corresponding to such similar reductions as the Senators and Representatives may themselves agree to.

3. A Committee of thirty five Representatives has been appointed to study the various projects of constitutional modifications, and many leading authorities, without regard to their political affiliations, have been requested by the President of the House of Representatives to submit their views for consideration. To this end a questionnaire containing the eighteen questions given below, has been sent out:

1. Presidential reelection or no reelection and in general reelection of government posts, especially executive positions.

2. Convenience of reestablishing the vice presidency of the Republic.

3. Convenience or not of replacing the present representative regime for a parliament. If the answer favors the parliamentary regime which type would prove most convenient to the interests of Cuba. Possibilities of establishing the right to dissolve parliament and rules to determine a cabinet crisis.

4. Extent of all electoral positions.

5. Convenience of reorganizing Congress by halves every two years or integral reorganization every four years.

6. Reestablishment of the municipality of Havana or a special regime for the central district of Havana.

7. Women's Suffrage.

From M. A., Havana No. 3534 Date: May 5, 1931

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8. Convenience or inconvenience of a regime of compulsory representation of all minorities in Congress; possibilities of replacing the so-called system of proportional representation or party factor.

9. Free or compulsory suffrage.

10. Convenience or not of maintaining administrative unity or a policy of provincial administration.

11. Dependence or independence of the judiciary from the executive. Appointment of magistrates and judges.

12. Should the naturalization of aliens be facilitated or restricted. Which principle should dominate, nationality or domicile.

13. The regulation of individual rights and liberties, should it be regulated by individual or socialist principles?

14. Should the right to appeals for unconstitutionality form part of the constitution or be regulated by separate law?

15. Should university autonomy be granted, should it be provided for in the constitution or by separate law?

16. What proves best to the interests of the country centralization political and administrative or decentralization?

17. Should the government have an official religion?

18. Should rules regulating constitutional reforms tend to facilitate these or make them practically an exception?

The response to this questionnaire has been very unsatisfactory; three of the principal Nacionalistas, Gualberto Gomez, Cosmo Torriante and Mendez Penata, having replied that they could have no dealings with an illegally elected Congress. This Committee went into session on May 4th and will receive opinions verbally or in writing from any person desiring to be heard. The general debate is scheduled to commence on May 11th.

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4. In the meantime, the program submitted by the Menocalistas,(reference to which was made in my report No.3522, index No. 3600-a, dated April 17, 1931) has been sidetracked. The House of Representatives did pass the political Amnesty Bill in its first reading, but further consideration of it has been suspended indefinitely, the reason being that the Liberal majority indicated that it would insist on including offenses committed by the authorities as well as by the populace. It was thought that such a bill might prevent the punishment for crimes such as those alleged to have been committed by Major Ortiz at Santiago.

5. It is too early to express an opinion as to the effectiveness of the present method of securing the political solution. The result will depend almost entirely on the extent that popular support can be attracted to such reforms and agreed upon. This support will have to be obtained entirely on the merits of the reforms, as it is very unlikely that the Opposition leaders will accept them as any bases for a "rapprochment."

From M. A., Havana No. 3534 Date: May 5, 1931

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6. Except for the incidents of May 1st. there have been no disturbances of a political nature in Havana for almost a month. Not only have all the political prisoners, with the exception of Ponchito Diaz, been released, but no new arrests have been made. The Government is most decidedly now on the defensive in connection with the charges against Major Ortiz and accusations that prisoners were inhumanly treated in military prisons. While the present quiet prevails no prediction can be made as to how long this will continue.

7. Constitutional Guarantees are still suspended in the Provinces of Havana, Santa Clara and Camaguey, although there is no interference with regular civil procedure. No solution of the student problem has been recently suggested, the University and all of the higher schools throughout the Island still remaining closed.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and
Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3534 Date: May 5, 1931

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

6300-d.

4-1 MAY 2657-J-330 1931

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WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Combat)

Subject: Military Prisoners.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 12 1931

1. The activities of Major Arsenio Ortiz, former Military Supervisor of the Province of Oriente, continue as one of the main topics of discussion of the country. Indignation over his alleged cruelties is heard on all sides, and the Government's position is a most embarrassing one due to the wide publicity that has been given these actions, both in the press of Cuba and the United States.

2. The Opposition which arose so effectively against Ortiz, had its origin in Dr. Luis Mechevarria, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Oriente. It now appears that he has been opposing Ortiz for some time over the question of the handling of the mysterious death cases in Santiago. The climax was reached on April 13, 1931 by the arrest of Sr. Angel Laguardia, a member of a very prominent Santiago family. Dr. Mechevarria and Governor Barcelo appealed to Ortiz for this man's release, without result. This caused an abrupt break in the relations between Barcelo and Ortiz which ultimately resulted in Ortiz' removal as Military Supervisor of Oriente. It is believed that had Ortiz granted the request for Laguardia's release, he would have been able to continue unimpeded in his duties as Military Supervisor.

3. Lieutenant Colonel Cruz Bustillo has completed his investigation of Ortiz' activities, and while the report has not been made public, it is known that he has accused him of being responsible for two of the mysterious deaths in Santiago. However, his report will not receive popular support as to its impartiality, due to a feeling now prevalent, and perhaps justifiably so, that every effort is being made on the part of the Government to minimize the alleged atrocities of Ortiz.

4. Another investigation was instigated by the Government through the medium of the Chief of the Judicial Police, Sr. Alonso Fors. He remained in Santiago for about a week, and while he admitted that mysterious deaths had occurred there (he personally told me that he had uncovered eleven), his report severely criticizes the Courts of Oriente Province for their failure in not properly investigating these deaths. He further stated that had a proper investigation, rather than a purely superficial one, been made after the first death, no more would have occurred. This report very naturally arose the ire of the Justices of Oriente and resulted in Sr. Fors' indictment by the Audencia for submitting a false report.

5. An independent investigation was instigated by Representative Manuel Castellanos who went to Santiago on April 28th and remained there for two days. As his record has been one of consistent opposition to the Government, his report will probably be as exaggerated in his condemnation of Ortiz as the reports of Colonel Cruz Bustillo and Sr. Fors' are in "whitewashing" him.

6. Upon his arrival in Santiago, a large crowd gathered in the main plaza in front of the Hotel where the Congressman was staying. He soon appeared on the balcony of his room to receive the plaudits of his admirers. As the crowd continued to gather and acclaim him, six soldiers, with drawn sabres, but using no force, dispersed it. This is the first time in a number of months that soldiers have had to be used actively upon the public in Santiago. I was an eyewitness to this demonstration and the most serious thing that happened was that one of the troopers was thrown from his horse when the latter slipped and fell on the pavement. Yet, on the following day, the press of Havana and the United States carried stories of "serious rioting" in Santiago. (For a very distorted account of this, see page 4 of the New York Times of April 30, 1931).

7. Major Ortiz is in a most unenviable position. He is being charged with the responsibility for killings, varying in number from ten to fifty. He was charged by the Government to maintain order in the Province of Oriente, and he did so, at a critical time, in accordance with his talents and dis-

From M. A., Havana No. 3535 Date: May 5, 1931.

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position, which were well known by the Government, and by virtue of which he was appointed. His was a rule of fear and intimidation. When the Government changed its course and became most conciliatory in its dealings with the Opposition, he was not astute enough to see the swing of the pendulum, but carried on his policy with redoubled brutality. Developments have made it very difficult for the Government to stand by him, and the Opposition, ready at all times to find an issue, is grasping for this one. It is interesting to note that the same Government officials - especially those of Oriente Province - who are now publicly voicing their indignation are the very ones who condoned the actions of Major Ortiz for preserving order in the Province.

8. Major Ortiz is now under arrest at Camp Columbia, although the rumor persists that he has left the country. A legal battle is being waged between the civil courts and the military as to the jurisdiction for his trial. The Supreme Court is expected to issue a ruling on this question in the near future. While the evidence against him seems to be conclusive, the fear is expressed that the Government will try to "whitewash" him, but there seems to be as much reason for believing that he will be impartially tried, or even made a "scapegoat", in view of the strong public demand that justice be done.

J. J. O'Hare,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Personal Observation,
Embassy, and Press.

From M. A., Havana No. 3535 Date: May 5, 1931

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G-2 Report

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OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
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MAY 22 1931
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Y 8
WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 20 1931

1. While from all outward appearances the political situation in Cuba is calm, the rumblings under the surface are increasing daily, and the solution of the problem itself is still far from a reality.

2. The Committee of thirty-five of the House of Representatives, which was appointed toward the end of April to study the proposals for constitutional reform, held several hearings during the past week and gave wide publicity to the various suggestions which were presented orally or in writing to it. The debate on the general subject of constitutional amendments was scheduled to begin on May 11th, but due to a deadlock that has been created within the House, this debate has been postponed. A special session of the House was called on May 9th to pass the pending bill creating a Sugar Stabilization Institute, but the orthodox conservatives walked out, breaking up the quorum. This group which comprises fifteen Representatives who are taking their orders from Menocal, had formally declared they would refrain from participation in any legislation which was not designed specifically to solve the political situation. The Liberal and Popular majority was taken completely by surprise, as the passage of the Sugar Institute Bill was regarded as a foregone conclusion. Attempts to pass this Bill since that time have been unavailing due to the obstructionist tactics of the Menocal group, led by Representative Cruz.

3. The postponement of the debate on constitutional reforms has had a very discouraging effect on those interested in the solution of the political problem, and it is now generally felt that the new Liberal Representatives are not willing to accept any substantial curtailment of their terms of office, without which, the chances of any settlement that might have popular support must be regarded as extremely remote.

4. The majority of Liberals in both the House and Senate cannot be expected voluntarily to submit to the sacrifice which reductions in their terms of office would entail. This probably holds true for some of the Conservatives. A large number of the successful candidates in last November's elections spent large sums of money and made promises to their constituents which they would find it very difficult to fulfill if their terms were curtailed. Others regard their congressional seats and appurtances thereof as rewards to which they are justly entitled in return for faithful service to the President and to their Party. Furthermore, they do not appear to be very strongly impressed with the present need for such sacrifice. This group contend that the Government is very firmly fixed in its "saddle" and that the Army can keep it there indefinitely, providing, of course, that the Government is able to meet the Army pay requirements promptly the first of each month. On the other hand, the various Opposition groups have thus far been unable to form a solid front and their more influential leaders have constantly refused to have anything to do with the Congress on the ground that it is not a legally elected body. This attitude on the part of the Opposition leaders has led many Congressmen to feel that there would be little gained in adopting reforms unless some prior agreement is made with the Opposition.

5. The press has been very vacillating in its opinion as to the final outcome of the work of the Congress toward a constitutional reform. Some days it presents a very gloomy outlook and on others a more optimistic view prevails. The nature of the reforms which the majority of the groups would be willing to accept remains to be seen, but one encouraging feature of it

From M. A., Havana No. 3543 Date: May 15, 1931

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is that important forces are now in favor of the adoption of some satisfactory program. Three prominent Liberals, Senator Variato Gutirrez, usually referred to as President Machado's "right hand man", Senator Carlos Machado, the President's brother, and R. Guas Inclan, Speaker of the House, are said to be taking the lead in bringing their associates into line, while spokesmen of the Popular and of the Conservative factions have practically pledged their support to any measures which hold promise of curtailing Cuba's present political ills.

6. Public order is prevailing in Havana and throughout the Provinces, excepting in Camaguey and Santa Clara where students attempted to break up the classes of the Commercial Schools. The affair at Santa Clara, which took place on the night of May 11th, was of a comparatively serious nature, the press reports stating that over two hundred shots were fired and traces of blood were found on the premises after the incident.

7. The excitement over the killings in Santiago has almost completely subsided, pending the termination by the Supreme Court of the question as to whether the Civil or Military Courts shall try Major Ortiz and those accused of being his accomplices. Ortiz still remains under arrest in his quarters at Camp Columbia. His trial is awaited with great interest and confidence is growing that he will be properly judged.

8. A serious controversy has arisen in the ranks of the Cuban Veterans' Association over the refusal of the President of that body to call a general assembly to consider the state of the Republic. In defiance to what appears to be the desire of the majority of the members, the matter has assumed a pronounced political significance in view of the fact that the Government opposes this meeting, while all the Opposition groups, especially the University professors, are giving active support to the faction that favors holding the assembly regardless of the attitude of the President of the Association.

9. Reports have been circulating for the past two weeks to the effect that a revolution will take place on or before May 20th, Cuba's national holiday. While the Opposition group continues to increase in size, no one leader to whom the entire group would be willing to lend its unreserved support has yet come forward, and without such a leader, I cannot see how such a movement could possibly succeed at this time. The Government is well aware that such a movement is being talked of and is taking unusual precautions to frustrate it. Various dates have been set in the past, and, with the exception of that of December 24th last, the Government paid little heed to them. However, a very high Government official told me yesterday that more concern was felt over the situation at the present time than at any time in the past. From my observation, there are no signs of disloyalty among the armed forces, without which, any revolutionary movement would be most futile. The fact that this movement is being so freely discussed, not only by the people in Cuba, but in the daily press, is, in my opinion, an encouraging sign that nothing will happen at this time.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and
Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3543 Date: May 15, 1931.

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WAR DEPARTMENT
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CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 25 1931

1. The political situation in Cuba remains practically unchanged. During the past few days the talk of an impending revolution has been quite general, but the action of the Congress of yesterday, which will be described below, should have a somewhat quieting effect and hopes are now expressed that nothing of a serious nature will transpire in the immediate future.

2. Interest in Cuba's political affairs centers chiefly around the Cuban Congress, and especially the House of Representatives, which is to consider the project of Constitutional reform. There are two programs of Constitutional reform to which consideration will be claimed; one is that of the Orthodox Conservatives (see my report No. 3522, index 3600-a, dated April 17, 1931) which has now been elaborated into a much more definite project, and the other is the so-called Cortina Plan, which was described in paragraph four of my report No. 3515, index No. 3600-a, dated April 14, 1931. It is understood that the Liberals and Populars are inclined to favor the latter plan, while the preference of the Cooperating Conservatives is not known, although like most of the Liberals, they are reluctant to accept any solution which would entail any reduction in their terms of office. Both Conservative groups have asked that a meeting be called of the general council to determine its future attitude, and it seems possible that as a result of this meeting, the Conservatives in the future will constitute a party in the full parliamentary sense of the word.

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3. The Orthodox Conservatives may endeavor to hold out for the acceptance of their own program as opposed to the Cortina Plan, in which case the Liberal-Popular majority, even if it could count on all its members supporting the Plan, would have difficulty in obtaining two-thirds of the votes necessary to adopt amendments to the Constitution. The House of Representatives should be composed of one hundred and twenty-eight members, but due to the contested elections in Oriente Province, fifteen representatives from that province have not yet been seated, and possibly will not for some weeks, inasmuch as new partial elections will have to be held there before the situation can be regularized. Of the one hundred and thirteen representatives who now comprise the Lower House, fifty-seven are Liberals, ten are Populars, twenty-eight Cooperating Conservatives, and eighteen Orthodox Conservatives. A two-third majority of the total is seventy-five and the Liberals and Populars aggregate but sixty-seven. One prominent political leader recently estimated that at the present time there are but fifty-four representatives all told who could be counted on to support a program of constitutional reform.

4. The Orthodox Conservatives recently announced that unless the House takes up the reform program in the immediate future, they will withdraw from that body and attend no further sessions. If they should carry out this threat, and if, at the same time, the other Conservative group decide to go to the Opposition, it will be impossible to put through any legislation amending the Constitution. However, on May 18th the Lower House met and after considerable debate, was able to pass a new Law of Public Order abrogating the Law of Public Order of 1870, which has been a thorn in the side of the Opposition during the present political chaos on the Island. This bill, the official details of which are not yet known, greatly reduce the powers of the Executive in dealing with the public, even in times of open rebellion against the Government. Immediately after the passing of this bill, a bill was passed which limits the use of the military forces in any future political controversies or troubles. Another bill which was also rushed through this session of the House was one providing for the compulsory registration by the Government of each individual arrested or sentenced to serve a term in any jail or penitentiary. These three bills are con-

From M. A., Havana No.3546 Date: May 19, 1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

sidered definite conciliatory acts on the part of the Government and may also be considered as victories for the Opposition. After the passage of these three bills it was thought that the much talked of debate on the Constitutional reforms would take place. However, the Liberal-Popular majority requested a recess and at a meeting of the executive committees of these parties it was decided that they would do nothing along the lines of Constitutional reform until the House was presented with the report of the committee of thirty-five which is now studying this project. According to press reports, this report will not be ready for presentation to the House until May 22nd. This action on the part of the Liberal-Popular group had an ill effect, as it was thought that the members of this group might be willing to sacrifice a portion of their terms of office in order to restore political quietude to the Island. However, it is now believed that they are not willing to make this concession, at least without a fight, and the debate on this subject is being looked forward to with great interest by all concerned.

5. There is a growing tendency, especially among the Administration group to emphasize the need for emergency economic measures rather than for political ones, but well considered opinion still inclines to the belief that it will be much easier to remedy the now desperate economic situation if the causes of conflict can be abated. It is true, however, that the country's serious economic plight cannot be disregarded. All but nine of the sugar mills have now ceased grinding and estimates of unemployed laborers run between two hundred and four hundred thousand. There is already very serious distress in many country districts and the country will be faced with the task of finding work or food for the needy at a time when the Treasury receipts are running several millions behind expenditures, with no relief in sight.

6. As far as can be ascertained from Government sources and from the press, public order still prevails throughout the Island. The rumors of revolutionary conspiracies persist and unquestionably the Government is greatly worried over the situation. As nearly as can be ascertained, the definite plot for a revolution was actually conceived in Oriente Province. The Government's quick action, however, in arresting several of the alleged leaders of this conspiracy is believed to have resulted in the abandonment of this action. The Army felt that the scheme or maneuver on the part of the revolutionists was to have the revolution break in Oriente Province and continue there until such time as it would be necessary for troops from Havana to be sent there. As soon as reduction in the military forces around Havana became necessary, a similar movement was to be made in Havana. While the Government admits that arms and ammunition, in small quantities, are in the hands of the Opposition, it is impossible to see how any attempt of this kind could possibly be successful, unless portions of the Army threw their lot with the revolutionists. To date, there has been no indication ofany disloyalty on the part of the Army, and I believe that if the Government is able to "pull through" their National Holiday on May 20th, they will be able to survive for sometime longer, and possibly until the Constitutional reforms become a fact. As a further indication of the Government's apprehension of the present situation, no celebration of any kind is to be held on its Independence Day, May 20th.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and
Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3546 Date: May 19, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

3600-a.

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G-2 W. D. MAY 26 1931

1. Despite the persistent rumors that a revolution was to take place on or about May 20th, the National Holiday passed without any untoward incident. For the first time since the Cuban Republic was proclaimed there were no official ceremonies incidental to the observance of this day. Fireworks were banned and there were very few people on the streets during the day. The stoppage of business and the flying of flags furnished the only indication of May 20th being Cuba's National Holiday.

2. On May 20th the President issued a "manifesto" to the Cuban people warning them of the penalties for insurrectionary conspiracies and appealing to all classes to contribute to the maintenance of peace and tranquility. On the preceding day he sent a message to the Congress, which read in part as follows: "Disturbances exist and even seem to be aggravated during the last few days principally in Oriente Province to such an extent to cause me to entertain serious fears that the public peace may be menaced. When circumstances demand it, I shall again use the authority that you conferred on me to suspend the Constitutional Guarantees".

3. On May 19th he made another declaration in the presence of the leaders of the Liberal Party, in which he directly accused all sections of the Opposition of working in favor of revolution. In this declaration he again reiterated his previous statements to the effect that he had no intention of resigning at this time, but that he would accept, without reservation, the will of the Cuban people as shown through its legally elected body, the Congress. He further made a direct challenge to General Menocal to have his administration compared with the latter's by any impartial body.

4. These manifestations apparently have exerted a somewhat quieting effect, judging from the comments that they have elicited in the Havana press, and it is now hoped that favorable action by Congress on the proposed Constitutional reforms will be forthcoming in the early future.

5. Continuing his recent departure from previous practice, the President signed a decree on May 21st. pardoning or reducing penal sentences of one hundred and twenty two prisoners. At the same time he made a very strong bid for the continued loyal support of the Army by extinguishing all penalties originally imposed on the armed forces for breaches of regulations, and further ordered that all entries in the service records for minor offenses committed should be expunged.

6. It is understood that the judicial and secret police have filed with the Civil Courts reports accusing many prominent Nacionalistas of revolutionary activity, but the identities of the persons so charged have not yet been disclosed. Unconfirmed press reports of May 21st, told of the detention at Santiago of Captain Aurelio Gonzalez of the Cuban Army, who was on detached service at Marcane. The Chief of Staff later issued a statement to the effect that this man is not a member of the Army. He is said to be charged with conspiracy to foment a revolution. The Consular representative at Matanzas reported the arrest on similar charge of a sergeant of the Army on May 19th. On May 21st. the Supreme Court unanimously decided that Major Ortiz should be tried for alleged offenses in Santiago by the Civil Courts and that his trial would have to take place in Santiago. This decision was rendered shortly after the Cuban General Staff had made public the composition of the military court that was to try Major Ortiz.

From M. A., Havana No.3548 Date: May 22,1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

7. Rumors of a revolution in the Province of Oriente were current all day yesterday in Havana, but as far as can be ascertained, nothing happened in that Province to disturb the public peace. Oriente, more than any other province, is faced with the very severe problem of maintaining peace, due principally to the fact that they have a greater proportion of unemployed there than in any other province on the Island, and it is natural to suppose that if any revolutionary movement is started, it would have a more sympathetic appeal to the masses in that province than anywhere else. However, in general, the situation is somewhat improved. Now that May 20th has passed without incident, and no fixed date for the future has been announced, it is hoped that the people will wait for the action of the Congress to determine just what Constitutional reforms will be recommended by that body, and abide by its decisions.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and
Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3548 Date: May 22,1931.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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4-1 JUN 51

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUN 1 1931

1. The political situation in Cuba is, from all outward appearances, as near normal as it has been at any time during the past year. No untoward incident of any kind has happened during the past few days, and, to the casual observer, complete tranquility exists. Just what the next move will be is not known, but there does seem to be a general feeling that the present threat of revolution has passed and that things will now move on quietly until something of a definite nature again happens to arouse the people to a state of uneasiness similar to that of the alleged actions of the authorities in Oriente, which is supposed to have been the cause of the origin of the period of uneasiness just passed.

2. While the President still states that he is waiting for the Congress to act on the problem of Constitutional reforms, such action continues to be postponed by the House, a lack of a quorum preventing sessions of that body since the passage of the three laws referred to in my report on this subject of May 19, 1931. This failure on the part of the House to take any definite action is believed to be due to the fact that the leaders of the Government forces have not arrived at any definite scheme of action, and are still reluctant to curtail their terms of office.

3. Although the Supreme Court has rendered a decision to the effect that Major Ortiz should be tried by the Civil Court at Santiago for his actions while Military Supervisor of Oriente Province, the Army has not yet given him up to the Civil authorities and it is doubted if it will until he is tried for alleged offenses of a purely military nature, committed prior to his appointment as Military Supervisor. This action on the part of the Army has brought forth indignant protest on the part of the press. Although the nature of the offenses for which he will be tried are not known, they are supposedly of a minor character, the punishment for which will be not more than one year in prison. By the time such a sentence is served, public opinion will probably be attracted by other things, witnesses will probably have disappeared, and his trial by Civil Court at that time will lose all the political significance it would have at present.

4. While many express the opinion that the present tranquility is the "calm before the storm", I am of the opinion that the people, in general, are worn out by so much political talk and rumors during the past year, and are hopeful that Congress will make Constitutional reforms acceptable to the Government and the Opposition. While several prominent members of the latter group have expressed themselves as not being willing to accept any reforms that have been talked of, public opinion is so strongly in favor of this means of settling the political chaos on the Island, that they will find themselves without any following if they persist in this attitude.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press
and Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No.3552 Date: May 26, 1931

JUN 4 1931
NOTED - CHIEF OF STAFF
NOTED-DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

3600-a

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2657-J-330

4-1

JUN 1931

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WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUN 1 1931

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J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press
and Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No.3552 Date: May 26, 1931

JUN 4 1931
NOTED - CHIEF OF STAFF
NOTED-DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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4-1 2657-G-330 52

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G-2 W. D. JUN 8 1931

1. There has been no change of any importance in the political situation in Cuba during the past few days. No overt acts of any kind have occurred in Havana or the provinces, and, on the surface, everything appears quiet.

2. The House of Representatives has not met during the past week for consideration of the Constitutional reforms, and there now seems to be a definite movement on the part of the Liberal-Popular majority to prevent legislation of this nature. According to unconfirmed press comments, President Machado, himself, is now preparing a message to the Congress, embodying his ideas of what Constitutional reforms should be made. He is being assisted in the drafting of this message by Sr. Viriato Gutirrez and Dr. Octavio Averhoff, Secretary of Justice. Almost simutaneously with the announcement that the President was about to send this message to Congress, Dr. Vasquez Bello, President of the Senate and leader of the Liberal Party, issued a statement to the press in which he stated that he was opposed to any form of changes in the present Constitution. In this statement he goes so far as to state that he is speaking not only as a private individual interested in the welfare of Cuba, but as the actual leader of the Liberal Party. These views of Vasquez Bello are supposed to have the support of Senator Carlos Machado, the President's brother. Just what political significance these two contradictory statements will have remains to be seen. From outward appearances, they would seem to indicate a rift in the ranks of the Liberal Party. It is well known that Vasquez Bello has not been "in line" with President Machado's policies for the past year, and that he has felt that the President has been unduly lenient in his dealings with the Opposition, without regard to the future of the Liberal Party. However, another view that is being expressed is that these two contradictory statements were issued at this time in order to prolong indefinitely the discussion of the Constitutional reforms. Still another view is that the Opposition will tire of waiting for the Congress to take the necessary action and may try to attain its end by a revolution, in which case the President will be able to deal with them with a firm hand, and thus continue his leadership until 1935.

3. President Machado has decided to accede to the ruling of the Supreme Court in the case of Major Ortiz, and has ordered that he be returned to the Civil authorities for trial at Santiago de Cuba. This move may have some effect in toning down the political agitations in Oriente Province.

4. The Prosecuting Attorney for the Province of Pinar del Rio completed his investigation of the riot at Artimisa, which took place on May 18, 1930, in which Lieutenant Silva of the Cuban Army was killed. In his report he holds the leaders of the Union Nacionalista responsible for the occurrence and recommends punishment ranging from twenty years to six years in prison for those responsible.

J. P. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Press and Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3554 Date: May 29, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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2657-7-330

CUBA (Political)

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUN 5 1931 WAR DEPARTMENT

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

1. Everything remains outwardly calm in Havana, and, judging from press reports, no untoward incidents have happened in the provinces during the past few days.

2. Interest is still centered in the House of Representatives, and the much talked of debate on Constitutional Reform is due to take place this afternoon, when the committee of thirty-five is expected to present its plan to that body. Although the plan has not been made public, it is believed to be a compromise between the so-called Cortina Plan and the plan sponsored by the Orthodox Conservatives. Its principal features are:

(a) General elections on November 1, 1932 for president, vice-president, senators, representatives, governors, mayors, city aldermen and provincial councilmen; those elected to take office on May 20, 1933.

