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 JULIUS N. CAHN, COUNSEL

United States Senate  
 COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

*June 2*  
*Mr. Topping 1953*  
*Pls read and*  
*draft reply.*  
*Woe*

May 28th, 1953

**ACTION**  
 is assigned to

**ARA**

*HTI*

Honorable John M. Cabot  
 Assistant Secretary of State  
 State Department  
 Washington, D.C.

*ack 6-16-53*  
*ARA: MID: JLTopping: de*

Dear John:

Enclosed is the outline on Batista which is written by Carlos Hevia, who I mistakenly remembered as being a Cuban General, but I see he was not from his biography. He is a graduate of the Naval Academy.

When you have finished reading this, I will appreciate it if you will return it to me.

With personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

*B. B. Hicklenlooper*  
 B. B. Hicklenlooper

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 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

BBH:mb  
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*LNA*

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*Mr. Sleeper of Sen. Hicklenlooper's office given some generalized comments & told they would be along in 3-4 days. I pressed agreement. 4 June 53*

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UNITED STATES-SENATE  
PUBLIC DOCUMENT  
FREE

*B. B. Hickenlooper*  
U. S. S.

Please return to Senator

B. B. Hickenlooper

IOWA.

Carlos Hevia,

Member of the Cuban National Junta in New York, 1933, of which former Presidents Menocal and Miguel M. Gomez were members;

Member of the Cuban Junta of September, 1933, of which Dictator Batista and former President San Martin were members;

Secretary of Agriculture of Cuba, 1933;

President of Cuba, January, 1934;

Head of the Cuban O. P. A., price regulating office, 1942-1943;

President of Modelo Brewery Corporation, 1946-1948;

Only Honorary President of the Sugar Cane Farmers' Association of Cuba;

Minister of State of Cuba, 1948-1950;

Minister of Agriculture, 1950-1951;

President of the National Development Commission of Cuba, 1950-1952;

Candidate for President of Cuba by a coalition of several parties, "Autenticos", "Democrats", "Nationals", and others, for the election that was to be held June 1st, 1952.

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Mr. Hevia is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy; and his father, Colonel Aurelio Hevia, fought in the Cuban War of Independence 1895-1898, was a friend of Theodore Roosevelt and General Leonard Wood, and was Secretary of the Interior of Cuba, 1913-1917.

## BATISTA AND COMMUNISM

### THE CASE OF THE CUBAN DICTATOR BATISTA AND THE COMMUNISTS

by

Carlos Hevia  
Former President and former  
Minister of State of Cuba

At 2 A.M., the 10th of March, 1952, former Dictator Batista entered Camp Columbia, and by offering to double the pay of soldiers, sailors and policemen, established himself again as a dictator, supported exclusively by the army. In so doing he discarded the Cuban Constitution and assumed the powers of Congress. He knew the pattern (it was Lenin's), when by a mutiny of the Russian Army the way was paved for the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917. And Batista had already practiced it in 1933 when he helped to organize a mutiny of soldiers, sailors and policemen against their officers; and the Communists, informed beforehand, attempted to use the mutiny to Sovietize Cuba. Only through the strong opposition of democratic, nationalistic and anti-Communist Cubans - I was one of those who fought against Dictator Machado - was this Communist attempt foiled, yet Batista remained at the head of the mutinous army and ruled Cuba from Camp Columbia as a dictator until elected President in 1940.

In 1937 Batista established formal and important contacts with the Communist Party, and during the early days of September, 1938, (about the time of the Munich Pact) he ordered the Governor of Havana to recognize the Communist Party of Cuba as a legal entity and organization, which in its first by-laws registered itself as a subsidiary of the International Communists. The recording of the Communist Party as a legal organization was made the 13th of September, 1938, in the Provincial Government of Havana.

Already in an intimate union with the Communists, Batista immediately moved to put the whole labor movement of Cuba in the hands of the Communists, and after several interviews with Communists Blas Roca, Lazaro Peña and Juan Marinello, the Cuban Confederation of Labor was placed under the absolute control of Lazaro Peña on January 22nd, 1939, in a gathering which took place under threats and violence supported by Dictator Batista.

