

San Domingo Aids Revolt, Says Batista

BY JULES DUBOIS

(Picture on page 4)

[© 1956: By The Chicago Tribune]

HAVANA, May 9—President Fulgencio Batista today accused friends of Ex-President Carlos Prío Socarras of accepting financial and arms aid from the Dominican Republic [Santo Domingo] to overthrow him.

In an exclusive interview Batista intimated his government has proof of this and has made diplomatic representations to the Dominican government.

Batista said he does not believe any attempt will be made by the government of President Trujillo to invade or attack Cuba. He could not confirm reports that aircraft with Cuban colors had been prepared in the Dominican republic to attack Cuba.

May Break Relations

"Those are confidences which my government cannot disclose," he said.

Prío Socarras was arrested for complicity in the brief revolt and attack on Matanzas fortress on April 29, in which 15 were killed, but released within a few hours.

Batista also intimated that if Cuba does not get satisfactory replies from the Dominican republic to its notes there might be a rupture of relations. He expressed the hope this step would not be necessary.

Certain Army Is Loyal

Batista denied he is sitting on a political volcano. He said he prevented the volcano from erupting beyond control by the emergency measures after the assault on the Matanzas fortress.

Batista said he is certain of



President Batista

the loyalty of the military forces.

He reviewed the history of his overthrow of Prío March 10, 1952, and denied it was a political crime. He explained that he acted to avoid a political crime. However, he practically admitted that he would not have won the 1952 election.

Batista said he will not bow to opposition demands that he shorten his term.

"I was elected for four years and I am going to complete my term," he said.

"Prío denied in court in the United States that he had purchased arms," Batista said, "yet when he returned here last August he announced he had bought 5 million dollars worth of arms."

EXILES PRIO TO U. S.

Miami, Fla., May 9 (A)—Carlos Prío Socarras, former president of Cuba, arrived here by plane today with only an extra shirt and pair of shoes and said he was thrown out of Cuba by the national police.

Prío said Cuban police had seized him at his estate out-

[Continued on page 4, col. 4]

SANTO DOMINGO AIDS PRIO PLOT, SAYS BATISTA

[Continued from first page]

side Havana, put him on the plane and told him to stay out of Cuba.

Immigration authorities, after detaining him six hours, released him and said they will hold a hearing to determine the conditions under which Prio entered the country.

Batista Gives Him Choice

President Batista of Cuba, in a telephone statement, said:

"The government today informed Prio that it has positive proof that he was supplying money and direction for disorders in Cuba and that he was still engaged in buying arms and smuggling them into Cuba for insurrectional purposes.

"Prio was given the choice of standing trial or leaving the country. He chose the latter alternative. Prio has been a disturbing element ever since his return to Cuba some months ago. He was told that he would be welcomed only as long as he obeyed the laws of his country."

Formerly in Exile

Prio was accompanied by a military aide, Col. Rafael Izquierdo.

Prio was president of Cuba until Batista took over in a bloodless coup in 1952. Prio has spent most of the time since then living here. He returned home several months ago.

Immigration commissioner Joseph M. Swing in Washington said in view of Prio's admitted violation of the neutrality act, "it is a question of grave national concern whether the pair should be readmitted to the United States." Prio had paid a fine in New York for sending arms to Cuba.

Lands in U. S.



(United Press Telephoto)

Carlos Prio Socarras, former president of Cuba, leaving clipper plane in Miami yesterday after flight from Havana, where President Batista accused friends of Prio of accepting money and arms from Santo Domingo to overthrow Batista government.