(b) Re-election for any elective post to be constitutionally prohibited.

(c) All elective posts to be for terms of six years, elections to be held every three years for partial reorganization of all elective bodies.

(d) The establishment of a board of ministers, appointed by the President, at whose head will be a "premier", who will be selected by the ministers from their own body.

(e) The curtailment of the President's authority, no measures to be adopted without the triple consent of the President, the Cabinet, and the Congress.

(f) Presidential decrees to be limited to those which are sanctioned by the majority of the Cabinet.

(g) Congress to have the power of a vote of censure or trust on any measure presented to it by the President or the Cabinet.

(h) Appointment in the Cabinet to have but one qualification, that of non-membership in the Cuban Congress.

(i) The judiciary to be completely separated from the Executive.

(j) The amnesty or partial pardoning of crimes or violations of the nation's laws, as a result of political or election controversies, to be constitutionally prohibited.

(k) Suffrage to become a duty, instead of a right, in the case of men. Women's suffrage to be granted, but their right to vote to be optional.

3. The Parliamentary Committee of the Liberal Party is understood to have approved this plan in principle, although the adherents of Vasquez Bello have done everything possible to cause it to be rejected by that Party.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache

Source: Press and Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3556 Date: June 2, 1931.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

OFFICE OF 5600-A-TAPP
M.I. INTEL. DIV.

4-1 JUN 24 2657-Q-330 1931
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CUBA (Political)

WAR DEPARTMENT

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUN 23 1931

1. In the following paragraphs is given a resume of events affecting the political situation in Cuba since the rendition of my last report on this subject.

2. On June 1, Congressman Rodriguez Ramirez presented to the parliamentary committee of the Liberal Party his completed report on proposals for constitutional reform which he had drafted in his capacity as reporter of the Mixed Committee of thirty-five appointed several weeks ago by the Speaker of the House. The House Liberals voted 37 to 2 in favor of this report; 18 members who are opposed to constitutional reform having abstained from the meeting.

3. Sr. Rodriguez Ramirez then submitted his report to the House Committee of thirty-five, which approved it on June 4, with the reservation that any member of the Committee could propose changes when the report comes up for discussion on the floor of the House. It was also decided to attack the project of the fifteen Orthodox Conservatives as a minority report.

4. The Rodriguez Ramirez report is a lengthy document of fifty-four pages and includes an explanatory introduction as well as a definite project of law modifying the present Constitution. This project is based, to a certain extent, on the proposals of the Orthodox Conservatives, but includes several features proposed in the Cortina Plan. When time permits, this report will be made the subject of a separate report. In the meantime, the item of principal interest is the proposed curtailment of the terms of all elective offices by two years. This is not believed to be sufficient to satisfy public opinion and the spokesmen of the opposition groups have repeatedly declared that they will not accept any plan of reform that does not entail the retirement of the Government and Congress at an early date.

5. Now that the Government is inclined not only to accept but even to sponsor constitutional reforms, which, involving as they do material restrictions on the part of the Executive and a voluntary reduction in terms of office which, as far as is known, is without precedent in the history of any Latin country, the attitude of the Opposition leaders can be explained only on the theory that they are unwilling to allow the Government to find a way out of its present political difficulties.

6. On June 3 the most influential leaders of the Conservative Party adopted a resolution recommending the immediate termination of the system of party cooperation, known as <u>cooperativismo</u>, which has been one of the principle objects of unfavorable criticism by the opponents of the present Administration, and which has been well defined by one of the leading dailies as being "the support of the Government and the present Chief of State by the official bodies of the Conservative Party and its leaders in exchange for which the latter, in spite of their overwhelming defeat in 1924, were able to exercise some, if not all, of the influence derived from being in the Government, or, to put it better, from being a friend of the Government." It is in consequence of this that Conservatives have been admitted to President Machado's cabinet and that the Party obtained six ten-year senatorships in the last elections, the governorship of Pinar del Rio Province, the mayoralty of Cienfuegos, and other important political offices.

From: M. A., Havana No. 3559 Date: June 19, 1931

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7. While not officially ratified until approved by the National Assembly of the Party, the recommendations of its leaders carry great weight and, judging from declarations which they inspired in the Senate, both the Liberals and the Conservatives now consider that cooperation is a thing of the past and that both parties are at liberty to go their separate ways in the future, thus giving conclusive effect to a tendency that has been increasingly evident for over a year.

8. The causes for the break appear to be attributable to both parties. The Liberals have naturally become restive under a system where they have not fully benefitted by being the majority group. The Conservatives, on the other hand, were naturally piqued by the attitude of the Liberals, but lacked courage to precipitate an open break until quite recently when the growing unpopularity of the Government seemed to offer them an opportunity to strengthen their position by going into open opposition.

9. Although the spokesmen of the main body of the Conservatives have announced that their opposition will be orderly, friendly, moderate, and constructive, their action on June 8 in selecting Manual Castellanos Mena as their new leader in the House would seem to indicate very clearly that this is not the case, for he is regarded as one of the most radical members of the House and is without question the bitterest opponent of the Government in that body.

10. The future of the Popular Party, which has been in close alliance with the Liberals since 1934, has also become a topic of conjecture. The constitutional reform plan contains a provision making party coalitions illegal, which, if adopted, would leave the Populars, who control only four seats in the Senate and eleven in the House, to fend for themselves and seriously jeopardize their existence as a Party.

11. The effect of the proposed constitutional reform measures of these changes in party alignment cannot be predicted with certainty. However, if both Conservative factions unite in opposing them with or without the aid of the Populars, they can prevent their adoption in the House. Their attitude as a whole toward the reforms has not yet been defined and probably will not come for some time to come; nor, for that matter, has the attitude of the Liberal Representatives, who decided several days ago that each would reserve to himself complete freedom of action with respect to voting for or against the provisions of the Ramirez Rodriguez bill.

12. That the menace of minor disturbances due to unemployment is far from imaginary is sufficiently proved by the character of demonstrations which have occurred recently in Santiago de Cuba, San Antonio de los Banos, and other places. The Government reports Communist influences to be actively at work throughout the island. This is probably true, as conditions here are such as to offer a fertile field for unscrupulous radical agitators.

13. The most serious of these disturbances took place in Santiago de Cuba on June 6. Six labor unions had planned a parade on that day, despite the fact that permission for this parade had been denied by the Authorities. The procession started about 12:30 p.m. It was joined by a group of students, who immediately showered abusive language on the police. Immediately thereafter the police attempted to disperse the crowd, which, instead of doing so, swelled in numbers. The police were supplemented by detachments from the Army, who succeeded in breaking up the main body of the demonstrators, but it was not until nightfall that all the small groups left the streets. Neither the police nor the Army detachments used

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firearms in dispersing the crowds, confining themselves to striking at the crowds with the flats of their sabres. During the demonstration a group forced its way into the American Consulate. This is in no way to be construed as a demonstration of any kind against Americans, but the Consulate was merely used as a place of refuge for several who were pursued by the police.

14. On the night of June 8 another disturbance took place in Santiago. The police and the Army used much more forceful means in dispersing the crowds and made freer use of their firearms. Two civilians and one soldier were slightly wounded. Since that time no serious disturbances have taken place on the island.

15. A new Government would have no more funds at its disposal for unemployment relief and for the stimulation of business than the present administration which has already announced its intention of reducing next year's budget to $60,381,493.78 as compared with $74,000,000 for 1930-1931, and this will surely necessitate a further general reduction in Government salaries (the third in less than two years) in spite of official announcements to the contrary.

16. The people, as distinct from the politicians, are in a quandary. Apparently it is not so easy now to convince them that a change of administration offers the most convenient and effective cure for Cuba's ills. While business men, laborers, and even Government employees may be of the opinion that heavy taxation, extravagance in governmental expenditures and repressive measures of the Administration have been very important factors in bringing about the country's desperate economic plight and are largely responsible for the present lack of confidence, they cannot be expected to believe that a change of government would now restore salaries and wages to former levels or provide work for the increasing number of unemployed persons. On the other hand, the majority would probably not oppose a change, since, if they have little to gain, they also have little to lose by the substitution of another group of politicians for those now in office.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache

Source: Embassy and Press

From: M. A., Havana No.3559 Date: June 19, 1931

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

3600-a.

JUN 30 1931
4-1 2657-g-330
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WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G-2 W. D. JUN 30 1931

1. In the following paragraphs is given a resume of the outstanding features of the Rodriguez Ramirez Bill for the amendment of the Cuban Constitution, (reference to which was made in my report No. 3559, index No. 2657-g-330/54 3600-a, dated June 19, 1931).

2. Many of the Constitutional changes proposed by this bill are based on the so-called De la Cruz or Orthodox projects while others owe their origin to the so-called Cortina Plan.

3. The first three articles relate to Cuban citizenship and have no important political implications. Articles IV and V are designed to prevent secret arrests and to strengthen the Habeas Corpus provision of the Present Constitution. The purpose of Article VI is apparently to give explicit constitutional sanction to the power and authority at present exercised by the Executive with respect to the expulsion of undesirable aliens. Article VII provides that a period shall be fixed by law within which the authorities must act on petitions.

4. The next two articles concern, respectively, state control of education and the rights of labor. The provision that professors shall be appointed only after competitive examination is responsive to one of the demands of the University faculty and students.

5. Article X is intended to facilitate the bringing of appeals in the Supreme Court to determine the constitutionality of laws. Article XI makes voting obligatory for men and voluntary for women.

6. Article XII is very important in that it provides that elections shall be held every three years, makes party reorganization compulsory before each presidential election and legally recognizes the principle of loyalty and obedience of every elected officer to his part..

7. Articles XIII and XIV stipulate that constitutional guarantees can be suspended only with the approval of the Council of Ministers and shall be regarded on its presentation to Congress as a question of confidence in the government.

8. Article XV substitutes direct election of Senators for the present indirect system. Article XVIII reduces to one-third the number of members of either Chamber necessary to constitute a quorum, excepting in cases where a larger number is required by the Constitution. Furthermore, unjustified absence of members from the sessions of Congress entails the loss of salary.

9. Article XIX restores the Vice Presidency and deprives Congress of its present authority to scrutinize the votes cast in presidential elections and to choose the president in case no candidate receives a majority of votes or in case of a tie.

10. According to Article XX, Congress may not grant amnesties covering fraudulent acts defined as crimes in the electoral laws. This article also establishes a modified form of responsible parliamentary Government, but limits motions of lack of confidence to one in six months. A further provision prohibits Congress from delegating any of the functions conferred upon it by the Constitution.

11. Articles XXII to XXXII are concerned with the eligibility and functions of the President, Vice President and the Council of Ministers, and with the succession to the presidency. The president becomes Chief of the State and of the Executive Power, which he is to exercise with the Council of Ministers

From M. A., Havana No.3562 Date: June 24, 1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

responsible to Congress. The age limit for the presidency is reduced from forty to thirty-five years (presumably to permit the present Speaker of the House, Guas Inclan, to be a candidate in the next elections).

12. Presidential elections are to be direct and no one who has been President can again occupy that office until eleven years have elapsed between the end of one term and his election for another term. (This would just permit General Menocal to be a candidate at the next elections if held in November, 1932.)

13. Article XXIV changes the date for the presentation to Congress of the annual budget from November 15th to March 15th, and excludes fraudulent electoral crimes from those for which the Executive may grant pardons. Power is given the President, assisted by the Council of Ministers, to enforce the rules and orders of the Central Board of Elections. This last provision is at variance with the suggestion in the Cortina Plan that the Administrative Chamber of the Supreme Court should be given authority to direct the Army and the police in all matters relating to the maintenance of order and freedom of voting during electoral periods. It will, therefore, probably encounter opposition as an inadequate substitute for a proposal which was apparently well designed to ensure impartiality in the conduct of elections.

14. According to Articles XXV and XXVII, the Vice President takes the President's place when the latter is absent from the country and succeeds him in the event of his temporary or permanent absence. Article XXVIII provides for the succession in case of the absence of the Vice President and stipulates that if such absence occurs more than a year before the expiration of a presidential term a special election shall be held to select a President to serve out the remainder of that term.

15. Article XXXI specifies the qualifications for Cabinet Ministers; provides that the Prime Minister shall be selected by the Chief of the State; permits the Ministers to attend and speak at sessions of Congress, such attendance being compulsory in the event of interpellations, and provides that the Ministers must resign upon the passage of a vote of lack of confidence. Article XXXII extends the Ministers' personal responsibility to their acts in the application of laws, orders, and regulations of the Council of Ministers.

16. The next three articles relate to the judiciary. Entrance to the judiciary career is made subject to competitive examination, persons who have served as ministerio fiscal are made eligible for appointment to the Supreme Court, and the powers of the Supreme Court are more clearly defined and in some cases enlarged.

17. Article XXXVI supplements Article 91 of the Constitution by provision for a full or partial system of popular elections in the Central District. It may here be said in passing that according to press reports a majority of the Congress are in favor of doing away with the Central District and restoring the former municipal government.

18. Article XXXVII provides for setting up an independent Tribunal of Accounts.

19. The greatest immediate interest attaches to the transitory provisions, the most important of which curtails by two years the terms of the President and of all members of Congress except Senators elected in 1930 for a four-year period. This will undoubtedly be the principal point of controversy in the debates on the Bill.

J.J. O'Hare,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy

From M. A., Havana No. 3562 Date: June 24, 1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

3600-a.

4-1 2657-g-330

CUBA (Political)

WAR DEPARTMENT

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUN 30 1931

1. There have been no important changes in the political situation in Cuba, the complexity of which is so involved that it is very difficult to keep abreast with. So many side issues are also being constantly advanced that the most important question - that of an agreement of some kind between the Administration and the Opposition - is almost lost sight of in the "scramble".

2. On June 23rd. the Supreme Court heard three recourses of unconstitutionality against the Emergency Tax Law of January 29, 1931, and the regulations promulgated thereunder. The parties involved were Drs. Pedro Sotolongo, Mario Lamar, and Carlos Saladrigas. Dr. Sotolongo complained that he was required to pay a tax illegally imposed on lawyers by the Congress and Executive. Dr.Lamar alleged he was denied a certificate relating to his citizenship because of his refusal to pay a fee illegally established for such certificate by the Congress and Executive. Dr. Saladrigas had practically the same complaint as Dr. Lamar, except that he actually paid the fee which he considered to have been illegally established.

3. The entire controversy was centered around Dr. Sotolongo's plea, the principal features of which were as follows:

(a) Article XXXIV of the Constitution provides that no one is required to pay any tax not legally established.

(b) The Constitutional amendments of 1928 are null and void except insofar as they are adopted in identical form as stipulated in Article 115 in both the Congress and the Constitution.

(c) The Congress which passed the law of January 28, 1931 (Emergency Tax Law) was illegal because the terms of many of its members had expired in 1929 and had been extended by virture of certain paragraphs of the 8th Transitory Provision of the Constitution, which was not approved by the Constitution in the same form it was adopted by the Congress. (The 8th Transitory Provision was approved in the same form as passed by Congress except for omission of Paragraph I, providing for the expiration of the President's term in 1931, and for his ineligibility in 1930. The omission of that paragraph is held by Dr. Sotolongo to nullify the entire Transitory Provision.)

(d) The Emergency Tax Law and the regulations issued thereunder cannot legally be promulgated by President Machado, due to the fact that he is prohibited by Article 66 of the Constitution from serving two successive terms.

4. The first of these points require no comment. With respect to the second and third points, it may be observed that in a recent decision on the Central District, the Supreme Court held valid an article of the amended Constitution (Article 91) from which the Constitution Convention had omitted two paragraphs adopted by the Congress. It thus seems possible that the Court will hold that the six paragraphs of the 8th Transitory Provision, as approved by the Convention, were similiarly separable from the one paragraph adopted by Congress and rejected by the Convention. The fourth point is a matter of interpretation on which there are practicable reasons for expecting a decision which might be unsound, but which would certainly be plausible, in favor of the legality of President Machado's second term.

5. Great interest was manifested in the arguments of Dr. Sotolongo before the Supreme Court and it was expected that anti-Government demonstrations would be staged in Havana and in the provinces on that day. However, nothing of any

From M. A., Havana No. 3564 Date: June 26, 1931

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importance occurred. The Supreme Court's decision on Dr. Sotolongo's arguments must be made in ten days, but in view of the fact that the Supreme Court is taking its summer vacation, effective on June 30th, a decision is expected to be rendered prior to that time. Should the decision be favorable to Dr. Sotolongo, it will result in most serious complications, as a result of which all of the actions of the President and the Congress during President Machado's second term will have to be considered illegal.

6. The Government appears to be very deeply concerned as a result of the increasing frequency of unemployed demonstrations in various parts of the Island, and has taken steps with a view of mitigating the serious plight of thousands of foreign laborers, mostly Spaniards, who are without work and, in consequence, lack the means of providing for their shelter and subsistence. Private charity has been active for some months in an attempt to relieve the acute distress caused by the seasonal closing of the sugar mills, suspension of public works, and wholesale discharge of employees by insolvent business firms. The Spanish regional societies, in connection with the Government, have been surprisingly enterprising in caring for their indigent nationals and arranging for their repatriation. However, it was only after the recurrence of more or less serious riots in Santiago, San Antonio de los Banos, Bayamo, and Manzanillo, with similar disturbances threatened in Havana and other cities, that the Government felt constrained to take action officially in the situation.

7. On January 13, 1931, President Machado signed a decree creating a National Committee for the Feeding and Defense of the Unemployed, the funds to be administered from the following:

(a) Amounts appropriated by the Government.
(b) Voluntary contributions.
(c) Proceeds from collections and charitable entertainments.
(d) Deductions according to scale from the salaries of all Government employees, these deductions to be made automatically upon payment of salaries, unless the employee affected shall file his objection thereto in writing.

Although the last provision cited above does not make compulsory the stated contribution by employees, it does so in fact, because it is extremely unlikely that any employee would risk incurring the displeasure of his superior that such refusal would necessarily entail. There is something rather ironical in this exaction from Government employees, when taking into consideration that the new budget recently submitted to Congress contemplates a further salary reduction of 20%, the third in less than eighteen months.

8. Events over the week-end of June 19-21st. amply justify the pressing necessity of measures designed to maintain order and care for destitute persons who are now filling the cities of Cuba. Unemployed persons, assisted by students, staged a large demonstration in Manzanillo on the evening of June 19th, which resulted in disorders that were quelled only with the help of the military, and in the course of which one youth was killed and another badly wounded. Minor disturbances of a similar nature also occurred at Puerto Padre and Bayamo, but were not attended by any serious casualties. Further disturbances in Manzanillo attended the funeral of the boy killed. This town is still reported to be under military law, and it is reported that soldiers have seized"manifestos" issued by the students, urging the people to rise and burn houses occupied by officials and friends of the Government. In Matanzas similar disturbances occurred on June 22nd. during the trial of one Garcia Lipiz, a student who was being tried for the placing of bombs in that city during November and December of last year. At one time the crowd that surrounded the courthouse was estimated to be as large as two thousand, and it took the combined efforts of the Army and police to maintain order. However, the acquittal of Lipiz, together with a heavy downpour of rain, seemed to cool off the demonstrators with no unfortunate results.

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9. In each of the places where disorders of any kind have occurred the crowd has always taken advantage of the opportunity to destroy all electric light bulbs in the vicinity. This wanton destruction of property belonging to the Cuban Electric Company is apparently designed to serve a three-fold purpose. The principal object of the demonstrators is probably to cause consternation; some of them are undoubtedly urged on in the thought that in the resulting darkness there will be opportunity for loot; and last but not least, there is a desire to damage the Electric Light Company, which is becoming increasingly unpopular because of its refusal to heed demands for reduction of rates in different parts of the Island.

10. On June 21st. President Machado announced an official Government censorship on all news items published in the Spanish language papers, Diario de la Marina, El Mundo, El Pais and Informacion. In announcing this censorship, no authority of any kind was cited for it and this action will undoubtedly be contested by the papers in the Courts. I personally believe it was a very unwise measure, as it will give the people something more to talk about when, in my belief, they were beginning to tire of the attacks launched by the papers against the Administration, due, principally, to the lack of anything new advanced in the arguments by the press.

11. On June 24th the final paragraph was written in the history of the bombing of the presidential palace on February 23, last, when the Criminal Court of Havana absolved Ponchito Diaz for his alleged participation in the plot which caused such a sensation a few months ago. It is interesting to note, however, that Private Valdes repeated almost verbatim the story he has told on every occasion, except one, concerning the bombing of the palace.

12. Major Ortiz is still in Havana although he has been transferred from Camp Colombia to the military prison of Atares. The civil authorities of Santiago are still clamoring for his presence there and the military authorities still seem to be unwilling to give him up. In a recent press notice, in which court action was threatened against General Hererrea for not producing Major Ortiz, the former replied that any action of this type would have to be taken against President Machado, who had ordered the holding of Major Ortiz in Havana.

13. The Congress has done nothing at all toward a solution of the problem of Constitutional reform, the entire time of practically all its members being taken up with the matters of the parliamentary meetings of the parties. Although action on this very important problem is promised daily, it is doubted if anything of a constructive nature will transpire until after the passage of the Budget Law for the next fiscal year.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press, and
Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3564 Date: June 26, 1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

3600-a.

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.

4-1 2657-g-330
1931
WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

1. On June 30th the Cuban Supreme Court rendered decisions rejecting the three recourses of unconstitutionality seeking to establish the illegality of the present Executive and Legislative brapches of the Government.

2. In the first case, which was an appeal brought by Dr. Herrera Sotolongo against the constitutionality of the Emergency Tax Law of January 29, 1931, the Court held that the complainant had not proved any concrete injury. The other two appeals, which were defended by Dr. Cosme de la Torriente, were rejected on the ground that the Court was not competent to determine illegality of the constituted powers of the Government.

3. While press opinions on these decisions are generally unanimous in stating that it would be useless to bring other appeals concerning the legality of the present Government, the decisions are so worded, in my opinion, that other recourses will probably be made at some future time by the Opposition. According to press reports, two of the Justices of the Supreme Court dissented from the Court's decision.

4. It would seem that the only peaceful and legal means that the Opposition now has for supplanting the present Government is to wait for the enactment of the proposed Constitutional reforms and the elections in November of 1932. This, however, they have repeatedly announced that they would not do and it is, therefore, probably that there will be a resumption in the near future of anti-Government activities which caused so much uneasiness during the latter part of 1930 and the early part of 1931. The actions of the Government already indicate that this is what it expects, and the strong measures they have taken against conspirators may be interpreted as a direct challenge to its adversaries. The Government has announced that its tolerance has reached its limits; censorship of the press has been established in apparent violation of Article XXV of the Constitution, and the arrest on a large scale of suspected conspirators is once more the order of the day.

5. The press of June 30th announced that the police had discovered and frustrated a plot for a rising against the Government on July 1st. At the same time announcements were made of the arrest of several of the alleged leaders of this plot, including Horacio Martinez Tranque, President of the Union Nacionalista of Matanzas, and Sabastian Iturrulbe, brother of the former Secretary of War. The alleged plot was supposed to include the getting together of a so-called Caribbean Army in which the radical students were to have played a leading part. The Secretary of the Interior announced yesterday that all persons connected with the plot had been confined at Cabanas Military Prison and would be brought before the Civil Courts within the prescribed limit of ten days.

6. The relations of the political parties now appear to be more clearly defined. The obstructionist tactics persued by the Conservative groups in the Lower House in endeavoring to prevent passage of the budget aroused the ire of the Liberal-Popular majority, which, in turn, did not hesitate to employ "steam roller" tactics in order to force a vote. This resentment has lead to a partial reconcilliation of the "official" and "orthodox" factions, both of which have declared that they will not resume their seats until they have received ample guarantees of what they consider the rights of the Minority. The price exacted by the Minotiry for their loyalty to the Administra-

From M. A., Havana No. 3570 Date: July 3, 1931.

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tion on this occasion was a promise by the President that he would henceforth govern with the Liberal-Popular collaboration. On June 30th President Machado issued a formal announcement to this effect, and, as a consequence, the Conservatives are definitely forced into opposition.

7. Confidential

From a source which I consider reliable, information has come to the effect that General Menocal is now seeking a conference with President Machado. Undoubtedly the purpose of this is to arrive at some form of compromise on the present difficulty, but one in which Menocal, himself, will benefit. While no information is available as to what will be discussed, if such a conference does take place, it is my belief that Menocal will bargain for Machado's support in the 1932 elections, providing that he, Menocal, gives the Administration sufficient votes from the Conservatives bloc to put through the proposed Constitutional reforms.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache

Source: Embassy, Press, and
Personal Contacts.

From M. A., Havana No. 3570 Date: July 3, 1931

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
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CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUL 22 1931

1. There has been practically no change in the political situation in Cuba since the rendition of my last report on this subject. The Government is still extremely desirous of Congressional action in order to bring about the Constitutional Reforms, but, as yet, have not been successful in getting together the necessary two-thirds majority in the House of Representatives for any action in this respect. It is understood, however, that the President, due to a rift in the ranks of the Conservative Party, has been able to secure the cooperation of a sufficient number of Congressmen of this Party to unite with the Liberal-Popular bloc and pass the Constitutional Reforms, the basis for which will be the Rodriguez-Ramirez Bill. While no date has been set for the convening of Congress for this purpose, it is believed that action on the Reforms will take place sometime prior to the end of the present month.

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The conference between General Menocal and the President, to which reference was made in paragraph 7 of my report No. 3570, index number as above, dated July 3, 1931, failed to materialize. The President now feels, and perhaps rightly so, that it is not necessary for him to secure General Menocal's support nor to trade with him for anything which the latter may desire. He seems to have the situation better in hand now than at any time during the past year and he is fully confident of his ability to control the situation without aid from those who have been opposing him during the past year of political chaos. It is not meant by this to infer that he has become any more popular, because, under the present economic conditions, such a thing would be impossible, but it is believed that the vast majority of the intelligent Cubans have given up hopes of unseating him, except by purely legal methods, and are willing to endure him for two years more rather than throw their lot with the Opposition, who have thus far failed to do anything constructive, and whose tactics have had no effect other than to keep the country in a state of turmoil.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Personal Contacts
and Observation

From M. A., Havana No. 3582 Date: July 17, 1931

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Report

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.

3600-a.

CUBA (Political)

JUL 1931

4-1 2657-9-330
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Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

WAR DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUL 27 1931
2657-9-330/2

7

1. Supplementing my report No. 3447, index number as above, dated January 19, 1931, there is given below a list in chronological order of the laws promulgated during the period from January 1, 1931 to June 30th, 1931. It will be noted that several of the laws referred to below have been made the subject of separate reports, but in order to keep this list complete, they are not omitted:

Date of Promulgation	
January 2nd	An act providing that in the baking of bread the use of Yuca flour in the proportion of at least 10 percent be made compulsory.
January 20th	An act ratifying the Agreement with Warren Bros. and the Compania Cubana de Contratistas for financing work on the Central Highway.
January 29th	Emergency Tax Law.