After the recognition of the Communist Party as a legal entity, and with its absolute control of the labor movement of Cuba, Batista planned also to bring Communists into the government of Cuba, and to that end united, in March, 1939, the Communist Party and a small political party called "Union Revolucionaria" and together they made "Union Revolucionaria Comunista" which took part in the elections for the Constitutional Assembly in 1939. As he was already an aspirant for the presidency of the Republic, Batista utilized the Communist Party as shock troops in his political campaign. He gave them arms, money and authority to act in the whole country. And with their help he was elected President in 1940. Batista ran for President on the "Socialist-Democratic Coalition", and a member of that coalition was the "Union Revolucionaria Comunista" mentioned above. He, Batista, adopted in his program many basic ideas for which the Communist Party stood, including their famous motto "Cuba, Out of the Imperialist War". At this time Hitler and Stalin were allies.

One of the most important Russian Communist agents in Latin America, well known to those who had to fight Communists in this area, has been a man who has used the names of Otto Modley, Aron Sinckowitz, Jose Michelin, Abraham Grobar, and lately Favio Grobar. He was finally chased out of Cuba in 1950 by actions of the Cuban government when the overthrown constitutional President Prío was in power. However, he was able to escape from the Cuban police with the aid and assistance of Mr. Fomin, Charge d'Affaires of Russia at the time, who in an official automobile of that legation took Grobar and placed him aboard the Russian ship "Demetri Poaharis", which entered the Cuban port of Manati the 23rd of June, 1950 to load sugar, and left that port July 4th the same year for England. In April, 1951, the information of the Cuban police was that Grobar was in Paris, France, on his way to the Middle East.

Grobar entered Cuba for the first time in 1924. He was a graduate of the Political University of Moscow and came to Cuba to organize the Communist Party of Cuba. In 1930 he registered as Jose Michelin, a native of Poland, son of Mater and Rachel, registration number 68432 of the "Centro de Dependientas" of Havana. At that time he already used the name Aron Sinckowitz to act as delegate of the International Communists in the Caribbean region. He was captured by the police and was deported October 1, 1932 on the steamship "Leerdam", under the name of Sinckowitz, stating then he was native of Roumania, sailing for Rotterdam. In March, 1933, with false pas ports, he entered Cuba again.

He was in Cuba as a delegate of the Communists, and during the Cuban Revolution of 1933 he attempted to convert it to a Communist Revolution, using banners with the Hammer and Sickle in some sugar mills and inciting the army to rebel in favor of Soviet Russia. However, this attempt was put down by the then President of Cuba, Grau San Martin.

In January, 1935, he was registered in the Alien Registration Bureau under the name of Jose Michelin, with card number 153297. He was captured by the police the 23rd of November, 1935, in a secret Communist meeting and was sentenced to six months in prison by the courts, and to be deported, but on the 28th of April, 1936, when Batista was ruling Cuba as a dictator from the Cuban Army's Headquarters at Columbia, by decree number 1095, published in the Official Gazette (equivalent to the Congressional Record) of the 28th of April, 1936, the deportation order was revoked.

On the 27th of July, 1936, under the name of Abraham Grobar, this same person requested the Department of State of Cuba to issue him citizenship papers, submitting affidavits that appeared to be issued at the municipal court of the township of Batabano, stating that Grobar had renounced his Polish citizenship and requested the Cuban Citizenship papers were issued in November, 1936, under the name of Abraham Grobar. However, as these affidavits were false, criminal proceedings were instituted for falsification of official documents (No. 244 of 1938, Cuban Criminal Courts, First Section), but the so-called Grobar was included in the Amnesty Law of 1938. At this time Batista was ruling Cuba as a Dictator.

During this period this person had variously been known as Jose Michelin, Otto Modley, Aron Sinckowitz and Abraham Grobar, but after September 13, 1938, when Batista legalized the Communist Party, he adopted the name of Favio Grobar. He was the foremost leader of Russian Communism in Cuba; he helped organize Marxist schools, and helped place Lazaro Peña at the head of the Confederation of Labor

of Cuba. In 1940, orders from Moscow designated him as Instructor for Latin America, and a number of meetings were held under his leadership in various countries.

In January, 1942, Batista being President, the Russian Favio Grobar, Delegate in Cuba of the Caribbean Soviet Secretariat, called a meeting of all Communists in Santiago de Cuba in which he read instructions that he had received stating that the entrance of the United States in the war had destroyed the campaign against that nation made by Russia and had increased the moral influence of the United States over the peoples of Latin America; and that it was necessary to start a campaign of defamation against Great Britain and the United States with the objective of keeping the mentality of the people of Latin America favorable to Russia, so as to have a prepared field when in the post war commotions Sovietization of Latin America would be attempted. After this gathering the Central Committee of the Communist Party met in Havana and designated the Communist leader Blas Roca to tour Latin America to the end above mentioned. In the Official Gazette of June 18th, Batista, as President, signed the decree, number 1625, designating Blas Roca as an official delegate of the Minister of Labor assigned to visit Latin American countries.

