

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 Meeting
 Memorandum of ~~Conversation~~

RESTRICTED

DATE: Held Mar 7, 1951

SUBJECT: Meeting with Messrs. Pine and Clark of Compania Cubana de Aviacion.

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Sergio Clark, Vice President, Compania Cubana de Aviacion
 Mr. Warren Pine, Vice President, Compania Cubana de Aviacion
 Ambassador Albert E. Nufer (MID)
 Mr. Harvey Wellman (MID)
 Mr. Gerald W. Russell (AR)

COPIES TO: MID
 AV
 American Embassy, Habana (Informally)

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Messrs. Pine and Clark called at their request to discuss the impending labor trouble in Habana which was aggravated mainly by the lack of action by the U.S. on the application of CCA to operate from Habana to New York.

Mr. Pine pointed out that the company was opposed to the threatened action by its employees and labor in Habana and had made the trip to Washington to impress that point and to try to expedite action on its application prior to March 10, the date set for the strike, so that labor would not claim that its action had forced action by the U.S. Government.

(The Department had previously discussed the whole question with the CAB twice within the past two weeks and largely due to the Department's efforts the Examiner's Report was issued at 10:00 a.m. today).

Mr. Pine was advised that the CAB had just issued the Examiner's Report on this case and had recommended Cubana for a 5 year permit and he and Mr. Clark were given copies of the Report.

It was pointed out to Mr. Pine that the Department would continue to follow this matter. However, any action by the labor unions against U.S. airlines would complicate the situation. Messrs. Clark and Pine stated that this subject would be removed from labor's agenda, but it had three other items of an internal nature which might cause a strike, i.e., Jewish airline problem (Inter-Continental Airlines), use of the military airfield at Camp Colombia by some Cuban airlines and a protest against the airline ticket tax.

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In regard to the Examiner's Report on the question of control by PAA, Mr. Pine pointed out that Cuban citizens held 58% of the stock and out of the 1200 employees he was the only American.

In reply to Messrs. Pine and Clark's inquiry concerning the advisability of calling on the CAB it was recommended that such calls be limited to only a courtesy call on Mr. Oswald Ryan, the Acting Chairman. Both gentlemen agreed that this suggestion was a wise one.

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