Among the more important Decrees and Executive Resolutions the following may be cited:

Date of Promulgation	
January 3	No. 9 - Creating an Advisory Commission on Transportation.
January 5	No. 21 - Suspending all laws and decrees relating to Normal Schools.
January 7	No. 39 - Suspending all laws, decrees and regulations creating professorships in National University.
January 10	No. 57 - Authorizing employment of soldiers and sailors for maintenance of public order during suspension of constitutional guarantees.
January 12	Resolution - Suspending publication of various and magazines.
January 14	Publishing text of Convention for exchange of Radio messages between Cuba and Mexico
January 17	No. 88 - Providing temporary regulations for collection of taxes under Sugar Stabilization Law.
January 20	No.102 - Ordering deportation of John T. Wilford, American Newspaper editor.
January 21	No.111 - Providing temporary regulations for exportation of sugar under Sugar Stabilization Law.

From M. A., Havana No. 3586 Date: July 20, 1931

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January 23rd. No. 112 - Authorizing Decree No. 39 so as to retain University professors appointed after competitive examinations.

January 27th No. 135 - Amending Decree No. 21 so as to retain titular professors of Normal Schools.

February 5th An act authorizing the President to suspend constitutional guarantees throughout the national territory whenever he sees fit.

(On February 6, 1931, the President decreed that constitutional guarantees shall be suspended as long as the disturbance of the public peace prevails.)

February 7th An act providing a per diem allowance for members of the Central Electoral Board when they attend sessions.

February 7th An act providing a penalty for the exportation of pineapple stubs and pineapple seedings.

February 20th An act creating the Central District of Habana.

February 26th An act authorizing the President to accredit a Minister to Japan.

Important Decrees (February)

February 2nd. No. 156 - Amending regulations regarding sealing and guaranteeing Cuban tobacco for export.

February 4th No. 177 and No. 178 - Substantially increasing the duties on cereals, flour beans, fruits, coffee, cattle, hogs, meat, lard, codfish, butter, dried and salted fish, and other food products.

February 7th No. 196 - Further regulation of Sugar Stabilization Law.

February 7th Suspending all laws, decrees, and regulations under which the institutes of secondary instruction were created and have been functioning, and shutting down these institutes for the remainder of the school term.

February 9th Resolution - Lifting suspension of HAVANA AMERICAN publication.

February 10th No. 207 - Constitutional guarantees suspended as long as the disturbance of the public peace prevails.

February 12th No. 33 - Pardon of Herbert Boitel.

February 23rd Further regulation of Sugar Stabilization Law as to quotas of production.

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February 28th — No. 289 - Defining explosive substances at length and empowering the Secretary of War and Navy to control their production and sale.

March 4th — An act authorizing the University to give degrees without the usual final examination required to those persons who have completed all the required courses and empowering the Secretary of Public Instruction and Fine Arts to issue such degrees during the time the University is not functioning.

March 6th — An act amending the Civil Retirement Law so as to provide pro rata distribution of pay when the retirement funds do not suffice for full payment.

March 11th — An act amending the Cuban Divorce Law of February 6, 1930, reducing from six months to thirty days the period for appearance in those divorce cases brought on the grounds of incompatibility which were actually pending on March 7th. (The transitory nature of this law would make it appear that it was obviously passed to benefit a particular person.)

March 11th — An act declaring that persons who hold the post of Mercantile Registrar can at the same time hold another post as a result of popular election.

March 17th — An act restoring to Congress its total salary credits provided for in the 1930-31 budget in order to provide salaries for the additional Senators elected in November, 1930, but without restoring individual salaries to the original amounts. (The total salary credits provided for the Members of Congress in the 1930-31 budget were reduced 20 per cent by Presidential Decree of November 7, 1930.)

March 21st. — An act providing that members of the Navy who have lost their naval status by decision of a court martial and who are not under arrest or subject thereto shall be entitled to full retirement pay.

March 21st. — An act authorizing the Executive, within one year, completely to reorganize public instruction, from the primary grades up through the university courses.

Important Decrees (March)

March 2nd. — No. 292 - Appointing as delegate to the Narcotics Conference to be opened at Geneva on May 27, 1931, Guillermo de Blanck y Menocal, Cuban Minister and Permanent Delegate of Cuba to the League of Nations, and Dr. Benjamin Primelles y Agramonte.

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March 2nd.	No. 296 - Fixing the quotas to be sugar mills in accordance with the Sugar Mills in accordance with the Sugar Stabilization Law.
March 3rd	No. 297 - Appointing Dr. Orestes Ferrera as Minister to Japan.
March 5th	No. 311 - Providing that the high school professors who have been dismissed from active performance of their duties shall hold office without pay and that no others shall be appointed in their places.
March 6th	No. 328 - Accepting the offer of extension of its loan made by the Chase National Bank.
March 7th	Resolution - Lifting the order of suspension of the newspapers that had been suspended by the Resolution of January 9th.
March 9th	No. 331 - Ordering a full accounting of the Special Public Works Fund.
March 9th	No. 332 - Increasing the tariff on potatoes during the time of the Cuban crop in order to increase domestic production.
March 9th	No. 334 - Raising the import duty on certain kinds of glass.
March 10th	No. 335 - Creating a Bureau of Internal Revenue in the Treasury Department to take charge of the collection of the new taxes provided for in the Emergency Tax Law of January 29, 1931.
March 11th	Providing regulations for the importation of seed potatoes, No. 338.
March 12th	No. 344 - Providing that the Mercantile Registry be divided into two sections with two Mercantile Registrars. (Apparently the object of this decree was to make room for a new political appointee.)
March 13th	No. 349 - Providing regulations for the administration of the Emergency Tax Law with regard to the following items: stamps on certificates issued by Government departments and by the Courts; stamps on pharmaceutical products; radio and cable messages.
March 14th	No. 363 - Providing that the tax on petroleum, gasoline, tractorina and similar products derived from petroleum shall be increased only one hundredth of one per cent instead of ten per cent as provided in the Emergency Tax Law.
March 14th	No. 362 - Amending the classification of petroleum, gasoline and similar products in the customs tariff.
March 21st.	No. 386 - Ordering the extradition of Robert Gooding.

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March 23rd. No. 396 - Providing regulations for the administration of the Emergency Tax Law with regard to alcohol, whisky, liqueurs, playing cards, tobacco and cigarettes.

March 25th No. 405 - Placing Frederick Grant at the disposal of the American Ambassador at Habana in order that he might be sent to the United States.

March 25th No. 410 - Amending the Emergency Tax Law with regard to wines and liquors imported from France, Italy and Spain, providing that the consumption tax on these products shall be thesame as the consumption tax on Cuban wines and liquors. The reason given in the official decree for this amendment of the Emergency Tax Law, is that Cuba's commercial agreement with France provides for reciprocal national treatment with regard to consumption taxes and that Cuba's commercial agreements with Spain and Italy provide for most-favored-nation treatment.

March 28th No. 431 - Restoring the suspended constitutional guarantees in certain districts during the period of partial elections which the Central Electoral Board called for April 20 and specifically providing that guarantees shall again be suspended in these districts as soon as the elections have been held.

April 7th An act providing that no municipal judge sitting on an electoral board may resign before the ballots have been fully counted.

April 7th An act providing that attorneys who are employed by the Department of Justice may practice the profession of law.

April 7th An act granting an amnesty to persons condemned for offenses of libel and injury through the press, provided the offenders are fugitives from justice or serving their terms of imprisonment, provided the offense was committed against municipal or correctional judges, provided the offenders did not bodily injure the aforementioned and provided these judges were removed from the Judiciary by the Supreme Court before or after the decision condemning the guilty parties was handed down. (Obviously this law was passed to benefit a particular individual or particular individuals.)

April 7th A bill granting an amnesty for crimes and offenses for which penalties are provided in the electoral code which were committed between June 29, 1928 and November 24, 1930, inclusive, and also an amnesty for crimes punishable by correctional penalties provided they were committed in competing for positions on political assemblies or committees.

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Important Decrees (April)

April 11th	No. 466 - Providing regulations for the administration of the Emergency Tax Law as regards consular invoices, diplomatic passports and ship clearances.
April 21st	Restoring constitutional guarantees in the Province of Pinar del Rio, Matanzas and Oriente.
April 21st	No. 528 - Revoking, with respect to the Provinces of Pinar del Rio, Matanzas and Oriente, the decree of November 11, 1930, by which military supervisors were appointed for the six provinces of the Republic.
April 23rd.	Appointing Ramon Cabrales as military supervisor of the province of Oriente.
April 25th	Appointing an advisory committee to prepare a program for Cuba's delegates to the Pan American Commercial Conference to be held in Washington in October, 1931, under the auspices of the Pan American Union.
April 27th	No. 550 - Authorizing the exportation of gold coin for payments on account of Cuba's foreign debt.
May 15th	An act providing for the creation of a Sugar Stabilization Institute.
May 15th	An act providing that a census be taken of all standing sugar cane after the 1930-31 harvest.

Important Decrees (May)

May 6th	No. 605 - Revoking Decree No. 207 of February 6, 1931, by which the constitutional guarantees were suspended in the Provinces of Camaguey and Santa Clara.
May 7th	No. 610 - Approving the International Sugar Convention and authorizing Carlos Manuel de Cespedes, Cuban Minister at London, to sign the Convention in the name of the Cuban Sugar Stabilization Institute.
May 13th	No. 643 - Providing that the 1-1/2 per cent sales tax be collected monthly instead of quarterly.
May 21st	No. 690 - Providing regulations for the administration of the Emergency Tax Law of January 29, 1931, as regards income taxes of individuals and taxes on profits of corporations.
May 29th	No. 706 - Authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to contract the services of Dr. E. Seligman as financial adviser.

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Important Decrees-May (Cont'd)

May 6th — Decree publishing the text of the convention on the right of asylum in diplomatic missions which was signed at the Sixth Pan American Conference in 1928, approved by the Cuban Senate on December 16, 1930, and promulgated by the President on December 23, 1930.

Decree publishing the text of the parcel post convention entered into by Cuba and the United States on July 24, 1930.

June 2nd. — An act authorizing the President to extend for two years the period of payment of the obligations due the Chase National Bank on the $20,000,000 Public Works Loan.

June 2nd. — An act granting an amnesty for all common offenses punishable by fines which were committed prior to November 2, 1930, by persons forming a part of any of the assemblies of the legally constituted political parties.

June 30th — An act fixing the national budget for the fiscal year 1931-1932 with estimated receipts of $60,385,000 and total estimated expenditures of $60,381,483.78 ($46,196,328.81 in the General Budget and $14,185,164.97 in the Fixed Budget.)

Important Decrees (June)

June 3rd — No. 739 - Reducing the customs tariff on agricultural machinery.

June 4th — No. 752 - Reducing the national airmail postage from ten cents to five cents an ounce.

June 4th — No. 752 - Authorizing the establishment by the Curtiss Company of parcel post airmail service between Habana, Santa Clara, Moron, Camaguey, Victoria de las Tunas, Holguin, Santiago, and other towns.

June 16th — No. 746 - Repealing, by reason of a writ of unconstitutionality handed down by the Supreme Court on May 11, 1931, Decree No. 21, of December 27, 1930, which suspended the salaries of Normal School teachers.

June 9th — No. 771 - Establishing the by-laws of the Cuban Sugar Stabilization Institute.

June 10th — No. 772 - Regulations for the administration of the tourist law of 1919, providing rules for the steps necessary to be taken to obtain authority for establishing gambling places, and setting forth the duties and functions of the National Tourist Commission, as follows:

To organize contests of beauty, art, science, literature, and sports, national as well as international;

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Important Decrees-June (Cont'd)

to develop relations with similar foreign organizations; to constitute delegations wherever it seems proper, in Cuba or abroad; to delegate any of the duties of the Commission to a proper person or persons; to enter into agreements with industrialists and merchants as regards the boarding, transportation, feeding, amusement or entertainment of tourists; to enter into contracts of publicity, advertisement, and propaganda for developing the tourist traffic; to see that the persons and entities who must contribute to the funds of the Commission do so promptly; to appoint the officers, commissioners, and assistants of the Commission; to bring about the establishment of amusements that do not exist in Cuba, to that end giving subsidies to those companies concerned with amusements considered attractive to tourists; to enter into commercial agreements for the holding of Congresses on commerce or industry in Cuba; to hold under its auspices national or international expositions and to see that national products are therein exhibited; to invite and have as guests of the nation prominent men of science, art, business, letters, and sports; to hold meetings whenever it may be deemed proper and at regular stated times; and in general to adopt such resolutions as shall tend to bring about the ends for which the Commission was created, namely, to increase the tourist traffic to Cuba.

June 13th — No. 764 - Publication of the International Sugar Agreement.

June 16th — No. 798 - Creating the National Committee for the Feeding and Defense of the Unemployed.

June 18th — No. 809 - Declaring as military zones all land adjacent to military clubs and societies and providing that the civil members of such clubs and societies shall not have the right to be directors or members of committees of these organizations.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy.

From M. A.,Havana No. 3586 Date: July 20, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF STAFF
MILITARY INTEL DIV.
JUL 29
4-1 2657-G-330 1931
3600-a.
60
WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

2657-G-330/58

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JUL 28 1931

1. On July 20th the House of Representatives in special session adopted the Rodriguez Ramirez report on Constitutional Reforms by a vote of 89 to 0. This vote thoroughly indicates that, as reported in paragraph No. 1 of my report No. 3582, index number as above, dated July 17, 1931, the President has secured a sufficient number of Conservative Congressmen to put through the Constitutional Reforms. This vote means only that the House of Representatives has accepted the project in principle, and, while it will be necessary to vote on each of the proposed amendments, article by article, there is little doubt but that this will be done in the very early future No date has as yet been set for the debate on the Bill, but it is believed that it will take place the early part of next week.

2. The Bill passed in its original form, but, undoubtedly, there will be several changes made in it prior to its passage in final form. The principal features of the Bill in its present form are:

(a) Terms of all elective officials to be curtailed by two years; exceptions to this are made in the cases of Senators recently elected for short four year periods and those Representatives whose terms expire in 1933.

(b) Elections in November, 1932 for President, twelve Senators, sixty-four Representatives, Provincial Governors, Mayors, etc.

(c) Single Presidential term of six years.

(d) Creation of a modified form of parliamentary government, with ministerial responsibility.

(e) Office of Vice President to be reestablished.

(f) Reenforcement of Habeas Corpus Law.

(g) Compulsory reorganization.

(h) Direct election of President, Vice-President and Senators.

(i) Prohibition of amnesties for serious election offenses.

(j) Congress forbidden to delegate its powers to the President.

(k) Greater independence of the judiciary.

(l) Facilitating establishment of and action on appeals before the Supreme Court against the Constitutionality of laws and decrees.

3. There has been no other change of importance in the political situation in Cuba. By securing the cooperation of a number of Conservative members of the Congress, President Machado has again demonstrated that he holds the whip hand and is the outstanding political leader here. The passage of the Constitutional reforms will deprive the Opposition of most of the ammunition that they have been using since President Machado's first term. It will be extremely difficult for even the most radical elements of the Cuban press to oppose the reforms, since many of the features of the Bill are those that were sponsored by the Opposition in the so-called "de la Cruz Plan", as reported in Report No. 3522, index number as above, dated April 17, 1931. What the Opposition resents is

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From M. A., Havana No. 3588 Date: July 24, 1931.

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that by the Constitutional reforms President Machado will be able to make a graceful exit from public life, and by perfectly legal means, instead of being forcibly ejected.

J. U. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press,
and Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3588 Date: July 24, 1931.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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CUBA (Political)

WAR DEPARTMENT

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. AUG 11 1931

1. The Constitutional Reform Bill, the present political issue, has been referred for consideration and study to a joint parliamentary committee composed of sixteen members of each Chamber, with a view of assuring a prompt and orderly passage of the measure.

2. This body convened on July 28th, with the intention of continuing the study of the Bill and the various amendments that have been proposed thereto until a substantial agreement has been reached on all points that are apt to provoke serious controversy between the Senate and the House. It is impossible to predict how long the committee discussions will last; however, it is safe to say that progress will be slow, judging from the results to date.

3. The proposed amendments to the Bill have not been made public; however, it is the general belief that most of them were submitted by Congressman Rodriguez Ramirez, the author of the Bill. Past action of the original Bill is the subject of report No. 3588, index No. 3600-a, dated July 24, 1931. 2657-G-330/60

4. Other changes are expected to be suggested by Senator Cortina, whom, it is reported, is endeavoring to insert provisions that are contained in his own project of Constitutional Reform.

5. It seems quite certain that there will be a favorable majority to whatever reforms are agreed upon by the joint committee. The early belief that the Conservative factions would unite in opposition to the efforts of the Government to bring about Constitutional Reform now appears to be unfounded. This belief is substantiated by the results of a meeting held on July 13th, for the purpose of uniting the Official (Cooperativista) and Orthodox groups, the former refusing to accept the radical program of the latter. The program called for united opposition to any reform bill that did not include the transitory provisions contained in the original de la Cruz project, which provided for a "Central Electoral Board to be given supervision of public forces during electoral periods, and elections in 1932 for President, Vice-President, and all Senators and Representatives."

6. The Orthodox group insisted on the adoption of a resolution requiring the Executive Power to "abstain in the future from the detention of persons and from measures of censorship prohibited by the Constitution." This demand did not meet the approval of the Official Conservatives who in turn announced their intention to unite in vote with the Liberal and Popular Parties in their support of the Rodriguez Ramirez project.

Elwood R Quesada

ELWOOD R. QUESADA,
Lieut. Air Corps,
Acting Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and Press

From M. A., Havana No. 3596 Date: August 5, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

OFFICE OF ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.

3600-a

4-1 2657-G-330

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. AUG 11 1931

1. Below is a list of the more important enacted laws and decrees that appeared in the Official Gazette during the month of July:

JULY, 1931.

Item	Department	Date	Subject Matter.
Decree No. 886	Treasury	6/26/31	Increasing upwards customs tariff on brooms, rattan and beer.
Decree No. 940	Interior	7/2/31	Reducing 20% salaries of employees of Electoral Boards, placing them on a par with other civil service employees.
Decree No. 946	Treasury	7/6/31	Reducing duty on whiskey manufactured in Great Britain.
LAW	Treasury	7/9/31	Amending the stamp tax on receipts, documents, etc., imposed by the Emergency Tax Law.
Decree No. 982	Treasury	7/11/31	Providing that all machinery imported for new industry not established or to be established within three years of decree shall have a deduction of 70% in duties.
Decree No. 986	Treasury	7/15/31	Reducing stamp tax on receipts of regional charitable institutions, for dues, from 10 cents to 1cent per dollar.
Decree No. 1004	Public Instruction.	7/1/31	Ratifying the closing of the University, Superior School of Commerce and Institutes of Secondary Instruction until otherwise warranted by the circumstances, and amortizing all salaries of professors during said period of inactivity; the same to apply to Normal Schools.
Decrees 1018 and 1019.	Interior	7/2/31 7/4/31	Deporting Antonio Fernandez, a Spaniard, for professing communistic ideas and for opposing the Government, and Jose Gonzalez after having been pardoned from prison.
LAW	Treasury	7/20/31	Authorizing Executive to turn over $6000 per month for six months, from unpledged funds, to Commission for Defense of Unemployed.
LAW	Treasury	7/23/31	Providing that tax on Lottery Colecturias shall be paid monthly; that automobile taxes shall be paid quarterly.

From A.M.A., Havana No. 3597 Date: August 7, 1931

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Item	Department	Date	Subject Matter.
LAW	Public Inst.	7/20/31	That Normal School pupils who have taken the full course may be granted degrees without the need of passing the usual final examination.
Decree No. 1026	Treasury	7/20/31	Increasing custom tariff on rice.
LAW	Treasury	7/24/31	Licenses for automobiles (private machines) to be paid semi-annually.
Decree No. 1039	Treasury	7/17/31	Providing that same privileges for entry of automobiles of tourists through Havana Custom House be extended to those of Santiago de Cuba, Matanzas and Cienfuegos.
LAW	Justice	7/28/31	Amending rules for the presentation of ternaries for judicial appointments of Municipal Judges and judicial clerks

2. Decree No. 1004, ratifying the closing of the University, Superior School of Commerce and Institutes of Secondary Instruction until otherwise warranted by the circumstances, and amortizing all salaries of professors during said period of inactivity, has been the cause of considerable comment by the press and by the people. It is interpreted by many to mean that the Government has no intention to bring about a conciliation with the students, and plans to continue the same drastic measures to maintain order among students as were used eight months ago, at which time the University was placed under military guard. This recent action of the Government is condemned by many.

Elwood R Quesada

ELWOOD R. QUESADA,
Lieut. Air Corps,
Acting Military Attache.

Source:
Embassy and Press.

From A.M.A., Havana No. 3597 Date: August 7, 1931

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF STAFF
MILITARY DIV.

G-2 Report

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WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

7

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. AUG 18 1931

1. The political situation in Cuba assumed a very serious aspect when on August 9th a group of anti-government leaders declared their intention to sponsor an armed revolution against the Government.

2. First indications were that the Opposition had formulated an intricate plan of action against the Government, which may be borne out by the fact that about thirty persons known to be active Opposionists disappeared simultaneously from their homes and could not be located in Havana. It was then the belief that these persons were to go to a certain location in the interior and act as Lieutenants of organized groups which would form a revolutionary army under the leadership of the more prominent members of the Opposition group.

3. Simultaneous with the disappearance of the persons mentioned in the last paragraph, a group consisting of Colonel Carlos Mendieta, leader of the Union Nacionalistas and presidential aspirant; Dr. Miguel Mariano Gomez, ex-Mayor of Havana and considered by many to be a presidential candidate; and General Menocal, ex-President and prominent Opposition leader, along with other followers, are reputed to have left Havana,under cover of darkness, on the sailing yacht "Coral" with the intention of meeting other boats at sea that would take each member of the group to his respective province where he would act as leader of the revolutionary forces. It is also rumored that the boats in which these persons were to make landing would be laden with quantities of arms and ammunition; however, there is little to substantiate such a belief.

4. If such a plan did exist it appears to have been frustrated by the diligent and rapid action of the Army. To date, little has occurred that would indicate that the revolutionary elements were organized and acting under the leadership of the persons just mentioned.

5. A strenuous effort is being made by the Government to locate the three most prominent leaders, Mendieta, Gomez and Menocal, which has, so far, been unsuccessful. Should they be located it is certain that the Army will exert its entire resources to facilitate their capture, which would undoubtedly be the end of the revolutionary activities.

6. The early activities of the Opposition elements brought about the immediate suspension of Constitutional Guarantees and the declaration of Martial Law in the Provinces of Pinar del Rio and the City of Havana, and twenty-four hours later it was extended to include the entire Island. This action has had a quieting effect, particularly in the City of Havana where only one disturbance has occurred since the origin of the present revolution, to which any significance could be attached. This was in the nature of a raid on a hosiery factory in which a quantity of arms, ammunition and explosives were stored by revolutionists. The police force in trying to enter the factory encountered considerable resistance and were successful only after a fight of an hour's duration, in which it was necessary to call the entire police reserve and employ machine guns. Six persons were killed, including three policemen, and approximately fourteen persons were wounded. The important feature of this raid is that the ammunition and arms taken were new, which indicates that the Opposition has been partially successful in its effort to smuggle in the equipment necessary for a successful revolution.

From A.M.A., Havana No. 3598 Date: August 14,1931.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

7. Until the present time the Government has enjoyed an overwhelming victory in every encounter with what may be called the revolutionary forces. There appears to be no organization on the side of the Opposition and no co-ordination between groups that have been formed and which make up the "Revolutionary Army". These groups consist of twenty to seventy-five men, usually mounted on poor horses, poorly armed, poorly clothed and without leadership. They live off the land and have no means of communication or supply. There is nothing about them that resembles an army and may be better termed as "gangs". Groups of fifty have been easily dispersed by as few as ten members of the Rural Guard under command of one officer. Conflicts between these "gangs" and small units of the Army have been numerous during the past four days, with casualties ranging from two to twenty-five. The largest engagement, so far, occurred on August 12th in Pinar del Rio, resulting in eleven deaths on the side of the Rebels, as compared with two in the Army forces. In an engagement in the Province of Pinar del Rio, General Peraza, an outstanding leader of the Opposition, was killed. This event has had its discouraging effect on the side of the revolutionists.

8. To date, conflicts have been confined to the Provinces of Pinar del Rio and Santa Clara, with occasional disturbances of a minor nature in other provinces.

9. The failure of the Government to locate Menocal, Mendieta and Gomez is the cause of considerable anxiety on its part. It is feared that these leaders may be successful in landing in Oriente and Camaguey, and, through the tremendous influence which they possess, particularly in the eastern section of the Island, may be able to organize the people into a fighting organization that would prove to be a serious threat to the present Government.

10. There have been no cases of disloyalty of the Army brought out. However, it is feared by a small minority of the Army officers that the garrisons in Oriente and Camaguey may turn to the side of the revolutionists if Menocal and his followers are successful in landing in those Provinces. If such a contingency should occur, the revolution would assume a more serious aspect with expectation of organized warfare, and fear for the stability of the present Government would be justified.

Elwood R Quesada

ELWOOD R. QUESADA,
Lieut. Air Corps,
Acting Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press,
and Personal Contact.

From A.M.A., Havana No. 3598 Date: August 14,1931.

DECLASSIFIED
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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
4-1 AUG 19 2657-g-330 1931
WAR DEPARTMENT

TO THE PEOPLE OF CUBA.

Facing a situation filled with dangers which threaten all of us, as the result of the faults of an illegal Government, which has not refrained from any abuse, the duties of vigilance which I have imposed on myself force me to adopt a change of attitude and to act without hesitation. My record and my antecedents demand this. Trusting in this, I address my compatriots to arouse them to take a decisive step which will put an end to this public administration which has reduced us to ruin and has defamed our good name. Each day that passes means greater paralyzation of business, worse suffering for the members of professions, depression in the work of the day laborer, anxiety in the homes and anguish everywhere.

Since this is a burden upon all of us, it is important to all of us that we should lift ourselves from beneath this crushing weight. A blow of force is necessary, but of such magnitude and rapidity as alone can gain the support of the entire people. I address that people, certain that because of its self-interest and moved by patriotism, it will place itself at my side.

As the public forces form a part of this people, I count upon a good proportion of its number. Its members understand very well that the Army has been organized to defend the Republic - not to serve the interests or passions of one Administrator. They know that they have weapons in their hands as a guarantee of the safety of their compatriots, not as instruments to be turned against them. For this reason they will go with me and I can accept their valiant aid because I know that in no degree does it separate them from their fundamental duties. They are going to serve Cuba, not one single man nor one single group of men.

I can state and should state publicly that I do not seek an opportunity for myself nor am I moved by any passion that is not love of country and of liberty. My honor as a revolutionary veteran will serve as my credentials.

MARIO G. MENOCAL.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (POLITICAL)

Subject: Armed Revolutionary Movement.

2657-G-330/63 RECEIVED G/2 W. D. AUG 25 1931

1. The armed uprising in Cuba which had its beginning on the evening of August 8th (see report No.3598, index No. 3600-a, dated August 14, 1931), at which time a group of persons known to be Opposition leaders left Havana with the declared intention of establishing an organized revolution, has met in turn with success and failure; however, continues to be the cause of great worry on the part of the Government.

2. Immediately after the departure of the Opposition leaders from the City of Havana, groups of rebel forces began to appear in the Province of Pinar del Rio. Although poorly organized and poorly equipped, they caused considerable trouble to Government troops that were dispatched from larger garrisons in the cities of Habana, Santa Clara and Camaguey. For several days sharp fighting, in most cases resembling "guerrilla warfare", took place in the Provinces of Pinar del Rio and Santa Clara between the Army troops and rebel gangs, which, in almost every case, resulted in the dispersing of the gangs and an overwhelming victory for the Army. Such clashes would usually result in from three to eight deaths on the side of the rebels as compared to from one to three casualties in the Government forces.