It has been shown that Grobar was permitted by Batista to remain in Cuba when he was Dictator by cancelling his deportation order; second, by letting him receive Cuban citizenship papers and applying to him the Amnesty Law of 1938; and later when the Communist Party was legalized, permitting him to act freely in Cuba, organizing the Communists and helping them to control Cuban labor. Also, during Batista's presidency, he sent Blas Roca to visit Latin America in 1942 to prepare the minds of the people against the United States and in favor of the Russians during the expected post war commotions.

Batista, as President, elected in 1940, designated Juan Marinello, President of the Communist Party, as Minister Without Portfolio in his cabinet, and another Communist leader, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, became a member of the cabinet when Marinello was nominated senator. Batista helped Communists to obtain three seats in the Cuban Senate and several in the House of Representatives and townships of Cuba. The Senators were Juan Marinello, Cesar Vilar and Garcia Aguero. In 1943 Batista gave to the Communists one of the most important international wave lengths for their radio broadcasting station, called "1010". Also, when he was President, he designated as Head of the War Propaganda Vicente Martinez (Esmeril), one of the key men of the Communist newspaper "Hoy".

Batista had many meetings with Communist leaders Blas Roca and Carlos Rafael Rodriguez (former member of Batista's cabinet) before the 10th of March, 1952, possibly when he was preparing the coup d'etat, on the farm of his former Minister of War, Sosa de Quesada (now a general in the Cuban Army and head of legal matters for the Army). After the coup d'etat the Communists have adopted a very peculiar attitude of protest, declaring that they were against any revolutionary or violent attitude directed against Batista; and working for the formation of a popular front, including themselves and other political parties to work out a peaceful solution; by that action fomenting discord in the opposition to Batista.

During the presidency of Batista, 1940-44, the corporation "Noticias de Hoy S. A.", owner of the Communist newspaper "Hoy", was organized in Havana the 9th of February, 1943, and registered in the General Registration of Corporations the second of April, 1943, page 1965, folio 179, book 25. During Batista's term as President, this newspaper "Hoy" had a large circulation and government support.

When the overthrown constitutional President of Cuba, Carlos Prio, was Minister of Labor in 1946 he undid Batista's work of handing over to the Communists the labor movement of Cuba, and after a tough struggle broke their power and placed Cuban anti-Communist labor leaders at the head of the labor movement.

Carlos Prio, as President, also attempted to stop the anti-democratic and anti-American campaign carried in the newspaper "Hoy" by the Communists. When the Communists lost control of the Cuban labor organization C. T. C., as the newspaper "Hoy" was established with money paid by the Cuban workers, the Cuban labor union C. T. C. claimed ownership of the newspaper. Then the Cuban government closed it, declaring that ownership was in dispute. The Communists started legal action, stating that the corporation "Noticias de Hoy S. A." owned and published the newspaper "Hoy", not the Cuban Labor organization C. T. C., and declaring in a letter to President Prio that a group of prominent Communists were the owners of that corporation. In a civil suit the courts declared that corporation the legal owners of the newspaper. Then President Prio again ordered, in July 1951, the occupation of the paper by the police, stating that as it was owned by a group of Communists it was an illicit organization and it was again closed. To this action of the Cuban government, Batista made a strong public protest in defense of the Communist paper "Hoy".

From these facts it is shown that when Prio was President the Communist newspaper "Hoy" was interrupted in its campaign against the democracies. And in so doing the government of Prio undid another pro-Communist work of Batista.

Since Batista staged his coup d'etat of March 10, 1952, the Communist newspaper "Hoy" has had free circulation in Cuba, and big trucks carry the newspaper throughout the Island. And he is in an undercover way helping the Communists to gain again control of the labor movement of Cuba. At the same time democratic radio commentators are silenced, broadcasting stations closed, newspaper commentators and writers jailed and brutally beaten.

