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FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : AMEMBASSY, HABANA

1150

January 15, 1952

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

etc.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF AIR ATTACH
BUREAU OF PRIORITY
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS
JAN 15 1952

DATE: 1952

REF :

SUBJECT: General Fulgencio Batista Nomed Presidential Candidate
by FAU National Assembly

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As expected, the National Assembly of the Partido Accion Unitaria (FAU) meeting on January 13 unanimously proclaimed General Fulgencio BATISTA as its candidate for President in the June 1952 elections. In addition General Batista was given a carte blanche to name the party's candidates for Senator.

The Assembly also elected a new Executive Committee for the party. The members of this committee are listed as enclosure no. 1 to this despatch.

Dr. Carlos SALABRIGAS, Batista's choice for President in the 1954 elections, gave the keynote speech at the Assembly. His remarks consisted principally of an eulogy of General Batista as "a man of the people" and a review of the good points of Batista's administration. In his acceptance speech Batista attacked Ortodoxo leader AGRAMONTE and challenged him to prove on television his charge that during Batista's administration an allotment of two million pesos for water and ice had been included in his budget.

Referring to the discussions concerning a "Third Front" Batista said "we only demand that those who wish to unite are, like ourselves, in the opposition without any possible contact with the Government. We are agreeable to all conversations and to any solutions which are favorable for Cuba. We maintain our candidacy but we would not impose our name on a union of parties "who truly desire solutions". Finally Batista sent the following message to CASTELLANOS "We desire a front without imposition of candidates. We wish a front against the Government which will maintain itself in opposition to the Government even though as a result of conversations an accord is not reached."

Comment:

This morning's press states that Castellanos has rejected Batista's conditions for the formation of a

NAHoyt:WJN
REPORTER(S)

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From _____

"Third Front". The newspaper articles predict, therefore, that the chances of a "Third Front" being formed are almost non-existent. Batista's message to Castellanos indicates his distrust of Castellanos' rumored conversations with PRC(A) leaders.

For the Ambassador:

Henry A. Hoyt

Henry A. Hoyt
Second Secretary of Embassy

✓ Enclosure:

List of members of Executive Committee of PAU

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LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE PAU

President: General Fulgencio BATISTA y Zaldívar

Vice Presidents: Dr. Jorge GARCIA Montes
Dr. Alfredo JACOMINO
Dr. Anselmo ALLIEGRO Milá
Dr. José PARDO Jiménez
Dr. José Elías OLIVELLA
Dr. José M. SUAREZ Suquet

Recording Secretary: Justo Luis del POZO
Assistant Recording Secretary: Dra. María GOMEZ Carbonell

Correspondence Secretary: Dr. Andrés RIVERO Agüero
Assistant Correspondence Secretary: Carlos M. FERRETI

Treasurer: Orencio RODRIGUEZ
Assistant Treasurer: Manuel GARCIA Herrera

Members of the Board:
Dr. Carlos SALADRIGAS Zayas
Luis LORET de Mola
José GONZALEZ Puentes
Dr. Santiago ALVAREZ
Félix AYON Suárez
Justo SALAS
Raúl A. MASVIDAL
José A. MENDICUTIA
Félix FERNANDEZ
Julia E. CONSUEGRA
Andrés SOBERON
Julián GARCIA Benitez