3. Disturbances increased daily in the two provinces mentioned, and signs of unrest appeared in the other provinces of the Island up until August 14th, at which time the Government announced that a small unit had captured the outstanding figures of the revolutionary movement, General Menocal and Colonel Mendieta.These leaders along with Raul Menocal, the ex-President's youngest son; Miguel Angel Aguiar, Conservative Representative from Havana; Alfredo Lima, ex-Colonel of the Army of Liberation; Julio Cadenas, one time Army Captain,and owner of the yacht "Coral"; Dr. Hurtado, leader of student revolutionists, and a number of students were captured in the extreme western tip of the Province of Pinar del Rio. It was apparent that they had never made contact with any other group of revolutionists and until the time of capture had never had an opportunity to take arms against the Government. They were brought to Havana on a Cuban Navy gunboat and placed in Cabanas Fortress.

4. The capture of these leaders on whom the people had pinned great hopes and to whom they had looked for leadership. had a demoralizing effect upon the revolutionists in the field, which is brought out by the fact that within two days the Province of Pinar del Rio was reported quiet and that many revolutionary leaders gave themselves up to Government troops.

5. Disturbances continued in the Province of Santa Clara for three days longer under the leadership of one Colonel Pinate. The revolutionary activities in this province took on a serious nature and resulted in the concentration of troops which were used effectively against the larger bands that were formed there. Six airplanes from Camp Columbia were also dispatched to Santa Clara and used in cooperation with ground troops. Peace and order was gradually established in this province until, on August 19th, only occasional disturbances were reported. The Army forces have been making a concentrated effort to capture Colonel Pinate; however, to date, have been unsuccessful.

6. A gesture on the part of the President had a small effect in establishing peace in the Province of Santa Clara. On August 13th he departed by train for the Capital of that province, which is his home, with the intention

From A. M. A.,Havana No. 3599 Date: August 21, 1931

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

of using his influence to persuade the people to lay down arms. It is reported that he met with only fair success. However, his efforts have continued, as he is still in the province.

7. On August 17th the Government received the very discouraging news that an expedition had landed in the town of Gibara which is located on the North coast of Oriente Province. Troops and airplanes were immediately dispatched to the vicinity and were met by very strong opposition on the part of the expedition. The town was completely taken by the landing forces, and it was only through the efforts of several days by Army troops that entrance to the City could be made. Six airplanes were sent to the City of Holguin, twenty miles from Gibara, and it was reported that their activities against the rebel forces were very effective. On August 19th the Army was successful in entering the City; however, did not capture the leaders of the landing forces, who, apparently, made their escape the night before under cover of darkness.

8. The Government announces that the expeditionary force upon leaving the City left between fifty and sixty machine guns, caliber 30; one machine gun, caliber 50; 1000 rifles and 750,000 rounds of ammunition.

9. The taking of this City is by far the most important engagement of the revolution and it is understood to have taken the nature of a battle. The resistance offered by the revolutionists holding the town was far beyond the expectations of Army officials. The revolutionists were successful in causing four of the six airplanes active in the campaign to make forced landings, and their resistence was so effective that the Army forces consisting of a little over one thousand men, had to be exceptionally cautious in their advance.

10. The Government reports that Federal losses in the taking of the town of Gibara amounted to eight deaths and approximately twenty wounded. It also reports that forty-three were found dead in the town along with a number of wounded. However, it is believed, due to other sources of information, that this estimate is low.

11. On August 20th an engagement between Army forces and a group of rebels under command of a Colonel Balan who had escaped the previous night from the City of Gibara took place, with the result that forty-three rebels were killed and eight wounded. Quiet is now established in the province and the Army forces are confining their efforts to locating those rebels that may have escaped from the city the night before it was taken.

12. It is believed that the expeditionary force was under the command of a Cuban by the name of Aurelio Hevia, a graduate of the United States Naval Academy, and son of a former Colonel of the Cuban Army. The expeditionary force entered Gibara on a steam vessel known as the "Isle Vornauer" which is reputed to be flying the German flag. It was also known to have flown at one time the Norweigan flag and to have operated under the names of "Falke"; "Triton I"; "Selby Abbey"; "Swift" and "Frederick II". The vessel made its escape under cover of darkness on the night of August 17th.

Elwood R Quesada
ELWOOD R. QUESADA,
Lieut. Air Corps,
Acting Military Attache.

Source: Personal Contact.

From A.M.A., Havana No. 3599 Date: August 21,1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

OFFICE ORIGIN OF STAT
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WAR DEPARTMENT

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. SEP 1 1931

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Armed Revolutionary Movement.

1. Though Martial Law and a state of war continues to exist on the Island, quiet is reported from every province. An occasional disturbance is reported from various points of the interior, which, however, resemble banditry and could hardly be interpreted as revolutionary activities.

2657-g-330/64

2. Activities in the vicinity of Gibara have come to an end, tranquility being reported therefrom. The Government has announced the voluntary surrender of the leaders of the expeditionary party that landed at that port on August 17th (see report No. 3598, index number as above, dated August 21, 1931), and were successful in making their escape from the City on the night before it was retaken by Government troops. This group, consisting of Manuel Balan, Emilio Laurent, Lucilo de la Pena, Feliciano Maderne, Julio Counord, Carlos Hevia, Octavio Soler, Edwardo Barcelo, Dionisio Hernandez, and Luis Cardenas, had offered considerable resistance to Government forces even after they had deserted the City of Gibara. Of these leaders, Balan was the most active and was captured after an encounter with Army troops in which forty three of his followers were killed.

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3. The surrender of Emilio Laurent is attracting more attention than the surrender of the rest, in view of the fact that he is classified as a deserter from the Cuban Army. In January of 1930 this officer faced Court Martial with Colonel Julio Aguado (see report No. 3439, index number 6300-a, dated January 5, 1931), and was acquitted. Shortly after the trial he was transferred for duty to the Province of Oriente, but soon thereafter no trace of him could be found until he was definitely located in the United States about a month later. He advised that he deserted the Army for fear of being shot by unknown persons.

4. Feliciano Maderne was also Court Martialed along with Colonel Aguado; however, was found to be guilty and was sentenced to two years at Cabanas. However, soon after the announcement of the sentence he was placed on parole and shortly thereafter disappeared from the country. He is not classified as a deserter in view of the fact that he was given a discharge following the trial.

5. Quiet prevails in the City of Havana. However, it is accompanied by a feeling of uneasiness and unrest. Although the people are undoubtedly discouraged due to the failure of the revolution, hope is still held by many for the overthrow of the present Government. Every precaution is being taken by local police and military authorities to prevent disorders in the City of Havana. An occasional disorder in the City is reported, resembling in nature the placing of a small bomb, creating little or no damage. There has been, however, in two cases, destruction of American property, caused by the placing of bombs within the last two weeks. On August 21st a bomb was placed in a building occupied by Woolworth's Five and Ten Cent Store, creating damage estimated at Five Thousand Dollars. On August 26th a bomb was placed in the showrooms of the Compania Cubana de Electricidad, and also created damage estimated at Five Thousand Dollars.

Elwood R Quesada

ELWOOD R. QUESADA,
Lieut. Air Corps,
Acting Military Attache.

Source: Personal Contact,
Embassy and Press.

From M. A., Havana No. 3600 Date: August 28, 1931

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

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M.I. INTEL. DIV.

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CUBA (Political)

WAR DEPARTMENT

Subject: Armed Revolutionary Movement.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. SEP 8 1931

1. The armed revolutionary movement which had its beginning on August 8th now appears to be suppressed by the established government. For the past week no disorders resembling revolutionary activity have been reported from the provinces and quiet continues to prevail over the entire Island.

2. The Government's position was undoubtedly strengthened when the last of the revolutionary leaders to be at large departed from Havana for the United States to enter into what may be termed "voluntary exile". The person referred to is Miguel Mariano Gomez, former Mayor of Havana, son of a former President of Cuba, and known as a leader of the present revolution along with General Menocal, Colonel Mendieta and Colonel Penate.

3. Miguel Mariano Gomez made his departure from Cuba on the morning of August 31, and made his entrance into the United States at Key West, Florida. Although Gomez was in hiding since the outbreak of the revolution, it is generally believed that government officials knew of his whereabouts from the start and were waiting for him to take an active part in the revolution at which time they could confer charges and confine him to Cabanas Fortress. As Gomez was never active, though continuing to be a threat to the stability of the present Government due to his tremendous following in the Province of Havana and popularity among the student classes of the Island, the Government apparently thought it wiser to permit him to leave the Island unharmed. He was accompanied on his departure from Cuba by Dr. Carlos M. de la Torre, former Dean of the National University of Havana and leader of the student group.

4. Colonel Mendez Penate, leader of the revolutionists in the Province of Santa Clara, gave himself up, along with a small group of followers, to the Military Supervisor of that province on August 30th and is now confined at Cabanas Fortress.

5. The surrender of Colonel Penate and the voluntary exile of Gomez has deprived the revolutionists of the last of their strong leaders and no doubt has added to their disappointments. This should assist in restoring peace at an early date.

Elwood R Quesada

Elwood R. Quesada,
Lieut. Air Corps,
Acting Military Attache.

Source: Press and Personal
Contact.

From M. A., Havana No. 3602 Date: September 1,1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

WAR DEPARTMENT
SEP 8 1931

Below is a list of the more important enacted laws and decrees that appeared in the Official Gazette during the month of August, 1931:

ITEM	DEPARTMENT	DATE	SUBJECT MATTER
Decree No. 1125	Interior	6/7/31	Deporting Lucio Fuentes, a Spaniard.
Decree No. 1129	Justice	8/8/31	Ordering commencing of taking of census on August 15th - to last 45 days. That Electoral Census should terminate by January 15, 1932.
Decree No. 1132	State	8/5/31	Regulations of the Cuban National Committee of the International Geographic Union.
Decree No. 1155	Justice	8/13/31	Postponing taking of census until September first.
Decree No. 1156	State	8/8/31	Appointment of Cuban members to 12th Assembly of League of Nations.
Decree No. 1176	State	8/12/31	Transferring Carlos M. de Cespedes from London to Paris; Guillermo Patterson to London, and Nestor Carbonell to the Argentine, all Ministers.
Decree No. 1194	War & Navy	8/10/31	Calling to active service all retired officers during time constitutional guarantees continued suspended.
Decree No. 1210	Interior	8/19/31	Deporting Antonio Cano, a Spanish citizen.
			Extra Editions.
Decree No. 1122	Interior	8/9/31	Declaring state of war in the City and Province of Havana.
Decree No. 1123	Interior	8/9/31	Declaring state of war in Pinar del Rio Province.
Proclamation No.2		8/9/31	Placing all matters in hands of military authorities, asking rebels to turn in their arms and give themselves up within 24 hours.
LAW	Interior	8/10/31	Authorizing Executive to suspend constitutional guarantees throughout nation, also to dispose of all monies in Treasury for expenses.
Decree No. 1130	Interior	8/10/31	Suspending constitutional guarantees in Pinar del Rio, Matanzas, Santa Clara, Camaguey and Oriente.

From A.M.A., Havana No. 3601 Date: Sept. 1st, 1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ITEM	DEPARTMENT	DATE	SUBJECT MATTER
Decree No. 1131	Interior	8/10/31	Declaring State of War in Matanzas, Santa Clara, Camaguey and Oriente provinces.
Decree No. 1133	Communications	8/11/31	Submitting all radio telegraphic and cable services, international, to prior censorship, also suspending cipher messages except few cases such as banks, diplomatic service, etc., shutting down all radio broadcasting stations.
Proclamation	Executive	8/13/31	Same as published in Extra Gazette No.2 with regard to Habana and Pinar del Rio, this one being for Santa Clara province.
"	Executive	8/15/31	Same as above for Camaguey province.
"	Executive	8/21/31	Same as above for Oriente province.
"	Executive	8/22/31	Same as above.
Executive Resolution		8/22/31	Granting a reward of from One Thousand to Five Thousand Dollars for capture and delivery of persons manufacturing or placing bombs.

Elwood R Quesada

ELWOOD R. QUESADA,
Lieut. Air Corps,
Acting Military Attache.

Source:
Embassy and Press.

From A.M.A., Havana No. 3601 Date: September 1, 1931.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

2700-b.

WAR DEPARTMENT
MIL. INTEL. DIV.

SEP 9 1931

2657-J-330

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Social)

Subject: Banditry, Riots and Similar Infractions of Public Peace and Safety.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. SEP 9 1931

1. While general peace and quiet now prevails on the Island, and revolutionary activities appear to have ceased, an occasional report of banditry or looting is received from the interior. Such disturbances are contributed to small groups of unemployed that are scattered about the rural districts, and usually consist of a raid on small country stores and result in little more than the stealing of food and provisions. In a few cases, however, the reports bring out that the bandits are also stealing horses and cattle.

2. Though this condition is not considered serious at present, the military authorities are attaching considerable importance to it, in view of the fact that the economic condition of the Island, particularly in the rural districts, is conducive to banditry on a large scale. A violent effort is being made by the Army and Rural Guard to check disturbances of this nature at their beginning. The re-establishment of the small Rural Guard posts which were abandoned at the beginning of the revolution for the purpose of concentrating the fighting forces into larger and more effective units, is doing much to discourage such actions.

3. In the City of Havana considerable uneasiness is being caused by the frequent placing of bombs in various sections of the City. Although as a general rule the bombs are small and ineffective, they have their terrorizing effect and are a cause of worry to property owners. There appears to be a concentrated effort to destroy the property of foreign interests, which is brought out by the fact that the only bombs causing an appreciable amount of damage have been aimed at Woolworth's Five and Ten Cent Store; Compania Cubana De Electricidad, an American owned company; and a branch bank of the Royal Bank of Canada. In each case the bomb was placed at a door of the place of business during the early hours of the morning, causing a damage roughly estimated at $5000.00. A small bomb, causing no damage, was recently placed on the lawn of the residence occupied by the British Minister.

4. To date, the Government has had little success in coping with those responsible for the placing of bombs. An offer of a reward by the Government, up to $10,000, to anyone giving information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons guilty of placing bombs is expected to have a favorable result.

Elwood R Quesada

ELWOOD R. QUESADA,
Lieut. Air Corps,
Acting Military Attache.

Source: Press and
Personal Observation.

From A. M. A., Havana No.3603 Date: September 3, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

3020-d

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
SEP 1931

4-1 2657-B-330

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WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Armed Revolutionary Movement.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. SEP 14 1931

1. There is included in the following paragraphs a description of the war materials that were captured by the government troops when they were successful in taking the town of Gibara from the expeditionary force that had landed there on August 17th.

2. It is impossible to obtain an accurate count of the materials taken, as no inventory has been made by the Cuban Army and there is little reason to think that one will be made. At present the captured materials are scattered throughout the Island. The most reliable figures that can be obtained show the quantity to be as follows:

One Browning machine gun, 50 caliber, mounted on tripod.

One box of spare parts for Browning machine gun, 50 caliber.

Twenty-two Lewis machine guns, mounted on tripods.

Thirty Vickers machine guns mounted on tripods.

One gas gun.

One box gas shells.

Four hundred Springfield rifles, 30 caliber.

Six hundred Remington rifles, 30 caliber.

Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand (750,000) rounds of 30 caliber ammunition.

Two thousand rounds of 50 caliber ammunition.

Two hundred steel helmets.

3. There are attached hereto copies of documents that were found among the personal effects of Carlos Hevia, one of the leaders of the expedition. One appears to be a receipted bill for the Browning machine gun referred to above, made by the "Colt's Patent Fire Arms Manufacturing Company", and sold to a Mr. E. N. Robaina. The others consist of a letter from the Colt's Patent Fire Arms Manufacturing Company to Mr. E. N. Robaina in which reference is made to the shipment of arms; a copy of an invoice for the shipment of arms, and an affidavit in which reference is also made to the shipment of machine guns, arms and parts. These papers are being forwarded to assist the War Department in any action it may desire to take relative to the exportation of these arms and ammunition.

4. Of the machine guns captured the following numbers were taken as samples:

Vickers - 10409; 5967; 3693; 10021. The stamping on the Vickers guns showed that they were Model 1915, and manufactured by the Colt's Patent Fire Arms Manufacturing Company.

Lewis - 2221; 2840. The stamping on the Lewis guns showed that they were Model 1917, and manufactured by the Savage Arms Corporation, Utica, N. Y.

From A.M.A., Havana No. 3607 Date: September 8, 1931.

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5. All the Remington rifles bore the Russian Coat-of-Arms. It is understood that these rifles were made by the Remington Arms Company during the World War for the Russian Government, and were originally caliber 7.63 m/m and were later rechambered for caliber 30-06 Springfield. The following numbers were taken as samples: 1364721; 1357914; 1361284; 1361163.

6. The Springfield rifles that were captured appeared to be in the best condition, most of which had the appearance of being unused. There is stamped on each rifle the following:

"U. S.
SPRINGFIELD
Armory
Model 1903".

The following numbers were taken as samples: 357971; 770481; 763737; 628803; 528425; 733885; 261249; 291993; 530411; 440390; 317952; 133864.

7. A description of the gas gun could not be obtained as it is in Camaguey. The gas shells, being of two sizes, bore the following stamping:

Small shells -

"Chemical Warfare Gas Shell
The Lake Erie Chemical Company.
Cleveland,Ohio,U.S.A.
June 16, 1931"

Larger shells -

"Gas Field Gun
Long Range Offense Shell
The Lake Erie Chemical Company
Cleveland,Ohio".

8. The majority of the 30 caliber ammunition that was seized is packed in boxes of 1000 rounds each, with the following stamping on the box:

"Model 1906
For Model 1903 Rifles
Boxed by National Brass & Copper Tube Co.
Hastings-on-Hudson".

The Springfield cartridges just referred to were made in 1918 as evidenced by the numerals 18 appearing on the head of each cartridge. The 50 caliber Armor Piercing cartridges were made by the Remington Arms Company in 1927. A small quantity of the 30 caliber ammunition that was captured was made by the Remington Arms Company, Inc.

Elwood R Quesada

Elwood R. Quesada,
Lieut. Air Corps,
Acting Military Attache.

Source:
Personal Contact.

From A.M.A., No. 3607 Date: September 8, 1931

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

3600-a.

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. DIV.

SEP 21 2657-J-330

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

WAR DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. SEP 21 1931

1. As the revolutionary movement in Cuba appears to be definitely ended, the political interests and endeavors, along with the interest of the people, are once again attracted to the proposed Constitutional Reforms.

2. There follows what may be termed a "synopsis", in which the effects of the various amendments are summarized. This summary is made up from the Constitutional Reforms as approved by the thirty-two Representatives and Senators assembled as a Special Committee to adopt a Bill which might be acceptable both to the House and to the Senate. (See report No. 3596, index number as above, dated August 5, 1931).

"ARTICLE I. The provision of the existing Constitution that children born in Cuba of foreign parents shall be Cubans only in case they register as such on the attainment of their majority is eliminated except as regards the children of foreigners in Cuba in the service of their Government. Cuban nationality is conferred upon children born of either Cuban father or Cuban mother, instead of upon children born of Cuban padres (which might mean both parents or simply fathers).

ARTICLE 7. Loss of Cuban nationality does not cancel previously accruing obligations of such nationality.

ARTICLE 12. The principle that penal laws may be retroactive if favoring the criminal may not be invoked (by amnesty laws or otherwise) in favor of those who fraudulently commit electoral crimes.

ARTICLE 15. As a safeguard against arbitrary arrests, it is provided that a full record of such arrests shall be presented to the appropriate judicial authority within twenty-four hours.

ARTICLE 20. Specific provision is made for a most summary procedure of habeas corpus before the ordinary courts of justice in every case of arrest or imprisonment without the legal formalities or in violation of the Constitution or the laws. The ordinary courts are given exclusive jurisdiction with respect to the arrest or imprisonment of civilians.

ARTICLE 30. The right of the State to expel undesirable foreigners is declared.

ARTICLE 31. The right of the State to inspect all establishments of private instruction is declared.

ARTICLE 32. The interest of the State in the maintenance of the rights of labor and in similar objects of social welfare is expressed, and it is recognized that everyone who is able and willing to work has the right to subsistence.

ARTICLE 38. The vote is made obligatory for men and voluntary for women.

ARTICLE 39. Provision is made for the legal recognition of political parties comprising appreciable parts of the population, and the parties are required to reorganize at least before every presidential election. (The additions here made are designed to prevent abuses through the setting up of

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unreasonable obstacles to the organization of new parties and through the perpetuation of party executive committees over long periods in which no party conventions are held.)

ARTICLE 40. The decision on the necessity for the suspension of constitutional guarantees must be made by the Council of Ministers (not by the President) and reported to Congress. The vote of Congress on such decision of the Council is to be made a question of confidence, and if the decision is disapproved by three-fifths of the members of either House the entire Council must resign.

ARTICLE 42. The suspension of guarantees by Presidential decree, during a recess of Congress, can be made only after decision to that effect by the Council of Ministers.

ARTICLE 45. Purely verbal change.

ARTICLE 46. Naturalized Cubans are made eligible as Senators if they have lived in Cuba ten years after naturalization and if they served in the Liberating Army for more than one year.

ARTICLE 47. Purely verbal change.

ARTICLE 51. Members of Congress may serve as Ministers of the Council, but without parliamentary immunity for their acts in the latter capacity.

ARTICLE 54. The requirement of the presence of an absolute majority of either House of Congress for the continuance of the sessions of that House is eliminated. Sessions may continue up to the point of a definitive vote on any proposition (except those for which special quorum or vote is required under other articles) with the attendance of only one-third of the members. If a majority is not present when such a vote is about to be taken, the vote is to be suspended while a call is issued for a session to be held at least seventy-two hours later, with a warning that the vote will be taken if one-third of the members are present at this specially called session. No final vote on any proposition of law is to be taken in either House of Congress except after reference to at least one committee for report.

ARTICLE 55. The provision of the existing Constitution that no members of Congress can be expelled except for cause and by vote of two-thirds of the members of the House to which he belongs is eliminated. The substituted provision, that the election of any member of Congress cannot be questioned after it has been proclaimed, does not cover the same ground; it may have been suggested by the recent claim that none of the members of Congress elected in 1930 can be considered to have been legally elected.

ARTICLE 59. Amnesty laws are prohibited in favor of persons who have fraudulently committed electoral crimes. At the instance of fifteen Representatives or six Senators, the Council of Ministers or any of the Ministers may be required to submit to interpellation before the House or the Senate. Motions of lack of confidence may be brought against one or more Ministers or against the whole Council. They may be considered in either Chamber if signed by not less than one-third of its members, an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the members of either Chamber being required for passage. There must be an interval of at least six months between the vote on any motion of lack of confidence and the presentation of another such motion. The Chamber which has voted on a motion of lack of confidence cannot entertain another such motion until after the other Chamber has exercised its "prerogative" in this connection or until one year has elapsed since the last vote on such a motion. No motion of lack of confidence can be presented during the first year of the incumbency of any President elected by popular

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vote. The right to entertain motions of lack of confidence is not affected by the fact that motions of confidence may have been presented by the Government and resolved by the Congress. The Congress is forbidden to delegate any of its constitutional powers.

ARTICLE 61. The President's power to initiate legislation is to be exercised with the approval of the Council of Ministers.

ARTICLE 62. The powers of the President with respect to the approval or disapproval of the acts of Congress are to be exercised with the assistance of the Council.

ARTICLE 64. The President is to be Chief of State and of the Executive Power, but the Executive Power is to be shared with a Council of Ministers which is to be responsible to Congress and must have the confidence of Congress. The President is to act without regard to political considerations and as a moderating influence.

ARTICLE 66. The six-year Presidential term is retained, but the prohibition against two successive terms is replaced by the provision that ten years must elapse between the cessation of one period of service as President and the reelection to or further service in the presidency.

ARTICLE 68. In addition to the purely verbal changes necessary for giving effect to preceding provisions for the participation of the Council of Ministers in the executive power, the following changes are made:

(1) The date for presentation of the annual budget to Congress is changed from November 15 to the following April 1.

(2) The power to appoint the President of the Supreme Court is declared to be subject to the provisions of the Constitution, the reference doubtless being to the new paragraph 6 of Article 83.

(3) The National Executive is authorized to suspend the resolutions of Provincial and Municipal Councils in such cases and in such manner as may be determined by the laws (not merely by the Constitution, as at present) and also upon the recommendation of the Tribunal of Accounts provided for in the new paragraphs of Article 114.

(4) The pardoning power of the Executive is further restricted by the exclusion of fraudulent electoral crimes.

(5) A new paragraph, numbered 17, makes the President and his Council responsible for the execution of the orders of a Supreme Electoral Body to be created by law for the direction of all electoral operations and the reorganization of the political parties with a view to the guarantee of the integrity of the suffrage.

(6) A new paragraph, numbered 18, and corresponding to some extent to the paragraph numbered 8 in the existing Article 68, authorizes the President, without the assistance of the Council of Ministers, to appoint and remove freely the Prime Minister and other members of the Council.

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ARTICLE 72. The office of Vice President is restored.

ARTICLE 73. The Vice President is to succeed to the presidency in case of the temporary or permanent falta (that is, absence or incapacity to discharge duties) of the President. A Vice President thus succeeding to the presidency is subject to the above-noted provision of Article 66.

ARTICLE 74. When the Vice President definitely succeeds to the presidency, a new Vice President is to be designated by Congress. When there is no elected Vice President (on the occasion of a vacancy in the presidential office), the presidency of the Republic is to be assumed by the President of Congress. If the presidency is not or cannot be assumed by the President of Congress in the situation just mentioned, the presidency is to be assumed by the President of the Supreme Court or by the person discharging his duties or by the oldest magistrate of that tribunal, provided that the presidency may not be occupied by any person who is not eligible to that office.

Any person succeeding to the presidency in the manner above indicated is subject to the above-noted provision of Article 66.

ARTICLE 76. The provision of the existing Constitution with respect to the appointment of heads of Departments is changed in the sense that such heads of Departments shall form a Council of Ministers and that naturalized citizens appointed to the Council must have served at least a year with the Liberating Army. Detailed provisions are added in substance as follows:

(1) The Prime Minister, who may serve with or without portfolio, shall be designated by the President; shall always represent the Council; and shall preside over the same except when the President attends and presides.

(2) The other Ministers shall be appointed by the President on the proposal of the Prime Minister.

(3) Congress shall be informed of all orders and decisions of the Council except those of a confidential character.

(4) The orders and decisions of the Council shall in proper cases be published in decrees or resolutions signed by the President and by the appropriate Minister.

(5) The Ministers may attend the sessions of Congress and must do so in cases of interpellation, as provided in Article 59.

(6) The Ministers may speak in both Houses of Congress, and those who are members of Congress may vote in their respective Houses.

(7) The passage of a motion of lack of confidence entails the immediate resignation of the Ministers named in the motion, and their places must be filled by new appointments within ten days.

(8) Unfavorable votes on propositions of law of the Government or the Ministers does not entail the resignation of the latter.

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ARTICLE 77. Purely verbal change.

ARTICLE 78. The President is not to be responsible for the policy of the Council of Ministers. Any Minister standing for an elective office must take leave of absence until after the proclamation of the results of the election.