While Batista has forbidden public gatherings, yet the Communists have been permitted to have large meetings in the National Theater in Havana, on October 10, 1952 as well as the 7th of December the same year. All Communist leaders are in Cuba without the government harrassing them in the least, most of them recently returned from Russia, arriving freely by plane at the Rancho Boyeros Airport. The so-called Batista's break of relations with Russia, as published in the American magazine "Time", is just the opposite, for Russia broke relations with Cuba, possibly as it had a friend in power it did not need it any longer. And we must remember that May 1, 1951, there were two labor parades, one of the Cuban democratic workers in front of the presidential palace of Cuba; and the Communists and the labor section of Batista's Party, P. A. U., marched together in the stadium of Havana.

Batista has been in conversations with the Communists so that the so-called Anti-Communist Law that he has claimed to be preparing will finally be drafted in such a manner that it could be used against those who oppose the Dictator and favor democracy, and not against the Communists.

When Batista organized his present party, P. A. U., about 1949, the Communists helped him; and thousands of them, including some of their best organizers, joined the new party; and these same Communists and their bosses are again gaining control of important positions in the government and in the labor movement of Cuba.

Due to Batista's friendship, many Communists have come to the front after the coup of March 10, 1952. Raul Lorenzo, Minister of Commerce in Batista's present cabinet, was a member of the Communist Secretariat in the Province of Los Villas, 1936-1937, using the pseudonym "Lauro".

Arsenio Gonzales, Undersecretary of Labor, is a former Communist, and as late as the 18th of February, 1952, he was legal advisor for Lazaro Peña (the prominent Communist leader in whose hands Batista and the Communists put all Cuban workers from 1939 until 1946, Peña who has been in Russia several times, together with Blas Roca and the above mentioned Grobar have been the three key men of Communism in Cuba), in a legal suit to regain the position of Secretary General for the Communists, as is shown in the judgment of the Cuban high court "Tribunal de Garantias Constitucionales and Sociales" of the Supreme Court of Cuba, signed on the 18th of February, 1952 under the number 503-951.

A large number of Communists, some of whom are related below, are now working with Batista's Party in the government, or as members of that party's labor organization, for example:

Several members of the labor section of Batista's Party, in Havana Province are Communists, among them are Jose Perez Gonzalez, Jose Fernandez Molini, Arsenio Gonzalez Gonzalez, Gilberto Galan, Galo Guerra Santana, and Julio Grass.

Communists also are Manolo Alonso, Secretario Federacion de Licoreros y Refrescos (union of workers of liquor and beverage industries), and Ma Luisa de Pedro, who wishes to become Secretary General to the Union of Women Tobacco Workers (Gremio Despalilladoras de la Havana).

Fidel Mederos, former Councilman for the Communist Party in the City of Matanzas, is working with the F. A. U. (Batista's Party).

In an election in the cigar makers industry after Batista's coup d'etat, all the anti-Communist labor leaders were defeated, and Communist Mario Valdes Diaz was elected Secretary General, together with ten other Communists, to the Executive Committee.

Pablo Sotolongo, member of the Central Committee of the Communist labor organization for the Province of Camaguey until recently, is now helping the labor committee of Batista's Party in the same Province.

Justo Tamayo was elected Congressman for the Communist Party, 1940-42, has been a prominent Communist leader in the Province of Camaguey until 1950 at least, and is now supporting Batista.

Raul Ortiz, President of the Municipal Assembly for the Communist Party and Councilman in the City of Florida, Province of Camaguey, is now working with Batista's Party.

Batista's insidiousness is magnified by his pose against Communism, when he knows that he is actually using large numbers of Communists in important positions, especially in workers' organizations. And what makes Cuba one of the most hazardous places now is the fact that in other countries the attitude of the government is usually well known, while here we have Dictator Batista allied to the Communists yet posing to the contrary.



The Communistic inclinations and indoctrination of Batista has been recently shown in his totalitarian actions as Dictator; attacks on the freedom of the press; discarding the Cuban Constitution; assuming the powers of Congress; modifying by ukase the laws regulating the judiciary power by retiring four justices of the Supreme Court; killing, beating and torturing many persons; creating insecurity that has caused an economic collapse; modifying Articles of the Constitution by placing the police and the soldiers out of the jurisdiction of the courts of the land; establishing twenty new taxes without the approval of Congress. But the anti-Communist feeling and the love for liberty and democracy of the Cuban people will win in the end.

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MEMORANDUM

June 16, 1953

SUBJECT: Position of the Cuban Government with respect to Communism

The information furnished by Carlos Nevia which Senator Hickenlooper forwarded with his letter to Mr. Cabot of May 28, 1953, has been carefully studied.

