

# Dr. Chibas, Cuban Senator, Dies of Wounds Self-Inflicted as He Ended Radio Broadcast

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HAVANA, Aug. 16—Senator Eduardo Chibas y Rivas, head of the Cuban People's party and one of the island's most popular figures who shot himself Aug. 5 at the termination of his weekly broadcast, died at 1:55 o'clock this morning.

Although his condition was considered critical during the last ten days, physicians had hoped to save Dr. Chibas' life until last night when an internal hemorrhage necessitated a second operation. He died on the operating table.

President Carlos Prio Socarras expressed regret over the death of Dr. Chibas, once a close friend when both were members of the student directorate. "In this hour, I have forgotten the great differences which separated us in life and only remember the past when we fought many battles together," the President said. The regular Cabinet meeting scheduled for this afternoon was postponed. All radio stations suspended regular programs and broadcast religious music and information concerning Dr. Chibas.

The body of the opposition political leader lay in state in the Aula Magna (great hall) of Havana University today as thousands filed past the coffin. Some towns declared a state of mourning. Churches in Havana and in the interior were filled as followers and admirers prayed for the leader whose death, according to friends, was due to his feeling that he had failed to arouse the "public conscience in his fight against corruption."

Dr. Chibas was born in Santiago de Cuba Aug. 26, 1907, the son of a prominent railway construction engineer, the late Eduardo Chibas, who served as the Secretary of Public Works in the cabinet of Carlos Manuel de Cespedes in 1933. He was educated in Cuba and the United States.

He was a member of the Havana University student directorate of 1927 which began the fight against the Gerardo Machado regime. He was expelled from the university and imprisoned at various times.

Following the fall of Machado, Dr. Chibas supported the short-lived regime of Dr. Ramon Grau San Martin and opposed Gen. Fulgencio Batista who took over the island. When Dr. Grau San Martin was elected president in 1944, Dr. Chibas was elected a senator but broke with Dr. Grau San Martin in 1946 and established the Cuban People's party. As the presidential candidate of that party he was defeated for the presidency in 1948 by President Carlos Prio Socarras. However, in 1950, Dr. Chibas was elected as a senator from the Havana province.

Handicapped by extreme nearsightedness, Dr. Chibas fought many duels, among them one with President Prio Socarras when the latter was Minister of Labor in the Grau San Martin administration. He was the Government's severest critic and his regular Sunday night broadcasts had the highest rating of listeners of any speaker on the island.

The funeral of Dr. Chibas will be held tomorrow afternoon.