ARTICLES 79 and 80. Purely verbal changes.

ARTICLE 81. The judicial career except as to appointments to the Supreme Court (for which see Articles 68 (8) and 83 (6) is closed to all except those entering the lowest grade by competitive examination.

ARTICLE 82. To the persons who may be appointed to the Supreme Court are added those who have served ten years in the Ministerio Fiscal (Office of State's Attorney).

ARTICLE 83. A new paragraph, numbered 1, merely authorizes the Supreme Court to act upon charges of common crime for which, as provided in Article 70 of the existing Constitution, the President is responsible before the Supreme Court.

The provision of the existing Constitution that the Supreme Court shall decide on the constitutionality of laws, decrees and regulations is elaborated as follows in a new paragraph numbered 5:

(1) Recourses of unconstitutionality may be brought by the party directly prejudiced or by 500 citizens in the full enjoyment of civil and political rights.

(2) Such recourses must be decided upon their merits, the Court fixing a period for the remedy of any formal defects by the recurrent parties.

(3) A law, decree, regulation, order or decision unanimously declared by the Court to be unconstitutional cannot be further applied.

(4) The same is true as to laws, decrees, etc. declared by majority decision to be in violation of the constitutional guarantees (Articles 15, 16, 17, 19, 22, 23, 24, and 28).

(5) Except as indicated in the paragraph immediately preceding, a second decision shall be required for the nullification of laws, decrees, etc., when the first decision is not unanimous.

(6) As a safeguard against bad faith on the part of recurrents, it is provided that the penalties for such bad faith shall be determined by law.

The Supreme Court is empowered to propose to the President of the Republic a list of three persons for the appointment of one of the number as President of the Court. The Supreme Court is given full control over the appointment, removal, transfer, suspension, etc. of all judicial officers below the grade of Magistrate of the Supreme Court.

From A.M.A., Havana No. 3609 Date: September 11, 1931

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ARTICLE 85. Electoral crimes and offenses are expressly placed under the exclusive jurisdiction of the ordinary tribunals.

ARTICLE 91. Popular election is to prevail, at least to some extent, in the choice of officials of the Central District of Habana.

ARTICLE 114. A Tribunal of Accouts, consisting of three members, one designated by the President, another by Congress, and the third by the Supreme Court, is to be established for the supervision and control of the budgets and accounts of the State, the Provinces and the Municipalities.

The special qualifications for membership of the Tribunal are enumerated.

The term of office of members of the Tribunal is to be six years. The organization, powers, and procedure of the Tribunal are to be determined by law.

ARTICLE 115. The existing machinery for consideration of proposed amendments by constitutional conventions is discarded. Amendments approved by two-thirds of the members of each House of Congress are instead to be submitted to a referendum, to be limited to the integral approval or rejection of the amendments proposed. The existing requirements of a favorable vote of three-fourths of all the qualified electors in case of a constitutional amendment for the extension of the term of any elective officer or for the reelection of the President is replaced by a requirement of a favorable vote, in such case, of three-fourths of all who exercise the right of suffrage in the referendum.

TRANSITORY PROVISIONS

Six transitory provisions establish the calendar of elections up to 1944, the year in which, according to the seventh transitory provision, the normal scheme of elections will be re-established. The calendar of elections provided for up to 1944 is as follows:

Elections of 1932: - President; Vice President; Representatives to fill vacancies of those elected in 1926; Governors, Provincial Councillors, Mayors, Aldermen, Members of Boards of Education.

Elections of 1934: - Eighteen Senators, to serve till 1942.

Elections of 1935: - Representatives to fill vacancies of those elected in 1930.

Elections of 1938: - President; Vice President; eighteen Senators; Representatives to fill vacancies of those elected in 1932; Governors, Councillors, etc.

Elections of 1941: - Eighteen Senators; half the membership of the House of Representatives.

According to the eighth transitory provision, the promulgation of the constitutional amendments is to be followed by the enactment of a law to determine the manner of electing a Vice President ad interim.

Under the ninth transitory provision, the eight preceding are to be substituted for the sixth, seventh, eighth, tenth, twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth of the existing Constitution.

All of the foregoing amendments (referred to as the amendments) to the body of the Constitution and to the existing transitory provisions are to take effect, according to the new tenth transitory provision, upon their publication in the Official Gazette.

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It is further provided, in an unnumbered paragraph of the amendment bill, that the sixteenth (meaning the fifteenth) transitory provision of the existing Constitution shall be amended so as to require the present reform to be submitted first for the oath of support of the Supreme Court, which is to take the oath within ten days after the reform is published unless it finds that the Constitutional Assembly has not limited its action to the integral approval of the reform. If the Court so finds and refuses to take the oath, the reform is to be considered null.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(Procedural and not requiring submission to the Constitutional Assembly).

(1.) Elections for the choice of Delegates to the Constitutional Assembly, one Delegate for every 50,000 inhabitants, are to be called by the Central Electoral Board within three days after the expiration of the six months following the approval of the present amendments by Congress. Such elections are to be held within twenty days after they are called. Delegates must be Cubans by birth, twenty-five years old or older, literate, and in the full enjoyment of civil and political rights. The system of proportional representation is to be followed. Delegates are to be proclaimed within ten days after the elections, and they are to take office three days later unless there is pending a contentious recourse against elections which might affect the quorum. The place of the meeting of the Convention, in Habana, is to be accessible to the public. The quorum for commencement and continuance of sessions is to be the absolute majority of the members. Decisions of the Convention, if there is a quorum, are to be by majority of those present. Members of the Assembly who do not limit themselves to the integral approval or rejection of the reform passed by Congress are to be guilty of excess of authority, and any change on which they may agree is to be declared null by the Supreme Court. The Assembly is to complete its labors within twenty working days. Each Delegate is to receive $10.00 for each session he attends.

(2.) Unless the census now under preparation has been completed, the elections of Delegates are to be held on the basis of the census used in the last elections.

(3.) Candidates for Delegates are to be nominated by the existing provincial organisms of the organized political parties or by the corresponding organisms of new parties which may be formed.

(4.) The Executive is authorized to use for the fulfilment of the foregoing general provisions any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

(5 & 6.) Purely formal.

3. The afternoon of September 8th the question of Constitutional Reform attracted the attention of the entire country. At that time the President called to the Palace his entire cabinet; members of the House of Representatives and the Senate; leaders of the commercial, banking and industrial interests of Cuba, and representatives of newspapers and news services of the country. At this assembly the following speech was made by the President:

"During the past few weeks the Republic has passed through one of the most critical periods of its history. For six years we have suffered the consequences of low prices for sugar, a product upon which our

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country principally depends for its prosperity.

"During the past two years, the unprecedented depression in business throughout the world, especially in the United States which consumes 80 percent of our exported products, has been a decisive factor in impeding our return to prosperity.

"In the course of this period, there have occurred a series of economic and political catastrophes in all parts of the world, with the inevitable results of social instability, revolution and governmental collapse in many nations.

"In Cuba we have attempted to anticipate these consequences and to save ourselves from them by using every measure possible; and although we have not obtained complete success, it should be taken into account that, in spite of our difficulties, Cuba finds herself today in better financial condition and with brighter economic perspective than almost any other of the sister nations of Latin America as well as nations of other continents. We are confronting, however, hard and bitter times. There are many men without work, in spite of the fact that the government has done all possible to find employment for them and to aid them in their need.

"As a consequence, there is a feeling of discontent prevalent in certain elements, owing in great part to the propaganda which, being based on the aforementioned facts, is carried on by enemies of the government.

"In compliance with the influence that this situation might have had in the political order, I have devoted for some time past all my energies to develop a program of constitutional reforms. The establishment of these reforms was about to be realized when there came to a head a movement to precipitate our country into civil war, with all the horrors which accompany such a conflict of brother against brother. Before the blood of many families could be spilled by some of its own members, the armed forces of the republic put swift end to the violence.

"The unquestioned loyalty of every officer and every enlisted man in the Cuban military force should be a source of pride for all Cubans, regardless of their sympathies.

"This conduct of the army, navy and air forces is the greatest guarantee for the future honor, dignity and stability of our country. Thus, Cuba has taken her place among those nations of the world whose governments are changed by ballots, not by bloodshed.

"It is precisely in view of this that the constitutional reforms have been planned, their principal purpose being to guarantee a method whereby the will of the people may be expressed. With peace established throughout the nation, the time to effect these reforms has arrived. A joint committee of the house and senate has agreed upon the reforms, each of which are of utmost importance, especially those which refer to greater personal liberty, participation of the state in primary education, organization of the rights of labor and just regulation of wage scales; official recognition of all political parties which count with an appreciable portion of the electoral body, the compulsory reorganization of these parties at least once before each presidential election; prohibition of amnesty for political crimes; the conditions under which and the way whereby constitutional guarantees may be suspended; modification of regulations governing the required quorum for meeting of the colegislative bodies; prohibition of the re-election of the president of the republic for 10 years after he leaves office; establishment of a parliamentary system of government with restrictions advisable under our present political structure; creation of the office of vice president; independence of the judiciary; amplification of the plea of unconstitution-

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ality not only as regards the validity of laws held unconstitutional, but also to the end that persons not directly affected by its working may bring appeal, establishment of a board which shall supervise all national expenditures and regulate budget distribution.

"I have just sent a message to Congress urging the immediate approval of these reforms to the existent constitution and asking that the following particulars be added to them:

a. Restriction of parliamentary immunity.

b. Forbidding, for the first year of office of whomever may replace the President, the submission of problems which might involve vote of confidence in his government.

c. Appointment, by unanimous consent of the Supreme Court, of a vice president whose term in office shall last until the vice president chosen in the next election is inaugurated.

d. Postponement of the new parliamentary system until the president designated in the next elections takes office.

e. Permanency in their posts of present members of the Cuban armed forces.

"In taking this action, it is my desire that the application of these reforms shall be placed above the political passions that have arisen out of the crisis through which this country has just passed. I believe that, for these reforms to produce the moral good expected of them, it is necessary that the next elections be held with every guarantee, to include, from the taking of the electoral census until the victorious candidates are proclaimed, the operation of a supreme electoral board that shall prevent the arising of any doubts as to the legality of these proceedings.

"I cannot permit partisan jealousy and partisan hatred to plunge the Republic into chaos.

"Now that the insurrection has been stamped out, I call upon all Cubans to join me as one in achieving our common purpose in a legal way. The new administration will assume office, assured of the respect of the world and I shall experience in my heart that which I believe should be the sentiment of every Cuban, a sentiment of pride, that Cuba has not only maintained but has improved its position among those nations governed by law and not by force, reaching its aims and desires by methods of peace and not by the violence of civil war."

4. This gesture on the part of the President should be considered important to the present political conditions of Cuba, as it definitely obligates the President to sponsor Constitutional Reforms, and it has definitely deprived a portion of the Opposition of an issue. It will be noted that the President did not only declare himself to be in favor of the proposed Constitutional Reforms, but went so far as to propose new ones to which considerable importance should be attached.

5. If the President's suggestion that "restriction of Parliamentary immunity" be added to the reforms is carried out, the Legislative bodies will be deprived of a much abused privilege. It is expected that such a reform will encounter some opposition.

6. The appointment by unanimous consent of the Supreme Court of a vice president whose term in office shall last until the vice president chosen in

From A.M.A., Havana No. 3609 Date: September 11, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

the next election is inaugurated, would have the effect of gaining the confidence of the people in the event of the resignation of the President now in office before the next election, or, in the event that the present President should decide to be absent from the country at the time his successor is elected.

Source:
Embassy and Press.

Elwood R Quesada

ELWOOD R. QUESADA,
Lieut. Air Corps,
Acting Military Attache.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

encl. 2
2657-Q-330/69

(COPY)

Republica de Cuba
Secretaria de la Guerra y Marina
Ejercito

From COLT'S PATENT FIRE ARMS MFG. CO.

Shippers No. 21669.

Date: July 1, 1931. - The New York, New Haven and Hartford R.R. Co.

Consigned to E. N. Robaina
c/o R. F. Sedgley, Inc., 2311 N. 16th St.
Destination: Philadelphia State of: Pa. County of.....
Route: "Speed Nich"
Delivering Carrier Penn R.R. Car Initial..... Car No.....

BOXES	DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLES, SPECIAL MARKS AND EXCEPTIONS WEIGHT	
Four	Fire Arms and Accessories	734.-
18	Safety Small Arms Cartridges	1,458.-

U. S. WAR DEPT. 402.2/333
OCT. 21 1931
ENCLOSURE 2

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

6250

Copia.
Established 1856
COLT'S PATENT ARMS MANUFACTURING CO.
Hartford, Conn., U.S.A.

Republica de Cuba
Secretaria de la Guerra y Marina
Ejercito

Date 7/1/31.

Shop Order F.O. 3323
3322

Sold To

Code
Package)
Box)
Mark

No. Gross Net.

Shipped via FRT W.C.G.

Customer's Order No.	Description	Cat. No.	Quantity	Unit Price	Amount	Disc	Net
					Amount brought forward		3317.50
	Colt monitor automatic machine rifle cal. 30 with spare parts and accessories. #102810.		1		300.00		
	SPARE PARTS.		2				
	Extractors		2				
	Extractor springs		1				
	Ejector		1				
	Recoil spring		2				
	Firing pins		1				
	Sear springs		1				
	Bolt guide spring		1				
	Connector		6				
	Extra magazines		1				
	Magazine catch		1				
	Magazine catch pin		2				
	Magazine catch spring		1				
	Gas cylinder tube retaining pin		1				
	Trigger pin		1				
	Trigger guard retaining pin		1				
	Recoil spring rod						
	ACCESSORIES.		1				
	Magazine bolt to hold six magazines and accessory case		1				
	Leather accessory case		1				
	Magazine filler		1				
	Combination tool		1				
	Cleaning rod		1				
	Package cleaning patches		1				
	Oil can		6	2.50	15.00		
	Extra Magazine for above		1		22.95		
	Gov't model 45		1		23.65		
	New service 45 - 5½				34.00		
	checkered back strap		1				
	New servi. car 45 - 7½		6	.85	5.10		
	Gov't model 45 magazines				400.70		400.70
							3718.20

RECEIVED PAYMENT
Colt's Patent Fire Arms Mfg. Co.
Por. (fdo) D.C. Melrose.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

(COPY)

Republica de Cuba
Secretaria de la Guerra y Marina
Ejercito

FIRE ARMS DIVISION

COLT'S PATENT FIRE ARMS MANUFACTURING CO.

HARTFORD Connecticut U.S.A., July 1, 1931

Mr. E.N. Robaina
c/o R.F. Sedgley, Inc.
2311 North 16th Street
Philadelphia, Penna.

Dear sir:

The material covered by your letters of June 23 and 27 is going forward today by freight - Penna R.R. We are unable to comply with your request and ship by motor truck, due to the fact that this method of shipping where cartridges are concerned is dangerous.

Enclosed are receipted invoices together with affidavit of export which you will kindly have executed and returned to us at the earliest possible date. If this document is not in our hands within a reasonable length of time it will be necessary for us to issue additional invoice covering the 10% Government Excise Tax. Therefore, your prompt attention to this matter will be appreciated.

Trusting the shipment will reach you promptly, and thanking you again for the order, we remain

Yours very truly

COLT'S PATENT FIRE ARMS MFG. CO.

Order Department

J. Dionne
H.B.

P.S. We might state that in the event of non-execution of the affidavit of exporter, the U.S. Gov't Tax of 10% applies to small arms only.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

encl. 1
2657-Q-334/69

Copia.

6250

(COPY)

Established 1836.
COLT'S PATENT FIRE ARMS MANUFACTURING CO.
Hartford, Conn., U.S.A.

Republica de Cuba
Secretaria de la Guerra y Marina
Ejercito

Shop Orden F.O. 3323.

Date 7/1/31

Sold To
Mr. E.N. Robaina,
% R.F. Sedgley, Inc.,
2311 N. 16th Street,
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Code	No.	Gross Net
Package)		
Box)		
22 cases	1	373
Mack.	2	106
	3	209
	4	46
	5 to 22	1458

Letter 6/23/31 & 6/27/31.

Shipped via FRT P.R.R.

Customer's Orden No.	Description	Cat. No.	Quantity	Unit Price	Amount
			1		1,425.00
	Colt anti-aircraft water-cooled Machine Gun Cal. 50 Mounted On Government anti-aircraft tripod, with field spare parts and accessories. No. W 1018.				
	SPARE PARTS.		1		
	Bolt holding pawl pin		2		
	" " " springs		1		
	Bolt handle		1		
	Buffer piston leather washer		1		
	Cocking lever pin		1		
	Cover extractor spring		1		
	Driving spring		1		
	Ejector		2		
	Ejector spring		2		
	Ejector pins		2		
	Firing pins		1		
	Cocking lever		1		
	Firing pin extension		2		
	" " springs		2		
	" " pins		1		
	Sear		2		
	Sear spring		1		
	Steam plug complete with chains and S hooks		1		
	Water plug complete with chains and S hooks				
	ACCESSORIES.		4		
	Ammunition boxes 100 capacity		4		
	" bolts " "		1		
	Cleaning rods		1		
	Pin can for gun oil		1		
	Pair cutting pliers 5"		1		
	Rawhide mallet		1		
	Steam condensing device		1		
	Water box		1		
	Drift		1		
	Oil can for filling oil buffer		1		
	Pin can for buffer oil pieces abestos packing		1		
	Combination wrench		10		
	38" long		1		
	Spanner wrench 6"		1		1,687.50
	Tool box for spare parts and accessories		4500		50.00
	Cartridge for abowe		10	5.00	45.00
	Extra feed bolts		9	5.00	110.50
	Extra boxes		1		3,317.50
	Belt loading machine # 63		Amount fowwarded		

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
SEP 24 1931
2657-J-330
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WAR DEPARTMENT
SEP 16 1931

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to No.
Op-16-A
S78-1/EF19(9-14)

Confidential

From: Director of Naval Intelligence.
To : Chief of Staff, G-2,
Military Intelligence Division.

SUBJECT: Shipment of arms and ammunition to Cuba for use of the revolutionary forces.

Enclosure: (a) Naval Intelligence letter to Commandant, 3rd Naval District.
(b) Letter of Commandant, 3rd Naval District to Director of Naval Intelligence.

1. The attached correspondence is self-explanatory. The information contained in the latter part of paragraph 2 of reference (b) was conveyed to the Cuban Military Attaché. He will endeavor to obtain from his government the lot numbers of the ammunition in question. Upon receipt of this information additional endeavors will be made by this office to trace this ammunition. If the War Department can furnish any information on the above it will be much appreciated.

Hayne Ellis
Hayne Ellis

Executive Officer G/2 W.D. SEP 18 1931

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

panel 1

Headquarters of the
COMMANDANT THIRD NAVAL DISTRICT
New York

2657-g-330

21

CONFIDENTIAL

14 September, 1931.

From: Commandant, Third Naval District.
To : Director of Naval Intelligence.

SUBJECT: Shipment of arms and ammunition to Cuba, for the use of the Revolutionary Forces.

Reference: (a) Your letter Op-16-A of 4 September, 1931.

1. Referring to paragraph 2 of reference, it is believed that the red band around the boxes is the regular mark for ball ammunition for government use. It is thought that the Frankfort Arsenal uses this mark. However, from side markings, it is believed that this ammunition was manufactured by the National Brass and Copper Tube Company, Incorporated, Hastings on the Hudson, New York, which firm manufactured ammunition for the Army during the war. The ammunition of this company held by the Army was declared Grade No. 3 (equivalent to unfit for use), and ordered broken up and salvaged about April 1925. However, it is rumored that much of it was not broken up, and the lot referred to was probably some of this.

2. The National Brass and Copper Company was formerly headed by a Mr. Perot who is now dead. His son, formerly a major in the Ordnance Department, is Edward S. Perot, 279 North Broadway, Yonker, New York. The Perot Estate is listed in the telephone book as 30 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York, Telephone - Neperhan 4745. The only way to trace this lot is for the Cuban officials to open the boxes, ascertain the lot numbers from the small cards inside, whereupon the lots can probably be traced by the Ordnance Department of the Army. Similar action could be taken by obtaining the numbers of the Springfield rifles.

3. Kleanbore is a Remington trade-mark.

E. K. Lang,
Commander, U. S. Navy,
By direction.

Reference (b)

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

encl 2

SEP 24 2657-g-330 1931

WAR DEPARTMENT

Op-16-A
S78-1/EF19

Confidential

From: Director of Naval Intelligence.
To : Commandant, Third Naval District.
641 Washington Street,
New York, N. Y.

SUBJECT: Shipment of Arms and Ammunition to Cuba, for the use of the Revolutionary Forces.

1. On 3 September, 1931, the Cuban Military Attaché came to this Office and requested our assistance in tracing the sources of certain ammunition that was captured by the Cuban Government Forces at Gibara, Cuba. The ammunition in question was landed by the Swedish Ship ILSE VORMAUOR. This vessel had apparently proceed from Cuba to Halifax and then to the vicinity of New York where she stayed for a short time - it is probably that the ammunition in question was loaded during this period.

2. All of the boxes captured had a red band about four inches in width around them. Six hundred cases of 30 calibre were marked as follows on top:

Commanding Officer,
U. S. Naval Station,
Long Island, N. Y.

On the side:

1,000 calibre 30 ball carbridges
Modelo 1906
For model 1903 rifle
Nacional Brass and copper Tube Co., Inc.
Hartings, on-Hudson N.Y.
Lote No.-

Various cases of the same calibre ammunition had the following marks on the side:

1,000 30 Springfield
Modelo 1906.
Kleanbore
150 gran
Metal.

Tyuenca (9)

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

SUBJECT: Shipment of Arms and Ammunition to Cuba, for the use of the Revolutionary Forces.

3. In addition to the above there was a gas field gun, a number of Vickers and Lewis machine guns, new Springfield 30 calibre rifles and Remington 30 calibres - the latter two were not marked in any way to show their source of origin.

4. From papers captured with this ammunition, it appears that a great portion was supplied by the Colt Co. and consigned to Mr. E. N. Rovaina, Care of Mr. R. F. Sedgley, Inc., 2311 North 16th Street, Philadelphia, Penn., on July 1st, 1931.

5. The entire matter has been referred to the State Department and it is the intention of that Department to get in touch with the Cuban Embassy to obtain all necessary information.

6. It is desired, however, that the Commandant endeavor to ascertain in particular the origin of the 600 cases of 30 calibre marked on the top "Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Station, Long Island, N.Y." Any other information that may be obtained in reference to this shipment would be of value to the State Department.

W. Baggaley

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2
RHS

G-2/2657-G-330

2657-f-330

72

September 19, 1931.

Subject: Shipment of Arms and Ammunition to Cuba for Use of the Revolutionary Forces.

To: Director of Naval Intelligence, Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

1. In reply to your letter from Office of Naval Intelligence, file No. Op-16-A, 378-1/EF19 (9-14), dated September 16, 1931, subject "Shipment of Arms and Ammunition to Cuba for Use of the Revolutionary Forces", inclosed is self-explanatory report No. 3607 from our Military Attache in Cuba on same subject, dated September 8, 1931, together with copies of four documents found among the personal effects of Carlos Mevia, one of the leaders of the Gibara expedition, which may be of assistance to you.

2. This report and accompanying papers have already been referred to the Ordnance Department of the Army for investigation, particularly as to the source of supply of the Springfield rifles, but reply has not as yet been received.

3. The State Department has also been furnished copies of the above report and attached papers.

4. Our Ordnance Department has this date been requested to furnish any information available concerning the 600 boxes of Springfield .30 cal. ammunition stamped "Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Station, Long Island." On receipt of any information it will be forwarded to your office.

MAILED G/2 W. D. SEP 21 1931

ALFRED T. SMITH,
Colonel, General Staff,
A.C. of S., G-2.

5 Incls.
Report No. 3607, M/A, Cuba.
Bill for shipment of arms from Colt's Fire Arms Co. to E.H.Robbins, Phila.
Invoice" " " " " " " " " " " "
Letter, re Exporter's affidavit re " " " " " " " " " " " "

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ALL COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY CARBON COPY AND ADDRESSED TO

GPW/ks

TO INSURE PROMPT ATTENTION
IN REPLYING REFER TO

No.

ATTENTION OF

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE
WASHINGTON

2657-J-330 73

WAR DEPARTMENT
SEP 24 1931

September 22, 1931.

4021.2
332

Memorandum for: Latin American Section,
The Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2,
War Department.

Subject: Ordnance Materiel in the hands of the Cuban Revolutionary Forces.

2657-J-330/69

1. With reference to Report No. 3607 from the Military Attache, Havana, dated September 8, 1931, and letter from the Navy Department, Office of Naval Intelligence, dated September 16, 1931, this office has no information as to the manner in which such arms and ammunition were obtained by the Revolutionary Forces. In order to pursue the investigation further, these reports are being forwarded to Springfield Armory and Frankford Arsenal, which are the places of manufacture for the Springfield rifle and the caliber .30 ammunition, respectively. Upon receipt of information from these arsenals, you will be informed as to the results of the investigation.

For the Chief of Ordnance:

RECEIVED
1931 SEP 25 AM 9 36
M.I.D. RECORD SECTION

C. M. Wesson,
Lt. Colonel, Ordnance Department,
Assistant.

Copy retained in Latin Amer. Section. 9/25/31

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DIRECTS ANSWERS TO THIS RADIO AS FOLLOWS:
ADVISE WITHIN 12 HOURS if answer is unnecessary.
If answer is NOT SENT WITHIN 7 DAYS REASON MUST BE STATED.
C. H. BRIDGES,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

Copies furnished as noted:

C-2
TAG

RADIOGRAM

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.

BFS Code Received at the War Department. SEP 28 1931

2657-G-330
74

WN 29 RCA August 10, 1931. WAR DEPARTMENT M.

From 4:30 P.

To Havana,

The adjutant General.

CONFIDENTIAL

Number 23. August 10th.

Martial law declared in the City of Havana and the Province of Pinar del Rio as the result of efforts on the part of opposition to start organized revolutionary movement. Arrests ordered for opposition leaders including Colonel Mendieta, Generals Menocal and Mariana Gomez who can not be found and are reported to be in the interior organizing revolutionary forces. Serious disorder in Havana Sunday when police tried to seize guns and ammunition resulting in five deaths and many casualties. Declaring of martial law has had quieting effect.

Quesada.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
By authority Letter of Dec. 18, 1963, from DAGO-D Archivist
By
Date 12-11-69

FORM NO. 0 635-3-A.G.O.
ED. MAY 15, 1922.

X INDICATES RADIO ROUTED FOR ACTION; / FOR INFORMATION

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DIRECTS ANSWERS TO THIS RADIO AS FOLLOWS:

ADVISE WITHIN 12 HOURS if answer is unnecessary.

If answer is NOT SENT WITHIN 7 DAYS REASON MUST BE STATED.

C. H. BRIDGES,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

Copies furnished as noted:

G-2 X
The Adj Ge n V

RADIOGRAM

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.

Cod Received at the War Department. LMB

8
2657-9-330
25

August 12, 1931 1931

WAR DEPARTMENT M.

7

From 1:25 P

To Havana

The Adjutant General file

WN 15

CONFIDENTIAL

Number 24 Aug 12th

Constitutional guarantee suspended and martial law declared throughout island. Continous clashes between small groups of Revolutionary Forces and Army occurring in Pinar del Rio and Santa Clara with Army victorious in every case. Other provinces quiet. Government position strong.