Carlos Nevia is a distinguished Cuban citizen, and has held many high posts in that country, including the Presidency. He was again a candidate for the Presidency in the elections which were scheduled to be held on June 1, 1952, running as the choice of a coalition of the incumbent Cuban Revolutionary Party, of which he is a member, and several smaller groups. Batista was also a candidate in that campaign, running as the head of his own Party of Unitary Action. Since the coup of March 10, 1952, as a result of which the elections were postponed, Nevia has continued in opposition, and was one of the signers of the "Montreal Manifesto" of June 2, 1953, along with seven other leaders of factions of the Cuban Revolutionary Party and the Party of the Cuban People. Other important leaders of those parties are not in agreement with the signers of the Manifesto.

Mr. Nevia alleges that Batista has maintained close relations with Cuban Communists, that he has aided the Communists in various ways, and that there are Communists in important positions in his present government. He covers the period from the time Batista first became prominent, in 1933, to the present. This is a popular tactic, designed primarily to influence the attitude of the United States, and the charges are hurled with equal vigor by Batista at his opponents. In that connection, one of the parties in the coalition supporting Nevia's candidacy for the Presidency was the Cuban Nationalist Party, whose leader, Nicolas Castellanos, publicly accepted the support of the Communist Popular Socialist Party in his candidacy for Mayor of Habana in 1950, and campaigned for the position together with leaders of that party. Mr. Nevia accepted the support of the Cuban Nationalist Party without known objection.

The charges made by Mr. Nevia have been made by various opponents of Batista, and have been carefully considered both at the time of the coup and subsequently by the Department. They are felt to deserve particularly close attention in view of Batista's former friendship for known communists such as Juan Marinello, and the fact that persons who were formerly Communists but who now claim to have abandoned that ideology have achieved positions of a certain prominence and influence in the present government, particularly in the Ministry of Labor. In view of the radically changed world situation

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since Batista was last in power in 1944, consideration has been limited to statements and events since the date of the coup, March 10, 1952.

The evidence available to the Department does not support the allegation that Batista is pro-Communist. Among the factors influencing that conclusion are the following:

1) The Batista regime gave satisfactory public and private statements concerning its intentions to take steps to control international Communism in Cuba prior to recognition by the United States on March 27, 1952.

2) Since that time, Batista has continued to take an anti-Communist position in public utterances. In a broadcast on June 12, 1952 he stated that he would "fight Soviet ideology with the same energy as that with which (he) previously fought the Nazi-Fascists". On March 10, 1953, he called for vigilant activity "against Communism that receives orders from Russia", and against those who abet its agitation and encourage dissension within the country.

3) The Cuban representative to the United Nations has consistently aligned his country solidly with the United States against Communist attacks, and has been prominent in the refutation of many Communist allegations. Following Batista's speech of June 12, 1953, he stated (in the United Nations) that in the event of a new world war "Cuba will occupy her place of honor" on the side of the free nations, and that Batista is fighting with all his energy to eliminate Communism in Cuba.

4) The breaking off of relations with the USSR on April 3, 1952 was forced by the Batista administration in refusing to permit diplomatic couriers of the USSR to enter Cuba with diplomatic pouches on March 21, 1952, at a time when the USSR had not recognized the Batista administration. The note of April 3, 1953 from the Cuban Ministry of State to the Legation at Habana of the USSR denied that the couriers had had the right to any other treatment.

5) A bill to establish a committee to investigate Communist activities in Cuba was introduced at the first session of the Consultative Council, on May 22, 1952. The bill was unanimously approved in plenary session of the Council on August 14, 1952. In February, 1953, a three-man commission of the Cuban Cabinet was designated to draft a law controlling Communism in Cuba. It is understood that such a law has been drafted and is now under consideration by the Cabinet. The reaction of the Communist press against this activity has been violent.

6) The

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6) The administration has so altered the electoral code that the Communist party will almost certainly be unable to qualify for the elections, now scheduled for June 1, 1954. The electoral code of 1943 (which Mr. Nevia wishes to see restored) required that a party have 2% of the registered voters as party members in order to participate. In the last general elections, those of 1948, the Popular Socialist Party polled 2.54% and thus qualified. The code, as modified on March 7, 1953, requires that a party obtain 4% of the registered electorate, which is almost certainly a larger figure than the PSP can achieve.

7) Since March 14, 1952, the Batista administration and the militantly anti-Communist leadership of the Cuban Confederation of Labor have mutually supported each other. The alliance has at times appeared shaky, but is still in existence.

