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No. 266

American Embassy
Habana, Cuba, March 31, 1948

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APR. 6

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ACTION
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Subject: *Ment*
Dr. Raúl Alfonso Gonsé Calls for
Moral Renaissance of Cuba

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The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

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Sir:

I have the honor to refer to the Embassy's despatch No. 17 of January 8, 1948 subject: "Congress of Doctors of Science, Philosophy and Letters Attacks Ministry of Education; Finds Cuba in Poor Moral Shape", and to report that in his daily column in Alerta on March 29, 1948 Dr. Raúl Alfonso GONSE, a political analyst highly thought of by the Embassy, further developed the theme that Cuba is today in need of a moral renaissance. Dr. Gonsé states in part as follows:

"A nation which wishes to be great must first aspire to possession of citizens capable of discerning the difference between right and wrong. Cuba is passing, now more than ever, through an era of moral and political degeneration, which must be overcome.

"We believe that our present evils stem from the decadence of the concept of the home. The remedy for this situation is at hand; we must fortify the spiritual atmosphere of the home. When a thief is called a thief and not a leader, when degenerates are repudiated and when society can be divided not into rich and poor but into honest and dishonest, creating besides the penalties of the law, the moral sanctions of the citizenry, then we shall have triumphed over this passing epidemic."

Respectfully yours,

For the Ambassador:

L. D. Mallory

Lester D. Mallory
Counselor of Embassy

File No. 892
Vlansing Collins, Jr./dts

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