Quesada

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
By authority letter of Dec. 13, 1963, from AGO to Archivist
By [illegible]
Date 8-24-69

X INDICATES RADIO ROUTED FOR ACTION; / FOR INFORMATION

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DIRECTS ANSWERS TO THIS RADIO AS FOLLOWS:
ADVISE WITHIN 12 HOURS if answer is unnecessary.
If answer is NOT SENT WITHIN 7 DAYS REASON MUST BE STATED.
C. H. BRIDGES,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

Copies furnished as noted:

G-2 X
TAG V

RADIOGRAM

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.

Received at the War Department LMB

2657-J-330

SEP 26 1931

August 15, 1931 76 M.

WAR DEPARTMENT

7

From 12:45 P

To Havana

The Adjutant General

CONFIDENTIAL

Number 25 August 15th

General Menocal Colonel Mendieta and follower(s) captured by Army Troops in Pinar del Rio Minor disturbances continue to occur.

Quesada

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
By authority letter of Dec. 18, 1963, from TAGO to Archivist
By
Date 6-24-69

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DIRECTS ANSWERS TO THIS RADIOGRAM AS FOLLOWS:
ADVISE WITHIN 12 HOURS if answer is unnecessary.
If answer is NOT SENT WITHIN 7 DAYS REASON MUST BE STATED.

C. H. BRIDGES,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

Copies furnished as noted:

G-2 X
TAG V

RADIOGRAM

SEP 23 1931
2657-G-330
WAR DEPARTMENT

Code Received at the War Department. LMB 77

August 19, 1931 M. 7

From

To Havana 3:30 P

The Adjutant General

WN 28 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ file

Number 26 August 19th

See Embassy's cable to State Department this date re revolutionary activities.

Quesada

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
By authority letter of Dec. 18, 1963, from TAGO to Archivist
By [illegible] 6-24-69
Date

Executive Officer G/2 W.D. AUG 20 1931

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DIRECTS ANSWERS TO THIS RADIOGRAM FOLLOWS:
ADVISE WITHIN 12 HOURS if answer is unnecessary.
If answer is NOT SENT WITHIN 7 DAYS REASON MUST BE STATED.
C. H. BRIDGES,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

Copies furnished as noted:

G-2 X
TAG V

RADIOGRAM

BFS

Received at the War Department 2657-9-330 1931

Code-

August 19, 1931. 78 WAR DEPARTMENT M.

WX 36 RCA

From 8:00 P.

To Havana,

The Adjutant General.

CONFIDENTIAL

Number 27. August 19th.

Cibara taken by government troops, also insurgents leaders and large quantity of arms. See second Embassy cable of today 160 State Department.

Quesada

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
By authority letter of Dec. 18, 1963, from TAGO to Archivist
By NNE 6-24-69
Date

Executive Officer G/2 W.D. AUG 20 1931

FORM NO. O 635-3-A.G.O.
ED. MAY 15, 1922.

X INDICATES RADIO ROUTED FOR ACTION; ✓ FOR INFORMATION

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

FORM 1908-L

E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS & COMPANY
INCORPORATED
SMOKELESS POWDER DEPARTMENT
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

MILITARY SALES DIVISION

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
OCT 10 1931
265)-G-330
79
WAR DEPARTMENT
7

October 3, 1931

Col. Alfred Smith
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
1734 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Col. Smith:

A recent personal letter from an exceptionally well informed source, conveys the following information:

"When the writer was in Cuba recently he learned of the .50 caliber gun which was siezed from the rebels at Gibara. In addition to this gun the Cuban Government has two .50 caliber guns which are mounted at the point opposite Morro Castle. These guns and ammunition for them were supplied by the United States Ordnance Department over a year ago, but we do not know the exact date."

It has been reported that the .50 caliber ammunition captured by the Cuban Army from the rebels at Gibara was manufactured by the Remington Arms Company in the United States. However this may be, it was not sold by the Remington Arms Company, and a report to that effect has been rendered to General Alberto Herrera, Chief of Staff, Cuban Army.

Very truly yours,

Aiken Simons

AIKEN SIMONS.

RECEIVED
1931 OCT 6 AM 11 07
M.I.D. SECTION

AS:LCM

C.C. sent to M.A. Cuba as encl. to letter fr. L.A. Sect, 10/19/31.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
OCT 10 1931

2657-G-330
80

WAR DEPARTMENT

7

October 7, 1931.

Lieut-Colonel Aiken Simons,
E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company,
Wilmington, Delaware.

Dear Colonel Simons:

Receipt of your letter of October 3d concerning .50 caliber guns and ammunition in the possession of Cuba is acknowledged. Appreciating this information and your interest in the matter, I am

Very sincerely,

Alfred T. Smith,
Colonel, General Staff,
A. C. of S., G-2.

hbr

MAILED G/2 W. D. OCT 10 1931

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

ALL COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY CARBON COPY AND ADDRESSED TO JCG/KB
OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.

TO INSURE PROMPT ATTENTION
IN REPLYING REFER TO

No.

ATTENTION OF

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE
WASHINGTON

2-1 OCT 14 2657-G-330 1931
81

WAR DEPARTMENT

October 13, 1931.

Tcds

WAR DEPT. 10 2. 2 330 OCT 13 1931

Subject: Springfield Rifles and Caliber .30 Ammunition in the Hands of the Cuban Revolutionary Forces.

To: The A.C. of S., G-2, War Department.

2657-G-330 69

1. With reference to attached Report No. 3607 from the Military Attache in Cuba, the caliber .30 rifles, M1903 referred to in the report are in all probability not standard Army rifles. Under the present system rifles which become unserviceable and are condemned are dismounted, the wooden parts burned, and the metal parts sold for junk. The scrap pile is sold from time to time on open bids at public auction. It is believed that this junk is purchased either directly or indirectly by F. Bannerman & Sons, of New York. The damaged metal parts are resold and parts in good condition are retained and used in reconstructing or rebuilding other rifles. This information was obtained from Mr. Scott by an agent of the Department of Justice in 1928. At that time Mr. Scott was the general sales manager of F. Bannerman & Sons. Rifles advertised and sold by F. Bannerman & Sons are not of genuine government manufacture.

2. With reference to the 12 rifles, serial numbers of which were given in the M. A. Report, please note that the records of Springfield Armory have been examined in connection therewith and information as available is summarized on the attached tabulation.

3. With reference to the attached copy of letter from the Office of Naval Intelligence, Navy Department, all lots of caliber .30 ball ammunition, M1906, manufactured by the National Brass & Copper Tube Company were declared unserviceable in March 1923. This office has no record of Lots 223 to 389, inclusive, insofar as location in storage is concerned at the time of placing the ammunition in Grade 3. As an

→ Carbon returned to Record Section 11/10/31 RHS

10/9/31 Carbon retained in Latin Amer. Section (Sent to O.N.I. to note & return) RHS/acg

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

expression of opinion only, it is believed that certain lots which for one reason or another were never delivered to the Government may have been sold by the manufacturers to some commercial organization such as, for example, F. Bannerman & Sons. A report from the Cuban authorities of the lot numbers in question might possibly provide a check on this. It should be noted that 76 lots of ammunition manufactured by the National Brass & Copper Tube Company were rejected on acceptance tests and consequently were never delivered to the Government.

For the Chief of Ordnance:

C. M. Wesson,
Lieut. Colonel, Ordnance Department,
Assistant.

IN
OCT 13 1931

3 Incls.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
OCT 14 1931
2657-J-330
81
WAR DEPARTMENT

U. S. RIFLES, Caliber .30, M1903

Serial Number	Chest Number	Date	Entry
133864-SA	43276	8/17/08	Inv. #227, 2/13/09 - 6000 Rifles. To - C.O. Benicia Arsenal, Calif.
261249-SA	37866	5/2/08	Inv. #485, 11/23/08 - 2000 Rifles. To - C.O. Benicia Arsenal, Calif.
291993-SA	33626	3/28/08	Inv. #517, 3/31/08 - 8900 Rifles To - Governor, State of Pa.
317952-SA	23909	1/7/08	No entry
357971-SA	47598	12/26/08	Inv. #1114, 6/14/17 - 7076 Rifles To: C.O., 47th to 50th Inf., Syracuse, N. Y.
440390-SA	62122	10/10/10	Inv. #478, 5/13/12 - 6000 Rifles To - C.O., Frankford Arsenal, Pa.
528425-SA	71729	1/13/13	Inv. #508, 5/20/13, Schuylkill Arsenal, Pa.
530411-SA	71902	1/22/13	Inv. #508, 5/30/13 - Schuylkill Arsenal, Pa.
628803-SA	81782	9/25/16	No entry
733885-SA	91118	11/23/17	Inv. #1781, 12/21/17 - 449 Rifles To - Supply Officer, 3rd Div., Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.
763737-SA	94082	1/15/18	Inv. #293, 1/19/18 - 15300 Rifles To - C.O., 68 Hudson Street, Hoboken, N. J., marked for Ordnance Base Depot, A.E.F.
770481-SA	94943	1/17/18	Inv. #293, 1/19/18 - See above.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT
Latin American Section

9/19/31

Secretary of War
Assistant Secretary of War
Assistant Secretary of War (Air)
G-1
G-3
G-4
War Plans Division
Statistics Branch
Adjutant General's Dept.
Army Industrial College
Army War College
Air Corps (Liaison Officer)
Cavalry
Chemical Warfare Service
Coast Artillery Corps
Corps of Engineers
Command & General Staff School
Field Artillery
Finance
Infantry
Inspector General's Dept.
Insular Affairs
Judge Advocate General's Dept.
Militia Bureau
Office of Naval Intelligence
Ordnance Dept.
Quartermaster General's Dept.
Signal Corps
Surgeon General's Office

State Dept.:
Eastern Europe
Western Europe
Near East
Latin America
Far East
Mexican Affairs

Commerce Dept.:
Foreign & Domestic Commerce
Aeronautics

TAP

For your information and file
Note and return
Note and send to

Any information you can furnish G-2 regarding the 600 boxes of Springfield ammunition stamped "Commanding Officer, N.D. Naval Station, Long Island" will be appreciated. In this connection see copy of Report No 3607 from our M/A in Cuba also furnished you. TAP

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

(COPY)

NAVY DEPARTMENT
Office of Naval Intelligence
Washington

Op-16-A
S78-1/EF19(9-14)

September 16, 1931

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Director of Naval Intelligence.
To: Chief of Staff, G-2,
Military Intelligence Division.

SUBJECT: Shipment of arms and ammunition to Cuba for use of the revolutionary forces.

Enclosure: (a) Naval Intelligence letter to Commandant, 3rd Naval District.
(b) Letter of Commandant, 3rd Naval District to Director of Naval Intelligence.

1. The attached correspondence is self-explanatory. The information contained in the latter part of paragraph 2 of reference (b) was conveyed to the Cuban Military Attache. He will endeavor to obtain from his government the lot numbers of the ammunition in question. Upon receipt of this information additional endeavors will be made by this office to trace this ammunition. If the War Department can furnish any information on the above it will be much appreciated.

(Signed) HAYNE ELLIS

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

(COPY)

4 Sept 31

Op-16-A
S78-1/EF19

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Director of Naval Intelligence.
To: Commandant, Third Naval District.
641 Washington Street,
New York, N.Y.

SUBJECT: Shipment of Arms and Ammunition to Cuba, for the use of the Revolutionary Forces.

1. On 3 September, 1931, the Cuban Military Attache came to this Office and requested our assistance in tracing the sources of certain ammunition that was captured by the Cuban Government Forces at Gibara, Cuba. The ammunition in question was landed by the Swedish ship ILSE VORMAUCR. This vessel had apparently proceeded from Cuba to Halifax and then to the vicinity of New York where she stayed for a short time - it is probable that the ammunition in question was loaded during this period.

2. All of the boxes captured had a red band about four inches in width around them. Six hundred cases of 30 calibre were marked as follows on top:

Commanding Officer,
U. S. Naval Station,
Long Island, N.Y.

On the side:

1,000 calibre 30 ball cartridges
Model 1906
For model 1903 rifle
National Brass and Copper Tube Co., Inc.
Hastings, on-Hudson, N.Y.
Lot No.-

Various cases of the same calibre ammunition had the following marks on the side:

1,000 30 Springfield
Model 1906
Kleanbore
150 grain
Metal.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

SUBJECT: Shipment of Arms and Ammunition to Cuba, for the use of the Revolutionary Forces.

3. In addition to the above there was a gas field gun, a number of Vickers and Lewis machine guns, new Springfield 30 calibre rifles and Remington 30 calibres - the latter two were not marked in any way to show their source of origin.

4. From papers captured with this ammunition, it appears that a great portion was supplied by the Colt Co. and consigned to Mr. E.M. Rovaina, Care of Mr. R. F. Sedgley, Inc., 2311 North 16th Street, Philadelphia, Penn., on July 1st, 1931.

5. The entire matter has been referred to the State Department and it is the intention of that Department to get in touch with the Cuban Embassy to obtain all necessary information.

6. It is desired, however, that the Commandant endeavor to ascertain in particular the origin of the 600 cases of 30 calibre marked on the top "Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Station, Long Island, N.Y." Any other information that may be obtained in reference to this shipment would be of value to the State Department.

W. Baggaley

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

(COPY)

Headquarters of the
COMMANDANT THIRD NAVAL DISTRICT
New York

CONFIDENTIAL 14 September, 1931.

From: Commandant, Third Naval District.
To: Director of Naval Intelligence.

SUBJECT: Shipment of arms and ammunition to Cuba, for the use of the Revolutionary Forces.

Reference: (a) Your letter Op-16-A of 4 September, 1931.

1. Referring to paragraph 2 of reference, it is believed that the red band around the boxes is the regular mark for ball ammunition for government use. It is thought that the Frankfort Arsenal uses this mark. However, from side markings, it is believed that this ammunition was manufactured by the National Brass and Copper Tube Company, Incorporated, Hastings on the Hudson, New York, which firm manufactured ammunition for the Army during the war. The ammunition of this company held by the Army was declared Grade No. 3 (equivalent to unfit for use), and ordered broken up and salvaged about April 1925. However, it is rumored that much of it was not broken up, and the lot referred to was probably some of this.

2. The National Brass and Copper Company was formerly headed by a Mr. Perot who is now dead. His son, formerly a major in the Ordnance Department, is Edward S. Perot, 279 North Broadway, Yonker, New York. The Perot Estate is listed in the telephone book as 30 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York, Telephone -- Neperhan 4745. The only way to trace this lot is for the Cuban officials to open the boxes, ascertain the lot numbers from the small cards inside, whereupon the lots can probably be traced by the Ordnance Department of the Army. Similar action could be taken by obtaining the numbers of the Springfield rifles.

3. Kleanbore is a Remington trade-mark.

E. K. Lang,
Commander, U.S. Navy,
By direction.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
OCT 30 1931
WAR DEPARTMENT

2657-2-330
2061

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT
Latin American Section

10/19/31

Secretary of War
Assistant Secretary of War
Assistant Secretary of War (Air)
G-1
G-3
G-4
War Plans Division
Statistics Branch
Adjutant General's Dept.
Army Industrial College
Army War College
Air Corps (Liaison Officer)
Cavalry
Chemical Warfare Service
Coast Artillery Corps
Corps of Engineers
Command & General Staff School
Field Artillery
Finance
Infantry
Inspector General's Dept.
Insular Affairs
Judge Advocate General's Dept.
Militia Bureau
Office of Naval Intelligence ✓
Ordnance Dept.
Quartermaster General's Dept.
Signal Corps
Surgeon General's Office

State Dept.:
- Eastern Europe
- Western Europe
- Near East
- Latin America
- Far East
- Mexican Affairs

Commerce Dept.:
- Foreign & Domestic Commerce
- Aeronautics

TSH

For your information and file ✓
Note and return
Note and send to

Have you obtained list numbers of Springfield ammunition from Cuban attache as yet? Tell your letter is as of Sept 16.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OCT 14 1931
WAR DEPARTMENT

October 13, 1931.

Subject: Springfield Rifles and Caliber .30 Ammunition in the Hands of the Cuban Revolutionary Forces.

To: The A.C. of S., G-2, War Department.

1. With reference to attached Report No. 3607 from the Military Attache in Cuba, the caliber .30 rifles, M1903 referred to in the report are in all probability not standard Army rifles. Under the present system rifles which become unserviceable and are condemned are dismounted, the wooden parts burned, and the metal parts sold for junk. The scrap pile is sold from time to time on open bids at public auction. It is believed that this junk is purchased either directly or indirectly by F. Bannerman & Sons, of New York. The damaged metal parts are resold and parts in good condition are retained and used in reconstructing or rebuilding other rifles. This information was obtained from Mr. Scott by an agent of the Department of Justice in 1928. At that time Mr. Scott was the general sales manager of F. Bannerman & Sons. Rifles advertised and sold by F. Bannerman & Sons are not of genuine government manufacture.

2. With reference to the 13 rifles, serial numbers of which were given in the M. A. Report, please note that the records of Springfield Armory have been examined in connection therewith and information as available is summarized on the attached tabulation. (omitted) Name sent to Navy.

3. With reference to the attached copy of letter from the Office of Naval Intelligence, Navy Department, all lots of caliber .30 ball ammunition, M1906, manufactured by the National Brass & Copper Tube Company were declared unserviceable in March 1923. This office has no record of Lots 223 to 389, inclusive, insofar as location in storage is concerned at the time of placing the ammunition in Grade 3. As an

OCT 22 1931

S78-1/EF19(10-13)

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

expression of opinion only, it is believed that certain lots which for one reason or another were never delivered to the Government may have been sold by the manufacturers to some commercial organization such as, for example, F. Bannerman & Sons. A report from the Cuban authorities of the lot numbers in question might possibly provide a check on this. It should be noted that 76 lots of ammunition manufactured by the National Brass & Copper Tube Company were rejected on acceptance tests and consequently were never delivered to the Government.

For the Chief of Ordnance:

C. M. Wesson,
Lieut. Colonel, Ordnance Department,
Assistant.

3 Incls.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Gen. Delivery Carneter N.J.
Aug 18th 1931

2607-2-330
83
WAR DEPARTMENT
1931

To: Chief of Staff G. 2.
From Andrew DeGraux.
Subject: Cuban Revolution: Rebels at Trinidad

Todays dispatches bring reports of concentration of rebels in Santa Clara Province near Trinidad and in Eastern Cuba near Holguin.

The section of Cuba near Trinidad between that city and Cienfuegos is especially adapted to guerilla warfare - and due to its broken terrain difficult for military operations.

The Lomas de Trinidad or Hills of Trinidad are cut by numerous small streams, which have worn their way down through the soft rock to form deep defiles with perpendicular sides. The Hanabanilla flowing west by south (the Hanabanilla to all are in this river and supply the City of Cienfuegos with electricity) and the Rio de Ay flowing east by south are typical. The Rio de Ay issues from a cavern containing a large pool which apparently makes entrance impossible - it is possible however to find an entrance to the right of the pool - there is room in the cavern to hide quite a body of men or a cache. Near the source of the Rio de Ay a Cuban country man whose first name is Andrés has a small coffee plantation.

Andrew DeGraux

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

San Delivery Camden N.J.
Aug 18th 1931

To: Chief of Staff G. 2.
From: Andrew De Graux
Subject: Cuban Revolution: Capture of Gs
& President Menocal:

Dispatches re Capture of Ex Pres.
Menocal & Staff-hold promise
of an early termination of the
present revolt. This capture
should however be considered in
the light of the revolution of
1906 against Tomás Estrada Palma
by José Miguel Gomez. Government
attention was concentrated on
José Miguel Gomez (while rebels
formed and bettered their organization
elsewhere) and Gomez was made
prisoner. As a prisoner he
was able to continue safely
the direction of the revolution:
Menocal could do the same.

Of course the opposition party
in Cuba will always be the strongest
- after it is certain that there are
no more political jobs to be given
out

Andrew De Graux

The American Cuban is too well known
to offer information on him:

2657-2-330

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2
CAR/AMB
2657-2-330
84

G-2/2657-Q-330

August 27, 1931.

Mr. Andrew DeGraux,
General Delivery,
Camden, New Jersey.

My dear Mr. DeGraux:

We are in receipt of your two letters of August 18, 1931, on the Cuban revolution,- one concerning the capture of ex-President Menocal and the other relative to a reported concentration of rebels at Trinidad.

Your comments afford very interesting background, and we are most appreciative of their value and your kindness in furnishing them.

Very truly yours,

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

Wm. H. WILSON,
Colonel, General Staff,
Acting Executive Officer, G-2.

cp

MAILED G/2 W. D. AUG 27 1931

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Report 3600-a

4-1 2657-9-330

NOV 30
WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED O/2 W. D. NOV 30 1931

1. During the past ten days there has been little, if any, actual progress made toward bringing about a "rapprochment" between the Government and the Opposition. In fact, if anything, the situation is more strained now than at the time of the rendering of my last report on this subject.

2. For some time Sr. Antonio Mendozo has been trying to bring about an understanding between the Government and the Opposition, and it was understood he was to have held a conference with those Opposition leaders (General Menocal, Colonel Mendieta and Sr. Mendez Penate) who are still confined in the Cabanas Military Prison. However, to date, nothing of a practical nature has resulted from his endeavors.

3. During the period November 10-November 14, small groups of political prisoners were released from confinement. On November 16th, however, General Alberto Herrera, Chief of Staff, announced that no more political prisoners would be released for some time to come. It is believed that this announcement was the result of the discovery by the Rural Guards of a small boat, on November 14th, which was attempting a landing at the Playa of Santa Fe about fifteen miles east of Havana. The boat, which had a crew of three, was captured, but the persons in it, with the exception of one sailor, a former employee of the Havana Yacht Club, made good their escape. The boat contained two Lewis machine guns and about 2000 rounds of ammunition. As the guns were wrapped in Miami newspapers of November 11th, the natural inference is that another attempt to smuggle arms into Cuba is being made. This attempted landing caused considerable of a sensation at the time, especially in view of the fact that, as far as could be determined, nothing of a revolutionary nature had been discovered on the Island since the suppression of the August outbreak.

4. The press of November 17th reported the sudden departure for the United States of Senator Wilfredo Fernandez and Representatives Evelio del Real and Fidel Alonzo Carnas, Cooperativista Conservatives from the Province of Pinar del Rio, Fernandez being the leader of his Party in the Senate. It was generally believed that these gentlemen embarked upon a "mission of cordiality" with the purpose of conferring with the Opposition leaders who are now in New York City. These leaders include Domingo Capote, Cosme de la Torriente, Miguel Mariano Gomez, Rafael Iturralde, Fernando Ortiz, Ramon Zaydin, Aurelio Alvarez, Juan Espinosa and Rosendo Collazo.

5. On November 17th, the Senate passed the House Bill providing for the immediate creation of a Superior Electoral Tribunal. Editoral comment on the subject in the anti-government press is favorable, without being enthusiastic, and points out that the powers to be conferred on this Tribunal for supervising all electoral operations should increase confidence in the fairness of future elections.

6. There has been no progress in consideration by the Senate of the Constitutional Reform Bill, in spite of President Machado's repeated assurances that its approval by that body would be expedited.

From M. A., Havana No.3630 Date: November 24, 1931.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

7. Bombs continue to be set off in various parts of the city at irregular intervals, but during the past ten days, nothing of a serious nature has resulted from this low form of intimidation.

J. U. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press, and
Personal Contact.

From M. A., Havana No. 3630 Dated: November 24, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

2-1
NOV 28 2657-g-330 1931
-85-
WAR DEPARTMENT
7

CONFIDENTIAL

1st. Ind.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 27 1931

AGO 4/30/31

Office of the Military Attache, Havana, Cuba, November 20, 1931:
To the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.

1. In addition to the .50 caliber machine gun captured at Gibara, the Cuban Army has in its possession four (4) guns of this same type. These guns are not located as stated in attached letter of basic communication. They are located as follows:

Two on the roof of the Presidential Palace.
One at Cabana Fortress.
One on the roof of building formerly occupied by the Secretary of the Treasury and now used as a barracks for the First Battalion of Coast Artillery.
One at Atares Prison.

The location of these guns are shown on the attached map.

2. All of the .50 caliber machine guns now in possession of the Cuban Army are of the Browning model, manufactured by Colt, and each one is equipped with an anti-aircraft mount. They have available approximately 5000 rounds of .50 caliber ammunition for each of these guns.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Encl. 1.

Carbon copy of indorsement withdrawn and filed in
G/A Section Nov 30, 1931
jwt

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2
RHS

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
In replying refer to

G-2/2657-Q-330

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

NOV 28 1931

2657-Q-330
85

October 20, 1931.

WAR DEPARTMENT

7

Subject: Machine Guns and Ammunition -- .50 Caliber.

To: Military Attache, Havana, Cuba.

1. Reference letter of October 3, 1931 from Lieut. Colonel Aiken Simons, MI-Reserve, copy attached, inquiry develops that the two .50 caliber machine guns and ammunition therefor were not furnished by our Ordnance Department.

2. Please verify discreetly if the Cuban Army actually has two .50 caliber machine guns in addition to the one captured at Gibara; if they are located as stated in attached letter; what model or manufacture they are; whether they have antiaircraft mounts or not; and if practicable what ammunition is available for them in addition to that captured at Gibara.

3. From your report No. 3607 and accompanying papers the .50 caliber machine gun captured at Gibara was a Browning model, manufactured by Colt's and equipped with an antiaircraft mount. The 2,000 rounds of .50 caliber ammunition captured at the same time also was furnished by Colt's apparently.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

W. H. Simpson

W. H. SIMPSON,
Major, General Staff,
Executive Officer, G-2.

1 encl.
ml

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

MAP OF HAVANA

WITH LATEST CHANGES

Drawn exclusively for Times of Cuba

Scale - 1 : 7,920

Reproduction Prohibited



Many Havana streets have two or more names, the first being the original, or Spanish, name (used in this map) and the others commemorating distinguished Cubans or world figures or historical events or dates. For lists of both old and new names see Pages 14 and 15 in the Havana telephone guide. Where houses have more than one street number, preference should be given to the number appearing on enamelled plate.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2
RHS

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
2657-Q-330
CONFIDENTIAL
WAR DEPARTMENT

G-2/2657-Q-330

October 20, 1931.

Subject: Machine Guns and Ammunition -- .50 Caliber.

To: Military Attache, Havana, Cuba.

1. Reference letter of October 3, 1931 from Lieut. Colonel Aiken Simons, MI-Reserve, copy attached, inquiry develops that the two .50 caliber machine guns and ammunition therefor were not furnished by our Ordnance Department.

2. Please verify discreetly if the Cuban Army actually has two .50 caliber machine guns in addition to the one captured at Gibara; if they are located as stated in attached letter; what model or manufacture they are; whether they have antiaircraft mounts or not; and if practicable what ammunition is available for them in addition to that captured at Gibara.

2657-Q-330 (69)

3. From your report No. 3607 and accompanying papers the .50 caliber machine gun captured at Gibara was a Browning model, manufactured by Colt's and equipped with an antiaircraft mount. The 2,000 rounds of .50 caliber ammunition captured at the same time also was furnished by Colt's apparently.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

MAILED G/2 W. D. OCT 22 1931

W. H. SIMPSON,
Major, General Staff,
Executive Officer, G-2.

1 encl.
ml

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

CONFIDENTIAL

3020-d.

