Secretary of State,

INSTITUTE: ARA Washington.

Date of mailing: Rec'd June 16, 11:21 a.m.

Secretary of State,

FROM: American Embassy, Habana, Cuba.

One bystander killed and four students of the Institute of Habana wounded in gunfight June 11 in front of Institute. Apparently one group of students objected to poster a rival group was placing on school wall. One of wounded students was implicated in killing of a merchant seaman near Institute several days ago. Several other shootings have occurred recently at Institute.

It is believed that these incidents are merely expressions of lawlessness and gangsterism but have no political or ideological background. Minister of Education has allowed himself to be quoted in press as saying situation at Institute of Habana has gotten out of hands of Ministry and becomes question of parental authority.

It is reported that Chief of Police has recommended that Institute be closed.

BUTLER

VLanainy Collins, Jr./atg

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