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FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : AMEMBASSY, HABANA

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TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

enc.

REF :

SUBJECT: New National Executive Committee of Partido del Pueblo Cubano (Ortodoxo)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU DESPATCH
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS
FEB - 4 1952
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The National Assembly of the Partido del Pueblo Cubano (Ortodoxo) elected its new National Executive Committee at a meeting of the Assembly on January 14, 1952. The list of the members of this Committee is attached. It will be noted that Dr. Emilio OCHOA Ochoa, who assumed leadership of the party following the death of CHIBAS, was reaffirmed as President of the Executive Committee.

The meetings of the National Assembly of the PPC(O) held on January 12, 13 and 14 were preliminary in nature and apparently designed mainly to organize the Assembly for its principal meeting now scheduled to be held on February 16. It has been announced that the presidential ticket of AGRAMONTE and Ochoa will be proclaimed on that date.

In its meeting of January 14 the Assembly approved among other things, a motion expressing the party's firm solidarity with the desire for independence of Puerto Rico and in favor of the liberty of Pedro ALBIZU Campos.

The Assembly also approved a motion ratifying the anti-pactist policy of the party. At the same time, however, it ratified "the open door policy espoused by Chibás". Expanding on this policy, a motion was introduced providing "that the National Executive Committee discuss and resolve the incorporation into the party of as many persons from public life as the Committee considers would aid [in bringing about] the great victory which the public deserves and reclaims with urgency".

Comment

Leftist elements of the Ortodoxo party headed by Representative José PARDO Llada have been instrumental for some time in supporting Puerto Rican independence. It will be recalled that it was the Ortodoxo party seconded by the Communists who presented a motion to

HAHoyt:WJN
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the Cuban House of Representatives on October 31, 1950 asking for guarantees for the life of Albizu Campos and calling for an investigation of the situation in Puerto Rico. Also, Ortodoxo student leaders have led FEU demonstrations in favor of Puerto Rico.

The implementation of "the open door policy" has already been a question for serious disagreement among Ortodoxo leaders. The vote to admit the editor of Alerta, Ramon VASCONCELOS, and the veto of Nicolás CASTELLANOS and Miguel SUAREZ Fernández are cases in point.

For the Ambassador:

Henry A. Hoyt

Henry A. Hoyt
Second Secretary of Embassy

Enclosure: *OH*

List of members of PPC(O) Executive Committee

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NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE PPC(O)

President: Dr. Emilio OCHOA Ochoa

Vice Presidents: Roberto AGRAMONTE
Aurelio NAZARIO Sargen
Gerardo VASQUEZ Alvarado
Manuel BISGE
Isabel M. BENAVIDES
Rafael DOMINADOR Pérez

Correspondence Secretary: Roberto GARCIA Ibáñez
Asst. Correspondence Secretary: Isidro FIGUEROA

Recording Secretary: Dr. Carlos MARQUEZ Sterling
Asst. Recording Secretary: Leonardo FERNANDEZ Sánchez

Treasurer: Federico FERNANDEZ Casas
Asst. Treasurer: Pelayo CUERVO Navarro

Members of the Board: José PARDO Llada ~~✗~~
Félix MARTI
Agustín TOME Varona
Manuel DIAZ Díaz
~~✗~~ Luis MORATO Acosta
Gualberto OLIVARES Speck
Carlos CASTELLANOS Blanco
Maria Esther VILLOCH
Lelio ALVAREZ
Max LESNICK
Alberto SAUMELL Soto
Antonio M. VICIEDO

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