G-2 Report

4-1 2657-g-330

86

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Armed Revolutionary Movement.

1. In a recent conversation with the Assistant Chief of Staff of the Cuban Army, I was appraised of more detailed information concerning the smuggling of arms into Cuba. (See paragraph 3, report No. 3630, index No. 3600-a, dated Nov. 24, 1931).

2657-g-330/35

2. The shipment consisted of two Browning machine guns with 6000 rounds of .30 caliber ammunition, and 3000 rounds of ammunition for caliber .38 revolvers. Each of the machine guns had two numbers, one on the side and one near the muzzle of the guns. These numbers were as follows:

On the side		In front
No.1 - 14189	- -	11402
No.2 - 20106	- -	20061

I was asked to ascertain whether or not it was possible to trace the sale of these guns, and any information that can be obtained concerning this would be appreciated.

3. In the packing box of one of the machine guns was a printed slip similar to that commonly used for addresses on packages. The slip was from A. Pomerantz & Company, Printers & Engravers, 155 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, and the addressee was P. T. Segle, Inc., 2311 N. 16th Street, Philadelphia. From a reliable source, I have learned that Pomerantz & Company is an old, reliable Philadelphian firm, and it is not believed that it was in any way connected with the shipment of arms in question. However, it is barely possible that the addressee in question might have something to do with this shipment. If any information concerning this can be learned, it would also be appreciated.

4. The .30 caliber ammunition was sent in boxes of 20 rounds each, approximately half of which were from the Winchester Repeating Arms Company and the other half from the Peters Cartridge Company, Cincinnati, Ohio. The .38 caliber ammunition was in boxes of 50 rounds each, and were manufactured by the United States Cartridge Company, New York City. There were no identification numbers of any kind within the boxes, nor was there anything to show when or where purchases of the ammunition were made. Under separate cover, there is being forwarded a sample container of each of the various type of ammunition.

5. While the thought has been expressed that this attempted landing of arms and ammunition was the forerunner of another armed revolutionary movement, the Assistant Chief of Staff (General Lores) is of the opinion that such is not the case, but that the Opposition is now bent on the assassination of President Machado. Having failed in the attempt to overthrow the Government in August, he stated that he thought the leaders of the Opposition were now of the opinion that they could gain their end by this means and that they are going to "leave no stone unturned" until this is an accomplished fact. This theory rather confirms one gained by an officer of the Embassy in a recent conversation with a prominent Cuban, who stated that not only was the Opposition bent on this means of obtaining

From M. A., Havana No. 3633 Dated: November 30, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

control of the Government, but, in view of the chaos that would naturally follow, intended to seek the protection of the American Embassy, in the event of such a turn of events. Every precaution is now being taken to guard the President, but he very often leaves the Palace without any escort other than a few friends in his car. This is causing the Army authorities considerable worry, in view of the ease with which he could be ambushed.

6. The method of the attempted landing of these arms and ammunitions is similar, in the opinion of the Army authorities, to that so successfully employed prior to the August insurrection. The small boats which ply between Cuba and the Florida Coast were used on their northbound trip for smuggling liquor into the United States, and on their southbound trip for the smuggling of arms into Cuba.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Personal Contacts.

From M. A., Havana No. 3633 Dated: November 30, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
OCT 30
2657-2-330 1931
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WAR DEPARTMENT

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to No.
Op-16-B-17
S78-1/EF19(10-13)

OCT 29 1931

From: Director of Naval Intelligence.
To : Chief of Staff, G-2. U.S.A.

SUBJECT: Springfield rifles and caliber .30 ammunition in the hands of the Cuban revolutionary forces.

1. Attached papers are returned. (Cuban colonels desk 61 A&C this file)

2. In reply to question noted at bottom of routing slip, I have to advise that information has not as yet been received from the Cuban Military Attaché.

W. Baggaley,
Acting.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

2657-F-300
87
WAR DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 5 1931

CUBA (Political) 4-1

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

1. President Machado left Havana on November 27th to visit the eastern provinces of Santa Clara, Camaguey and Oriente. According to the announcements in the press, the purpose of his trip was solely to examine the records of all the political prisoners detained in the provincial jails, with the view of ordering the release of all those who did not play a leading role in the August insurrection. Eleven prisoners were released at Santa Clara, fifty-two at Camaguey and thirty-four in Oriente. It is his intention to leave Santiago today, returning to Havana the evening of December 2nd.

2. While many political prisoners were released during the President's journey, it is doubtful whether or not this was the sole motive of his trip. Rumors of increasing uneasiness and discontent in Oriente have been current for several days past, and these were substantially confirmed by the latest report from the Consul at Santiago. If, as seems probable, there is some basis for these rumors, it may be considered a wise move on the part of the President to investigate conditions in that Province at first hand.

3. Unrest is, of course, not limited to the eastern end of the Island. It exists everywhere, and has undoubtedly been augmented by the failure of the Government, up until a few days ago, to pay the salaries due for the month of October. It has always been the custom to pay the salaries of members of Congress before those of other officials and employees of the Government, and the fact that their salaries for October were withheld has created the impression among certain Senators and Representatives that the Government is employing this means to force approval of various Legislative measures, the enactment of which was urgently requested by the President as late as October 5, 1931. It is true that Congress has demonstrated a certain degree of independence in responding to the President's wishes regarding this Legislation. The Senate consumed the month discussing the measure and even then not only failed to approve all its provisions, but substantially modified several others. The House has gotten no further than approving as a separate law the reduction of twenty-five percent in current appropriations for the Legislature, further progress having been halted by a filibuster conducted by Representative Nestor Mendoza, Attorney for the Standard Oil Company, against a Bill already adopted by the Senate, decreasing the import duty and increasing consumption taxes on combustibles.

4. Except for the frequent explosion of bombs, there has been no evidence of disorder during the past week. During the night of November 27th, seven such explosions occurred in and around Havana. This intensification of terrorist activities was temporary and can best be explained by the desire of the radical student element to commemorate the anniversary of the execution of a group of Havana students by the Spaniards on November 27, 1871.

5. On the night of November 26th, tear gas and odoriferous bombs were set off in many places of public entertainment, principally at the moving picture theatres, probably for the purpose of creating a bad impression among the eight hundred tourists who had arrived in Havana on the S. S. "Mauretania" on its first of a series of winter cruises.

From M. A., Havana No. 3635 Dated: December 1,1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

6. Dr. Cosme de la Torriente, one of the most prominent leaders of the Opposition, who has been a resident of New York City for the past several months, arrived in Cuba on the night of November 30th. No information is, as yet, available regarding the purpose of his return, but press comment indicates that President Machado's campaign of cordiality is bearing some fruit and that the purpose of Dr. Torriente's return is that of treating with the Government in order to bring about a "rapprochment" between the two opposing factions.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and Press.

From M. A., Havana No. 3635 Dated: December 1,1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT
NOV 17 1931

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to No.
Op-16-B-3
S78-1/EF19

Confidential

From: Director of Naval Intelligence.
To: Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2,
Military Intelligence Division, War Department.

Subject: Shipment of arms and ammunition to Cuba for use of the Revolutionary Forces.

References: (a) ONI letter, file Op-16-A, S78-1/EF19(9-14) of 16 September 1931.
(b) A.C. of S., G-2, letter No.G-2/2657-Q-330 of 19 September 1931.

1. The following additional information has this date been received in regard to the arms and ammunition in question:

(a) The lot numbers of some of the cases are:

123-102-132-81-118-68-72-14-79-48-54-89-152-77-57-104-95-109-88;

(b) The carton boxes only were marked with the number 315;

(c) The tin containers were opened but no cards were found in them.

Hayne Ellis
HAYNE ELLIS.

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Copy sent to Ordnance Dept. by route slip 11/20/31, for check of lot nos.
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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report

3600-a

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. RTCL. DIV.
NOV 19 1931

4-1 2657-Q-330

88

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. NOV 18 1931

1. In the following paragraphs is given a brief resume of the political situation in Cuba during the months of September and October. No attempt is being made in this resume to cover individual political events during the period under review. Individual reports covering the most important acts during this period will be rendered.

SEPTEMBER

(a) With the exception of the passage by the Lower House of the Constitutional Reform Bill, which was reported by this office at the time of its passage, there were very few political developments during the month.

(b) By the beginning of September the insurrection which occurred in August had been completely put down and public order restored throughout the Island. The following will serve to give some idea of the situation as it appeared at the end of the month:

1. Constitutional guarantees remained suspended and Military Law prevailed in all the Provinces.

2. The University and provincial institutions remained closed.

3. The press was under rigid censorship, as were also domestic telegraph messages.(Censorship on international cable messages had been removed).

4. There were fewer arrests,and many persons incarcerated during the insurrection were released. All of the leaders, however, and an unknown number of their principal subordinates were still being held for trial. No official announcements were made as to when the prisoners would be tried, or whether they would be tried by Civil or Military courts.

5. There were less bombing activities in September than in prior months, but on the last day of the month, the anniversary of the fatal wounding of the student, Rafael Trejo, the explosion of two bombs occurred in the vicinity of the University.

6. There is little hope that the Government's program of Constitutional Reforms will restore confidence in the Administration to the extent of inducing the people to cooperate with the Government in order to combat the constantly increasing economic depression. There was little popular enthusiasm for the Reforms as adopted by the House of Representatives. The Opposition press was not permitted to comment freely on the Reforms, and its half-hearted attempts, under the censorship, to draw attention to the several beneficial features had very little effect on public opinion, which, unable to express itself and deprived of leadership, seems for the time being to have accepted the doctrine of passive resistance.

7. The taking of the census commenced on September 21st., and the work progressed very satisfactorily.

From M. A., Havana No. 3620 Dated: November 13, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OCTOBER

(a) The absence of any important developments of a positive nature during the month may be taken as an indication that the Government is not disposed to pursue a policy designed to conciliate its adversaries until the latter show some sign of willingness to accept the concessions offered in the shape of the proposed Constitutional Reforms.

(b) Excepting for frequent bomb outrages and the reported discovery of seditious conspiracies in Matanzas and Habana towards the close of the month, absolute tranquillity prevailed throughout the Island. A score or more persons were arrested in connection with the events just mentioned and a number of prisoners previously detailed were set free, including one of ex-President Menocal's brothers, who was released on October 31st. At the end of the month the principal leaders of the August insurrection were still in Cabanas prison awaiting trial while those of less importance had been transported to the model prison on the Isle of Pines. Members of the immediate families of the prisoners have been allowed to visit them once a week and furnish them special foods and other provisions. There has been little or no complaint regarding the treatment which these prisoners are receiving.

(c) The Constitutional Reform Bill came up occasionally for debate in the Senate which approved the measure in the first reading on October 22nd. Discussion of this Bill during the month was limited to woman suffrage and the proposed change to a parliamentary form of government. During the latter part of the month consideration of the Reform Bill was "side-tracked" in favor of a Bill proposed by the Executive to permit increased taxation and reduction of the expenses of the Legislature and the Judiciary. By the end of the month the Senate had approved most of the prosivions of these projects and postponed until the end of the month consideration of certain features concerning which controversy had arisen and which it is proposed to embody in separate measures. On October 27th, Senator Wilfredo Fernandez, leader of the so-called Cooperativista Conservatives, submitted a resolution proposing that the debate on the Reforms be suspended indefinitely because of the attitude of the Opposition.

(d) On October 10th, one of Cuba's principal national holidays, the President approved some three hundred pardons and commutations of jail sentences.

(e) The newspapers' freedom of expression continued to be hampered by the censorship which permits the publication of no news or comment inimical to the Government. Of the so-called Opposition papers, three have conducted editorial campaigns advocating the adoption of the Constitutional Reforms. These editorials have not stinted the praise of certain features of the measure although no attempt has been made to conceal regret that other provisions calculated to restore public confidence have been omitted.

(f) The reduction of something over $6,000,000 in this year's departmental appropriations, entailing as it did the dismissal of several thousand Government employees and further reduction in the salaries of those remaining, has naturally not increased the popularity of the Administration.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy

From M. A., Havana No. 3620 Dated: November 13, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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WAR DEPARTMENT

(For Official Use Only)

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G-2 Report

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Agencies for Settlement of Election Disputes.

1. In his message to the Cuban Congress on September 8, 1931, President Machado suggested the creation of a Superior Electoral Tribunal. As a result of this suggestion, the House of Representatives passed a Bill on September 16th, creating this Tribunal, and the Senate on November 17th approved the measure unanimously and without modification.

2. According to the provisions of this Bill, the Tribunal is to be composed of the members of the existing Central Electoral Board (one Justice of the Supreme Court, one Judge of the Audiencia of Habana and one University Professor) with the addition of one Justice of the Supreme Court and one Judge of the Audiencia.

3. The composition of the Tribunal and the authorities conferred upon it is such as to inspire greater confidence in the conduct of the next elections than might otherwise exist, especially in view of the vitiation of the House of Representatives of the proposed transiroty provision delegating to the Supreme Court the selection of a Vice President to serve during the period intervening between the promulgation of the Constitutional Reforms and the beginning of the next Presidential Term.

4. The Tribunal will naturally look to the Executive for the enforcement of its orders and recommendations, but it seems likely that the Executive would be very reluctant to precipitate an open break with a Tribunal which is composed as this one is.

5. On November 26, 1931, the Tribunal took office. It is composed as follows:

Gabriel Vandama, Justice of the Supreme Court. President.

Jose V. Palma Mederos, Justice of the Supreme Court.

Luis Leon Mercochini, Judge of the Audiencia.

Manuel Martinez Escobar, Judge of the Audiencia.

Oscar Garcia Montes, University Professor.

Enrique Roig, Liberal Party.

Mario Diaz Cruz, Conservative Party.

Juan J. Byrne, Popular Party.

6. An English translation of this Law is enclosed herewith.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy

From M. A., Havana No. 3641 Dated: December 4, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

SEP 9 1931
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WAR DEPARTMENT

"C O P Y"

TRANSLATION

BILL PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON SEPTEMBER 16, 1931, CREATING THE SUPERIOR ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL.

ARTICLE I. The present Central Electoral Board shall be entitled hereafter Superior Electoral Tribunal, and shall be constituted by the present members of said Board who are confirmed in their posts, and, also, by a Justice of the Supreme Court and a Justice of the Habana Audiencia elected by their respective full Courts. The presidency shall devolve upon the elder of the two Justices appointed by the Supreme Court.

In addition to the powers which the present Electoral Code grants to the Central Electoral Board, this Tribunal shall have all the powers necessary to guarantee the purity of suffrage by intervening and supervising, when necessary, all electoral acts and operations, in all elections, in the census, in the formation and organization of new parties, as wellas the representation thereof before the electoral bodies, in the reorganization of existing parties and in declarations of candidates; to reduce time periods and to this end to issue whatever instructions, rules and orders it may consider proper, provided that these do not alter, violate or pervert any of the provisions of the Electoral Code itself, and in case of necessity, to recommend to the Executive the transfer of members of the Armed Forces of the Republic, during electoral periods only, when it is duly proved that they have acted with political ends.

ARTICLE II. Against the decisions of this Superior Electoral Tribunal the same appeals which today exist in the Electoral Code against those of the Central Electoral Board, shall be allowed.

ARTICLE III. Whenever in the Electoral Code the words "Central Electoral Board" are used, they shall be understood to be replaced by "Superior Electoral Tribunal".

ARTICLE IV. All provisions which are opposed to the most exact fulfillment of this Law shall have no force or effect, and this law shall take effect from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic.

Sessions Chamber, House of Representatives, September 16, 1931.

Rafael Guas Inclan,
President.

Juan Rodriguez Ramirez,
Secretary.

Jose Alberni,
Secretary

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

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CUBA (Political)

3657-G-330
191
WAR DEPARTMENT

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 15 1931

1. Outwardly, the political situation in Cuba is very calm. Nothing of a serious nature has happened during the past ten days to cause any disturbance of the public peace. Even the throwing of bombs, which was so prevalent during the latter part of November, has ceased for the time being.

2. The President returned from his tour of the Island on December 2nd. Immediately upon his return he ordered the release of one hundred political prisoners in addition to those released during his trip. However, all the real leaders of the revolutionary group are still confined and there is no indication as to when they will be released.

3. While there is still considerable talk of cordiality between the Government and the Opposition group, nothing of a definite nature has yet resulted. Dr. Cosme de la Torriente is still in Havana and is presumably negotiating with representatives of the Administration for some sort of a basis of agreement between the two groups. In a press statement of December 9th he stated that the real leaders of the Opposition were as much opposed to the terroristic activities of the "students" in the setting off of bombs as were the members of the Government forces. He further stated that the type of propaganda and activity now being carried on by this group was very detrimental to the Opposition Cause, especially in the United States, where he found very little sympathy for that type of activity. On the following day, a press dispatch from Miami contained a statement by Domingo Capote in which he said that Cosme de la Torriente was not empowered by the New York group to negotiate for them and that any negotiations carried on with the Government were without their approval. This would seem to indicate that there is a rift in the ranks of the Opposition group.

4. Nothing of a constructive nature has been done by the Cuban Congress during the past ten days. The entire time of the House of Representatives has been taken up in consideration of the Petroleum Bill. Representative Nestor Mendoza has successfully succeeded in not allowing this Bill to come up for a vote. (A separate report on this Bill will be rendered). In the Senate very few sessions have been held and no consideration has been given to the pending Constitutional Reform Bill. As many of the Senators and House members have returned to their homes, it is doubted if anything of a constructive nature will be done until after the Christmas and New Year Holidays.

5. While everything remains quiet, this is not meant to infer that the opposition to the Government is any less than it has been for the past several months. Unrest still exists throughout the entire Island, but during the past ten days there has been no outward manifestation of it.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Press and Personal Contact.

From M. A., Havana No.3644 Dated: December 11, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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NOV 25 1931

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

1. The political situation in Cuba is outwardly very calm and no untoward incident has occurred during the first two weeks of the current month to disturb the tranquillity of the Island.

2. On November 4th the Government released the following named Congressmen of the so-called Orthodox faction of the Conservative Party, who had been confined in Cabanas Fortress since their participation in the insurrection of last August:

Santiago Veidjo
Miguel Aguiar
Jose Meneses
Pedro Martinez Fraga

Five Representatives were arrested at the time of the uprising, but one of them, Manuel Herryman, was set free after a few weeks detention. With the release of the other four, no representatives of Congress now remain in jail. Credit for obtaining their release is attributed to Dr. Guas Inclan, Speaker of the House, whose energetic efforts in their behalf have gained for him the general commendation of all sections of the press. While the majority of the members of Congress hesitated to embarrass the Administration by insisting that their colleagues be set free, the sentiment for their release was very strong, and on several occasions agitation of the question prevented consideration of the pending legislation. Furthermore, the fact that several of the members of Congress were in jail furnished the Opposition with an argument against the opportuneness of discussing the Constitutional Reform Bill. On November 5th ex-Senator Ricardo Dolz, one of the principal Opposition leaders, was set at liberty and, subsequently, a score or more of political prisoners of lesser importance were released.

3. The reaction of the press to the release of these prominent political prisoners was most favorable and was accentuated by the release of Dr. Gustavo Herrera, political editor of El Pais on the same day. As a result of the release of these prominent individuals there seems to prevail a more or less conciliatory attitude among the Opposition element in Congress and probably on the public in general. The problem of reaching an understanding between the Government and the Opposition elements has brought forth declarations from representative members of both factions during the past ten days.

4. President Machado and other spokesmen of his Administration such as Senator Viriato Gutierrez, have frankly emphasized the need for concerted action if the country is to be saved from an economic collapse. These appeals have found a hearty response in all the Cuban press.

5. When the House of Representatives met on November 9th, the Orthodox Conservatives, with the exception of the four who had just been released from jail, were in their seats after an absence lasting since before the August insurrection. While it is true that their leader, Carlos Manuel de la Cruz, in a speech from the Floor, denied that the release of his colleagues constituted any especially important step in a political "rapprochment", he, nevertheless, laid great stress upon the immediate necessity of reaching an accord.

From M. A., Havana No. 3623 Dated: November 14, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

6. In the Senate on November 10th the Committees of the three Parties held an informal meeting at which it was resolved to expedite consideration of the Constitutional Reform Bill. Informal discussion of the provisions of the Bill by the Party groups began on November 11th and is expected to continue for the next several days. It has been announced that the formal debate on each Article will probably commence next week. The press reports state that from day to day meetings are held between persons representing the divergent political points of view, and while the subjects discussed thereat are entirely matters of conjecture, the fact that such conferences are actually taking place, coupled with the other factors already mentioned, tends to create the impression that a serious effort is now being made to arrive at some kind of an adjustment of the conflicting political interests. The repeated failures of similar efforts during the past few years render it impossible to predict the measure of success that will be attained in the present instance. It may, however, be said without exaggeration, that the desire for political peace is now stronger than it has been at any time during the past two years.

F. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press, and
Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3623 Dated: November 14, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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-2 Report

3600-a

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.

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JAN
WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 7

1. At a luncheon of political and military figures in Pinar del Rio on December 22, 1931, President Machado announced his intention to stay in office until the end of his present term, May 20, 1935. This announcement has not occasioned any particular surprise. A few days prior to this date the public press reported a similar statement from the President, which he neither confirmed nor denied; also the official announcement had been rumored for sometime in the past.

2. The President's trip to Pinar del Rio was hailed as a visit of good will similar to the one he recently took through the eastern provinces. On this trip he released about fifteen political prisoners. His announcement at the luncheon was received most enthusiastically by the various guests, consisting of officials of the General Staff and officers of the Army, the Governor of Pinar del Rio, the Mayor of the City of Pinar del Rio, the leaders of the Conservative Party in that Province, and several Senators and politicians. In his speech he stated that a short time ago some Cubans had wishes that he abandon his presidency and he had informed his friends in Congress to create measures for political reform which would give the opportunity of offering the presidency to another person. After a trip through the Republic, however, in which he perceived "the sentiment of the people", he decided it would be mere cowardice on his part to resign before the fulfilment of his present term. The President referred to the recent mortal shooting of a policeman while trying to apprehend a bomb thrower, as an indication that his efforts to achieve a cordial relationship with the Opposition had not been reciprocated.

3. There is still very strict censorship of the Cuban press and no editorial comment on the President's speech has appeared in any of the leading Havana newspapers. The speech, however, was printed in full but not on the front page.

4. In the meantime, there is no indication of any reconciliation on the part of the Opposition. In the past ten days several bombs have been discharged, some of which did considerable property damage but none occasioned any damage to life. The Orthodox Conservatives have issued a proclamation in which a committee headed by Carlos de la Cruz condemned the effort at reorganization of the political parties. This committee believes that any political reorganization is futile at this time when so many political leaders are in jail and points out that the Conservative Party, in particular, is suffering from the imprisonment of its principal leader, ex-President Mario G. Menocal.

5. Ambassador Ferrara has returned to Havana for the holidays. His presence is reported to be linked with Cosme de la Torriente's mission and he has claimed that he is seeking to find a solution of the present unfortunate political situation. He has had several conferences with the President, but as far as can be ascertained, nothing has resulted from them. His interest in Cuba's present problem is self-centered like that of any of the other Cubans in political life.

From M. A., Havana No. 3657 Dated: Dec. 29, 1931.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

During the summer he was wholly occupied with his mission to Japan and other activities of the League of Nations. The world's problems are infinitely more inspiring to Ferrara's talents than the comparatively small part as a world figure that he would play in the solution of Cuba's political ills. Ferrara has endeavored to maintain the status quo, especially during the period of his absence. The means employed by him in this regard have been:

(a) To alarm as far as possible the United States Government by predicting dire consequences in Cuba upon General Machado's retirement, or even upon intimation of his retirement at some time in the future.

(b) To advise Machado that he has nothing to fear from the United States Government, which is not interested in the internal political situation in Cuba.

6. At the present time it seems that Ferrara is looking over the situation to determine how any political changes may affect his future. In the meantime, the President and Ferrara have one immediate problem in mind, which is to find some relief of the problem of foreign debt services. It is quite possible in view of this, that some conciliatory gestures may be made to the Opposition if, by so doing, there will be created a sympathetic attitude on behalf of the United States Government when the Chase Bank reviews the Cuban Public Works debt situation early next month.

7. Somewhat of a sensation was caused last week by a New York press report to the effect that Mayor Walker of New York City was coming to Havana to attempt to solve Cuba's political ills. President Machado, in reply to an inquiry from a New York paper, stated that he knew nothing of Mayor Walker's proposed mission nor did he know of any political difficulties in Cuba other than those existing in all the countries of the world. In today's papers Mayor Walker is quoted as having said that the story of his visit to Cuba was purely fictitious.

8. It now appears that all the work and money involved in trying to bring about the Constitutional Reforms have been for naught. Apparently President Machado is determined to revert to the methods employed by him during the first year of his present term to keep himself in office for the next two and a half years. With the press censored, the Army loyal, and the principal leaders of the Opposition in jail, he should have very little difficulty in continuing for sometime in this manner. However, the economical situation in Cuba has just about reached the breaking point, and how he can get over this most important "hurdle" is impossible to forecast. Unquestionably the Opposition to him is as numerous as it has ever been, but their means of expressing their thoughts are now limited entirely to the word of mouth and an occasional "fly leaf". Furthermore, practically all of the money was used during the August insurrection, and while it is claimed that they still have sufficient arms and ammunition in hiding that was left over from their last futile attempt to overthrow the Government, it is not believed that anything of a definite revolutionary movement is either on foot or being considered at this time.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press, and Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3657 Dated: December 29,1931.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

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RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 9 1932

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

1. On January 4, 1932, all the important political prisoners, excepting General Menocal and Colonel Mendietta, who have been confined in Cabanas Fortress since the insurrection of last August, were released from confinement. This list included Colonel Aurelio Hevia, Colonel Roberto Mendez Penate, Mario Garcia Menocal, the son of General Menocal, Carlos Hevia, son of Colonel Hevia, and Alberto Meneses. None of the prisoners confined to the Model Prison at the Isle of Pines were released. It has been intimated that the two principal figures, General Menocal and Colonel Mendietta, will be released in the near future. It is generally believed that Ambassador Ferrara was instrumental in causing the President to release these men, as the former has been carrying on negotiations with Dr. Cosme de la Torriente for the past ten days. Press reports failed to state whether or not these men were released unconditionally.

2. The work on the reorganization of the political parties was started on January 2nd. According to the Electoral Law this registration must be completed prior to the end of February. However, very little hope is held out that this will become an accomplished fact, due to the many complications that will arise. As an example of this, registrations were postponed in Oriente Province after one day's work, due to protests that the Military was interfering with the inscriptions. The attitude of the Opposition is that it would be impossible to secure a fair inscription for the reorganization of the party in the time allotted. Furthermore, members of the Student Directorate have taken the stand that this work should be vigorously opposed until such time as a "fair registration" can be inaugurated.

3. On the evening of December 30, 1931, an incident occurred in Principe Prison, where several of the minor political offenders are confined, in which the Opposition alleged that many of its members were brutally beaten by hoodlums in the pay of the Government. That some incident of this character did actually occur is borne out by the fact that the Secretary of the Interior has ordered an investigation of the incident and has promised to bring the guilty parties to an accounting.