8) At the time of the coup, Communist publications in Cuba attacked Batista violently, calling him "a fascist puppet of Yankee imperialism" among other things, and those publications have continued in the same vein since that time.

9) Principal leaders of the Communist Popular Socialist Party, such as Blas Roca, have publicly and repeatedly attacked Batista. They have endeavored, so far without success, to form a "united front of the masses" in opposition.

10) Communist headquarters and publishing establishments have repeatedly been raided, and in some cases damaged.

11) Communists and Communist sympathizers have repeatedly been arrested and detained for questioning by the authorities.

12) Communist, and Communist-infiltrated, meetings have been broken up, and requests for permits to hold meetings denied.

13) Many former Communists and alleged Communists who had joined Batista's Party of Unitary Action, particularly the workers' division of the party, were left out when the party was reorganized in December, 1952 as the Party of Progressive Action. That group has since organized another Party of Unitary Action, in May, 1953, thus becoming completely separated from the administration.

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June 17 1953

Dear Bourke:

I have had a thorough study made of the question of Communist influence in Cuba, including the information from Carlos Hevia you forwarded with your letter of May 28. I understand that Mrs. Sleeper of your staff was informed that it was under way, and that it would be completed about this time.

As you know, the question of Communist influence in Latin America is of continuing concern to us, and is followed closely in each country. The situation in Cuba has been watched and considered constantly, both before and since Batista came to power, and has again been carefully examined in order to give you a completely current reply. The conclusion has been reached that the evidence available to the Department does not support the allegation that Batista is pro-Communist. A copy of a memorandum of this date, setting forth the reasoning on which that conclusion is based, is attached. As you requested in your letter of May 28, the information from Mr. Hevia is returned herewith.

With every good wish,

Very sincerely yours,

John M. Cabot  
Assistant Secretary

Enclosure:  
Copy of memorandum.

The Honorable  
Bourke B. Hickenlooper,  
United States Senate.

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June 18, 1953

Dear Bourke:

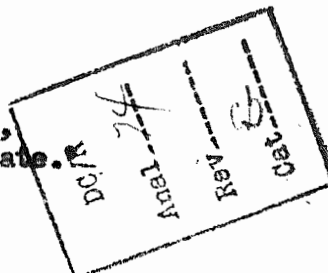
I refer to my letter of June 17, 1953, concerning the report you received from Carlos Nevia charging that the President of Cuba, General Batista, has maintained Communist connections, has aided the Communists in various ways, and that there are Communists in important positions in his Government, and to your telephone call of this morning in which you asked for information concerning Raul Lorenzo, the present Cuban Minister of Commerce, and Arsenio Gonzalez, Acting Cuban Minister of Labor.

On August 14, 1952, in a plenary session of the Cuban Consultative Council, Mr. Lorenzo, who was then a member of that body, stated that he had been a Communist, but that he had separated from that party in 1925. His statement was made in connection with the debate on a proposal to establish a Committee to Investigate Communist Activities, which he opposed as not being the best way to combat Communism. Lorenzo stated that a better way to do that would be to raise the economic level of the people and eliminate poverty. As mentioned in my letter of June 17, the measure was finally passed unanimously. The Department has no information which would indicate that Lorenzo is now Communist or pro-Communist, or that he has been so during the past several years.

Records are said to exist which show that in 1938 Arsenio Gonzalez was a registered member of the Communist Party of Revolutionary Union (Partido Union Revolucionaria Comunista), a precursor of the present Cuban Communist party, the Popular Socialist Party. Since then he has registered as, at different times, a member of the Liberal Party, the Cuban Revolutionary Party, and, since the coup of March 10, 1952, of Batista's Party of Unitary Action. He was legal counsel for known Communists in 1947, in a criminal action. He was a member of the board, and legal counsel, of the

Union

The Honorable  
Bourke B. Hickenlooper,  
United States Senate.



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Union of Workers of the Habana bus line, Omnibus Aliados, when that Union was controlled by Communists. It is not known that he acted as legal counsel for Blas Roca as recently as February 1952. This particular point is being investigated and I will advise you as soon as further information is received.

The policies of the Batista Government in the field of labor and labor relations have not been in any sense pro-Communist, and, as stated in the memorandum enclosed with my letter of June 17, that Government supports the anti-Communist leadership of the Cuban Confederation of Labor.

With every good wish,

Very sincerely yours,

John M. Cabot  
Assistant Secretary

✓  
JUN 19 1953

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