4. Mr. John T. Wilford, former editor of the Havana American, who it will be recalled left Cuba on January 16, 1931, as a result of a deportation decree of January 14, 1931, has returned to Cuba and has assumed the editorship of the Evening News, an English language newspaper formerly edited by a Mr. Roberds. While only two editions of this newspaper under Mr. Wilford's supervision have thus far appeared, the general tone of them is such as to indicate that he intends to devote considerable space to the political situation in Cuba. This is in direct opposition to the policy of the other two English language newspapers, the Havana Post and the Evening Telegram, which for the past several months have given little or no space to political activities in the Island.

5. During the past several days there have been no bombings reported either in Havana or in the provinces, despite the fact that several thousand American tourists were here over the holidays.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source:
Embassy and Press.

From M. A., Havana No. 3661 Dated: January 5,1932.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

G-2 Report For ~~Official~~ Use Only. 3600-a

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2657-9-330
4-1
WAR DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED G/2 W. D. JAN 1 3 1932

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

1. On January 9th President Machado caused the release of General Mario Menocal and Colonel Carlos Mendieta from the Cabanas Fortress where they have been in confinement since their capture during the insurrection of last August. Their release was not unexpected, as it had been intimated about two weeks ago that all of the political prisoners would soon be released. The release of these two men virtually clears the prisons of all the real leaders of the Opposition, and while a few of the less important ones are still incarcerated, their release is expected in the very early future.

2. There seems to be no real reason why the Opposition should not now enter into the spirit of cordiality which the Government , especially through preachings of Ambassador Ferrara, has been trying to spread during the past two weeks. The Opposition group has persistently stated that there could be no basis for any getting together while the leaders of its group were still in prison. However, judging from past experiences, it is very doubtful if any real spirit of cordiality will prevail. It is known that conversations are being carried on between the representatives of the Government and the Opposition, principally by Ambassador Ferrara and Dr. Cosme de la Torriente, with a view of bringing about political harmony, and while great stress has been laid on the release of the political prisoners, the breach betweem the two groups is still a very wide one.

3. As a further indication of the Government's desire to help solve the political problems, President Machado on January 11th sent a message to the Cuban Congress containing therein a bill for political amnesty. After much discussion in which strict party lines were adhered to, the House of Representatives in an extraordinary session passed the bill by 72 to 16. The bill provides amnesty for all felonies and misdemenors committed prior to January 11, 1932, as a result of or in connection with the revolutionary movement of August, 1931, except for violations of the Law of Explosives and those guilty of treason, military rebellion and desertion. (Official copies of this bill have not been received, but an analysis of it will be made in a subsequent report).

4. While surface indications are that political peace may be brought about in Cuba, it is difficult to become optimistic over the future, due not only to the past performances of the leaders of both groups, but also because the "students" who have been doing so much to disturb the public peace by bomb throwing, etc., have not been considered in any of the negotiations to bring about "cordiality".

J. J. O'Hare,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press, and
Personal Contact.

From M. A., Havana No. 3670 Dated: January 12,1932.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

For ~~Official Use Only.~~

G-2 Report

3600-a.
OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.

4-1 2657-J-330 93

WAR DEPARTMENT

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. FEB 2 1932

1. In the following paragraphs are given a resume of the laws enacted in Cuba and the date of their promulgation during the six months period, July 1 to December 31, 1931. Some of these laws have been made the subject of special reports, but are repeated in this form in order to show the complete results of the endeavors of the Cuban Congress during the period under review.

July 23rd - Authorizing the President to turn over $6000.00 for six months, beginning July 1, 1931, from unpledged funds of the National Treasury to the National Committee for the feeding and defense of the unemployed.

July 23rd - Providing that taxes levied on persons for buying lottery tickets in wholesale shall be paid monthly, and that registration taxes on automobiles shall be paid quarterly.

July 23rd - Providing that normal school students who have taken the full course may be granted degrees without having to pass the usual final examinations.

July 24th - Providing that registration taxes on automobiles shall be paid semi-annually. (It will be noted that this law is in contradiction to the one of July 23rd, which was not specifically repealed probably for the reason that it contained reference to lottery tickets as well as automobiles).

August 10th - Authorizing the President to suspend Constitutional Guarantees throughout the national territory, and to dispose at his discretion of all money in the National Treasury for expenses made necessary by this suspension.

September 17th - Amending the Lottery Law so that drawings shall be made in such manner as to meet the demand of the public for lottery tickets.

October 2nd - Providing for a maximum session of five hours and a minimum session of three and one-half hours in the public schools of Cuba.

November 23rd - Creating a Superior Electoral Tribunal.

November 23rd - Exempting from all taxes a legacy of $50,000 left for the erection of a hospital at Bayamo.

December 12th - Providing for the reduction of not more than twenty-five percent in the current budget of the legislative branch of the Government.

December 23rd - Providing that teachers in normal schools of commerce and other similar institutions of learning shall have the right to exchange posts with other teachers of the same grade.

From M. A., Havana No. 3684 Dated: January 26, 1932.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

2. From the above it is very apparent that the work of the Cuban Congress during the six months period under review was far from constructive. Practically all matters of any importance were taken care of by presidential decrees.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy

From M. A., Havana No. 3684 Dated: January 26, 1932.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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G-2 Report

3600-a.

CUBA (Political)

41 2657-J-330

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action. 1932.

1. The superficial political calmness which has recently reigned in Cuba was severely shaken during the past few days. Since early in November no bombings of any serious consequence have occurred on the Island, and it is known that the political leaders of the Opposition realize that this type of terrorism tends to cause the loss of support of right-thinking citizens to their cause. However, the events of the past few days indicate that certain elements opposed to the Government are not in sympathy with this thought.

2. On the night of January 24th, twelve bombs exploded in the downtown section of Havana. All of these bombs were of the noise-making variety and caused little or no damage to property. The Government, through its censorship, did not allow the publication of any articles in connection with them.

3. On January 25th, the police discovered an automobile in a garage adjoining a house in Almendares, a suburb of Havana, in which were lodged 500 sticks of dynamite, 200 packs of blasting powder, several pounds of nails, iron and glass. The wiring in the automobile was so arranged that by the use of a magneto, which could be placed at some distance from the car, it could be blown up and cause great damage to property and life. Three students who were sleeping in the house adjoining the garage were arrested at the time, and admitted that it was their purpose to "blow up Havana". In the struggle which followed the arrest of these three young men, an innocent by-stander was killed. After this discovery the police arrested Dr. Ramon Grau San Martin, a professor at the University who has been connected with the student movement since its inception in the fall of 1929, and Guillermo Portela, a lawyer who has also been affiliated with the student cause. The Government permitted the press to relate the complete story of this incident, which caused the indignation of all fair-minded Cubans, irrespective of their political creeds.

4. On January 28th, a national holiday, one police lieutenant and one member of the Secret Police were killed, and several others, among whom was Captain Calvo, Chief of the Secret Police, were severely wounded by the discharge of a bomb of tremendous porportions which had been placed in a house in Jesus del Monte, a section of Havana almost entirely inhabited by people of the laboring class. The police went there as a result of an anonymous telephone message to the effect that the house contained a number of bombs and was the meeting place of students opposed to the Government. Shortly after forcibly entering the house the telephone rang and immediately thereafter the bomb exploded, causing the complete demolition of the house and the deaths of the two police agents who were inside the house at the time. In addition to this, several of the houses in the immediate vicinity were badly damaged. The press was given "carte blanche" in printing this story in the newspapers of today and it has caused the natural reaction of repulsion toward the perpetrators of this horrible act.

From M. A., Havana No. 3687 Dated: January 29, 1932.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

5. Although the Government officials are still very wont to attribute all acts of this type to the Communists, those described herein are directly traceable to the radical element of the students. It will be recalled that in the recently enacted Amnesty Law no exceptions were made to favor students, most of whom were held under charges of violation of the Law of Explosives. It is believed, therefore, that the acts of the past few days are not only a form of retaliation by the radical student element for the Government's alleged killing of some of its members, but also a demand on their part for recognition, as a group, of their political entity.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press
and Personal Contacts

From M. A., Havana No. 3687 Dated: January 29, 1932.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF STAFF
M.I. INTEL. DIV.
FEB 26 1932
WAR DEPARTMENT

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4-1 3600-a.

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G-2 Report

21

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

1. In spite of the release of the political prisoners by the recently enacted Amnesty Law, there is no indication that the Government and the Opposition elements are any nearer a composition of their differences. Both sides appear to have given up all hope of an agreement through mutual concession and compromise. None of the leaders of the Opposition have shown any sign of adopting a conciliatory posture since their release. On the contrary, Colonel Mendieta recently issued an unpublished statement declaring that his attitude was absolutely unchanged and that he would continue to fight for the patriotic principles which had always guided his actions in opposition to the present regime in Cuba.

2. There has been considerable talk regarding the formation of a new political party to include under unified control all the elements adverse to the Machado Administration, but no constructive steps have as yet been made towards its formation.

3. The concentrated energies of the police and military authorities have not availed to discourge terroristic activities. Bomb explosions and the discovery of bombing plots or quantities of explosive materials are reported at frequent intervals. Other than those reported in previous reports, none have resulted in serious property damage nor serious harm to persons. However, the fact that these activities are continuing is a clear indication that this part of the Opposition element are far from reconciled to the existing conditions.

J. T. O'HARE,
Major General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and
Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3702 Date: February 18,1932.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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3600-a.

G-2 Report

4-1 2657-J-330

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CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. FEB 24 1932

1. In the following paragraphs is given a list of the laws enacted during January, 1932, and the dates of their promulgation:

(a) January 14 - Granting amnesty for offenses committed prior to January 11, 1932, by Government officials and private individuals in connection with the recent insurrectionary movement of August, 1931, and disorders which preceded this movement during 1930 and 1931. (See report No. 3679, index as above, dated January 19, 1932).

(b) January 21 - Providing that if by January 3, 1932, the respective Executive Committees of the political parties have failed to appoint affiliation committees, the latter shall be appointed by the Chairmen of of the provincial Executive Committees of the respective parties.

(c) January 23 - An act relating to taxes on matches, automatic lighters, cigarettes, rice, tobacco, coffee, consular invoices, gasoline, etc. (See report No. 3700, index No. 5000-c, dated February 17, 1932).

(d) January 23 - An act providing that the appropriations for personnel, supplies, and services in the Fixed Budget of the Judiciary shall be reduced by twenty-five percent; that this budget reduction shall remain in force only during the remainder of the present fiscal year; and that the salaries of the members of the judicial branch of the Government shall be restored to their former level as soon as the State or the Public Treasury will permit.

(e) January 23 - An act authorizing the establishment of a port of local interest for coastwise trade at a place which may be selected as convenient in the Customs district of Nuevitas, this port to be established by authorization of the President.

(f) January 27 - An act granting amnesty for all offenses set forth in Chapters II, III, and VII of Title VIII of the Second Book of the Penal Code (murder, manslaughter, assault and battery, and mayhem) committed by members of the police force or by members of the armed forces in conjunction with the police between January 21, 1929 and January 26, 1932.

(g) January 27 - An act granting amnesty to persons condemned by sentence for the offense of falsifying official documents respecting the payment of taxes to the State, provided that the Public Treasury has not been damaged by the misappropriation of funds collected by the State, and provided that, if the offense was committed by several persons in agreement with each other, it is stated in the sentence which condemned the guilty persons that it is not known how and where these persons plotted the offense.

(h) January 27 - An act providing that every liter or fraction of a liter of ethyl alcohol or brandy manufactured in Cuba shall pay a tax of sixty cents; that when alcohols and brandies

From M. A., Havana No. 3703 Date: February 18, 1932.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

are destined to be used in the manufacture of perfumes, chemical and pharmaceutical products, every liter or fraction of a liter shall be taxed only twenty cents upon removal from distilleries.

J. J. O'HARE,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and Press.

From M. A., Havana No. 3703 Date: February 18, 1932.

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By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

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3600-a.

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
MAR 23
WAR DEPARTMENT
MAR 23 1932
RECEIVED G/2 W. D.

G-2 Report

4-1 2657-F-330 27

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

1. The general political situation in Cuba has undergone no appreciable change during the past few weeks. Interest in politics was temporarily distracted by the earthquake at Santiago de Cuba on February 3rd., and immediately after that was concentrated in preparation for the primary elections held on February 28th to designate the ward executive committees and the delegates from the ward assemblies to the municipal assemblies of the various political parties. The result of these elections indicate that little change is expected in the control now exercised by the present party chiefs in their various districts.

2. The hands of the Government in dealing with terroristic and other seditious activities have been considerably strengthened by measures designed to give the military courts wider jurisdiction both as to persons and to offenses. (See report No.3707, index as above, dated February 26, 1932). These courts are now authorized to take cognizance of all offenses committed or which may be committed up to July, 1934, by all members of the armed forces, and of all offenses by whomsoever committed involving violation of the Law of Explosives, and the burning of farm property during the harvest season.

3. Possibly as a result of the legislation referred to above, there has been a decrease in the number of bomb explosions during the past few weeks, although the police continue to announce many seizures of explosive materials and arrests of persons suspected of complicity in bombings both in Havana and in the cities of the interior.

4. The continued intransigence of the Opposition groups is revealed by an undated manifesto prepared but not published by their leaders, which contains the following declaration: "We ask nothing of the present Government; its history does not inspire confidence in its intervention and promises. We demand a provisional government, composed of impartial Cubans capable of inspiring confidence in all classes of society and of restoring to the Cuban people the peace and tranquillity which it needs."

J. J. O'Hare,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy, Press and Personal Observation.

From M. A., Havana No. 3715 Date: March 16, 1932.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

~~For Official Use Only.~~

3600-a.

G-2 Report

4-1 2657-g-330

CUBA (Political)

Subject: Important Problems and Issues Requiring Governmental Recognition and Action.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAR 23 1932

1. Following is a list of laws enacted during the month of February, 1932, and the dates of their promulgation:

February 3 - An act providing that a notary who has an office in one place and a residence elsewhere may exercise his political rights where he was originally registered.

February 3 - An act providing that in the reorganization of the political parties members of Congress shall be considered affiliated in the district where they were registered when elected.

February 3 - An act granting an amnesty for misappropriation, falsification of official documents, and prevarication, provided that such offenses have not been investigated and that no indictments have been pronounced.

February 3 - An act granting an amnesty for fraud, embezzlement and misappropriation when committed by boards of trustees.

February 3 - An act providing that hospitals and asylums of a public character shall be exempt from the payment of water rates.

February 4 - An act providing for the establishment of a Bureau of Civil Registry in the Department of Justice, its chief to be appointed by the President.

February 13 - An act granting an amnesty for rape committed before October 10, 1930.

February 16 - An act providing for the suspension of all judicial proceedings in cases before the courts of Santiago.

February 17 - An act providing that the voting hours in the primary elections to be held on February 28th shall be from 7 A.M. to 7 P.M. and that the Superior Electoral Tribunal shall issue the necessary rules and instructions for elections in wards which contain more than 800 voters.

February 17 - An act granting an amnesty for crimes committed by public officials or employees, provided the penalties have been only a fine or suspension from office or disqualification from holding office, and providing further that the penal antecedents of such public officials and public employees who have served terms in jail shall be struck off the records.

From M. A., Havana No. 3717 Date: March 16, 1932.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

February 17 - An act granting an amnesty for the falsification of official instruments by public officials provided that the offense was committed prior to October 31, 1930, and that such officials are veterans of the War of Independence and have no criminal record. (This amnesty was obviously intended for Juan Aleman, formerly Chief of the 1-1/2 Per Cent Tax Bureau).

February 17 - An act which extends the jurisdiction of the military courts (See report No. 3707, index as above, dated February 26, 1932, with which was transmitted a translation of this Law).

February 23 - An act authorizing the President to appropriate an amount of money not exceeding one million dollars from any funds in the treasury for aiding the victims of the Santiago earthquake.

February 23 - An act which exempts from the payment of taxes and water rates urban property belonging to the Association of Veterans of the War of Independence.

February 23 - An act granting an amnesty to public officials for the falsification of public instruments, provided the offense was committed prior to January 2, 1932.

J. J. O'Hare,
Major, General Staff,
Military Attache.

Source: Embassy and
Official Documents.

From M. A., Havana No.3717 Date: March 16,1932.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

RCF

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
APR 3657-2-330 1932
99
WAR DEPARTMENT

2657-Q-330

November 18, 19311

Captain Enrique A. Prieto,
Military Attache, Cuban Embassy,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Captain Prieto:

With reference to your recent request to be furnished certain information concerning Springfield rifles and Caliber .30 ammunition in the hands of the Cuban revolutionary forces, I take pleasure in forwarding herewith, on separate sheets, the information desired.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED G/2 W. D. NOV 18 1931

R. C. Foy,
Colonel, General Staff,
Foreign Liaison Officer.

2 Encls.
hbr

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Subject: Springfield Rifles and Caliber .30 Ammunition in the Hands of the Cuban Revolutionary Forces.

1. With reference to report from the Military Attache in Cuba, the caliber .30 rifles, M1903 referred to in the report are in all probability not standard Army rifles. Under the present system rifles which become unserviceable and are condemned are dismounted, the wooden parts burned and the metal parts sold for junk. The scrap pile is sold from time to time on open bids at public auction. It is believed that this junk is purchased either directly or indirectly by F. Bannerman & Sons of New York. The damaged metal parts are resold and parts in good condition are retained and used in reconstructing or rebuilding other rifles. Rifles advertised and sold by F. Bannerman & Sons are not of genuine government manufacture.

2. With reference to the 12 rifles, serial numbers of which were given in the M. A. report, please note that the records of Springfield Armory have been examined in connection therewith and information as available is summarized on the attached tabulation.

3. With reference to the copy of letter from the Office of Naval Intelligence, Navy Department, all lots of caliber .30 ball ammunition, M1906, manufactured by the National Brass & Copper Tube Company were declared unserviceable in March 1923. This office has no record of Lots 223 to 389, inclusive, insofar as location in storage is concerned at the time of placing the ammunition in Grade 3. As an expression of opinion only, it is believed that certain lots which for one reason or another were never delivered to the Government may have been sold by the manufacturers to some commercial organization such as, for example, F. Bannerman & Sons. A report from the Cuban authorities of the lot numbers in question might possibly provide a check on this. It should be noted that 76 lots of ammunition manufactured by the National Brass & Copper Tube Company were rejected on acceptance tests and consequently were never delivered to the Government.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

U. S. RIFLES, Caliber .30, M1903

Serial Number	Chest Number	Date	Entry
133864-Sa	43276	8/17/08	Inv. #227, 2/13/09 - 6000 Rifles. To - C.O. Benicia Arsenal, Calif.
261249-SA	37866	5/2/08	Inv. #485, 11/23/08 - 2000 Rifles. to - C.O. Benecia Arsenal, Calif.
291993-SA	33626	3/28-08	Inv. #517, 3/31/08 - 8900 Rifles. To - Governor, State of Pa.
317952-SA	23909	1/7/08	No entry.
357971-SA	47598	12/26/08	Inv. #1114, 6/14/17 - 7076 Rifles. To - C.O., 47th to 50th Inf., Syracuse, N.Y.
440390-SA	62122	10/10/10	Inv. #478, 5/13/12 - 6000 Rifles. To - C.O., Frankford Arsenal, Pa.
528425-SA	71729	1/13/13	Inv. #508, 5/20/13, Schuylkill Arsenal, Pa.
530411-SA	71902	1/22/13	Inv. #508, 5/30/13 - Schuylkill Arsenal, Pa.
628603-SA	81782	9/25/16	No entry.
733885-SA	91118	11/23/17	Inv. #1781, 12/21/17 - 449 Rifles. To - Supply Officer, 3rd Div., Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.
763737-SA	94082	1/15/18	Inv. #293, 1/19/18 - 15300 Rifles. To - O.O., 66 Hudson Street, Hoboken, N.J., marked for Ordnance Base Depot, A.E.F.
770481-SA	94943	1/17/18	Inv. #293, 1/19/18 - See above.

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NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT

11/16/31

Secretary of War
Assistant Secretary of War
Assistant Secretary of War (Air)
G-1
G-3
G-4
War Plans Division
Statistics Branch
Adjutant General's Dept.
Army Industrial College
Army War College
Air Corps (Liaison Officer)
Cavalry
Chemical Warfare Service
Coast Artillery Corps
Corps of Engineers
Command & General Staff School
Field Artillery
Finance
Infantry
Inspector General's Dept.
Insular Affairs
Judge Advocate General's Dept.
Militia Bureau
Office of Naval Intelligence
Ordnance Dept.
Quartermaster General's Dept.
Signal Corps
Surgeon General's Office

State Dept.:
Eastern Europe
Western Europe
Near East
Latin America
Far East
Mexican Affairs

Commerce Dept.:
Foreign & Domestic Commerce
Aeronautics

TCM

For your information and file
Note and return
Note and send to

Will you please have these numbers traced, as was done with 12 Springfield numbers previously furnished you by M.I.D.

TCM

NOV 16 1931
U. S. WAR DEPT.
3 21, 14, 369

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

EL AGREGADO MILITAR
EMBAJADA DE CUBA
WASHINGTON, D.C.

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
APR 20 1933
NOV 10 1931
WAR DEPARTMENT
O.C.O. WAR DEPT.
370.12/369
1931

Numbers of New Springfield rifles caliber .30

727624-322957-509625-612171-773400-774554-674504-171936-729423-
169663-83370-66430-44563-892347-497774-137674-312305-518867-
430322-919148-868116-12717-200698-66526-104508-121045-329373-
532735-430670-65224-722935-375933-225151-153763-775978-652775-
233196-662585-293908-634375-240083-278485-621275-282979-25985-
203795-129365-289972-135513-43845-44173-275387-151376-374723-
30024-81658-619239-74969-32341-348283-204169-627753-217636-
592169-713369-207756-172362-729936-567994-629009.-

Brought into M/A Section, M.I.D.
by Cuban Attache, Captain Prieto, on Nov. 14, 1931

There are additional numbers of
Springfield rifles captured by Cuban govt
at Gibara, Cuba, in August 1931.

CONFIDENTIAL

IN
NOV 18 1931
Tradesco Mail
and Record Branch
War Dept.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT

11/16/31

WAR DEPT. 321.12/3696 Sec 1
NOV 17 1931

Secretary of War
Assistant Secretary of War
Assistant Secretary of War (Air)
G-1
G-3
G-4
War Plans Division
Statistics Branch
Adjutant General's Dept.
Army Industrial College
Army War College
Air Corps (Liaison Officer)
Cavalry
Chemical Warfare Service
Coast Artillery Corps
Corps of Engineers
Command & General Staff School
Field Artillery
Finance
Infantry
Inspector General's Dept.
Insular Affairs
Judge Advocate General's Dept.
Militia Bureau
Office of Naval Intelligence
Ordnance Dept.
Quartermaster General's Dept.
Signal Corps
Surgeon General's Office

State Dept.:
Eastern Europe
Western Europe
Near East
Latin America
Far East
Mexican Affairs

Commerce Dept.:
Foreign & Domestic Commerce
Aeronautics

T.D.K.

For your information and file
Note and return
Note and send to

Did our Govt ever purchase any of Colt Remington (Russian) rifles or W.E. Westinghouse, and if so can they be traced?

T.D.K.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

Below is a list of rifles other than Springfield. captured by the Cuban Units from rebels at Gibara, Cuba in Aug. 1931.

APR 20 1932
WAR DEPARTMENT
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIV.
O.C.O. WAR DEPT.
NOV 18 1931
3711/12/3696

EL AGREGADO MILITAR
EMBAJADA DE CUBA
WASHINGTON, D.C.

RIFLES FROM REMINGTON ARMORY

No. in the bolt----------
No. in the Guard----------
No. in the butt plate.-758334

No. in the bolt-1226008
No. in the guard-582061
No. in the butt plate-530452

No. in the bolt.-591310
No. in the guard-514870
No. in the buttplate-1364603

No. in the bolt-1351874
No. in the guard-579167
No in the butt plate-529633

No. in the bolt-1497
No. in the guard----------
No. in the butt plate530244

No. in the bolt----------
No. in the guard-514331
No. in the butt-plate-1351420

No. in the bolt-135222
No. in the guard-513622
No. in the butt plate-1213308

No. in the bolt----------
No. in the guard----------
No. in the butt plate513911

No. in the bolt-1350732
No. in the guard----------
No. in the butt plate-1215114

No. in the bolt-1337199
No. in the guard----------
No. in the butt plate-566484

No. in the bolt-1223594
No. in the guard-559484
No. in the butt plate-565680

No. in the bolt-541960
No in the guard----------
No. in the butt plate572072

No. in the bolt-743179
No. in the guard----------
No. in the butt plate-512968

No. in the bolt-1356662
No. in the guard-514547
No. in the butt plate-1352224

No. in the bolt-582810
No. in the guard-591304
No. in the butt plate-1276819

No. in the bolt-571450
No. in the guard-513634
No. in the butt plate-585697
No. in the bolt-122878
No. in the guard-578383
No. in the butt plate-584832

No. in the bolt----------
No in the guard-579018
No. in the butt plate-790288

No. in the bolt-584444
No. in the guard----------
No. in the butt plate-581136

No. in the bolt-579009
No. in the guard----------
No. in the butt plate-575318

No. im the bolt----------
No. in the guard-537233
No in the butt plate-5118632

No. in the bolt-1355654
No. in the guard-559481
No. in the butt plate-5784

NOV 18 1931

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740058
By AMF NARS, Date 05/04/89

U. S. WAR DEPT.
NOV 8 1941

EL AGREGADO MILITAR
EMBAJADA DE CUBA
WASHINGTON, D.C.

No. in the bolt-1253709
No, in the guard----------
No. in the butt plate-1342928

No. in the bolt-565676
No. in the guard----------
No. in the butt plate-1260850

No. in the bolt-584833
No. in the guard----------
No. in the butt plate1948164

No. in the bolt-583434
No. in the guard----------
No. in the butt plate-513148

No. in the bolt-584828
No. in the guard----------
No. in the butt plate-585901

No. in the bolt-775270
No. in the guard----------
No. in the butt plate-1090545

No. in the bolt-587090
No. in the guard----------
No. in the butt plate554581

Rifles from New England Westinghouse Company

No. in the bolt-786736
No. in the guard----------
No. in the bolt plate-1357860

No. in the bolt-514878
No. in the guard-530642
No. in the butt plate-1349979

No. in the bolt-1357161
No. in the guard-521914
No. in the butt plate-1091898

No in the bolt-1354572
No. in the guard----------
No. in the butt plate-1363407

No. in the bolt-1349316
No. in the guard-591492
No. in the butt plate-1851947

No. in the bolt-772339
No. in the guard----------
No. in the butt plate-1201429

No. in the bolt778984
No. in the guard----------
No. in the butt plate-1226609

No. in the bolt-513520
No. in the guard---- -------- -----
No. in the butt plate-761252

No. in the bolt-1360971
No. in the guard-588540
No. in the butt plate-514334

No. in the bolt-1225568
No. in the guard-573503
No. in the butt plate-1356748

No. in the bolt-1251014
No. in the guard-512313
No. in the butt plate-1958431

Brought into I/A Section, M.I.D. Nov 14, 1941
by Captain Prieto, Cuban Attache, who states about
numbers are on Remington Rifles originally manufactured for Russia
and re-chambered for .30 cal. ammo; and on rifles from N.E. Westinghouse Co.,