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FROM : AMEMBASSY, HABANA

1431

March 3, 1952

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

AIR POUCH

REF : Embassy despatch 1405, February 28, 1952

SUBJECT: President of Compañia Cubana Indicates Conditions Under Which His Airline Would Agree To Open Separate Office in Habana.

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Mr. Sergio CLARK, President of Compañia Cubana de Aviación, revealed to an officer of the Embassy last week that he has opposed the opening of a separate Cubana office in Habana because, in accordance with Cubana's New York permit issued by the CAB, he would not be permitted to sell PAA tickets in this office. He added that there is an office on the Prado which is currently being used for the handling of air express that could easily be converted into a ticket office for Cubana. He stated that this office could be so arranged that to a man in the street it would appear to be an exclusive Cubana office and that the 23rd Street building, which Cubana owns, could be fixed up as a separate Pan American Airways office. He declared that while there would be no joint advertising of these company offices, each one should be allowed to sell tickets of all airlines, just as a customer can normally purchase an airplane ticket at any airline counter.

As a further condition to the opening of a separate Cubana office, he indicated that PAA and Cubana would have to continue present common reservation and accounting facilities, but that since these functions are not normally seen or observed by the public, this point should not be important.

For the Ambassador:

Raymond L. Harrell
Raymond L. Harrell
Attaché

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

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MAR 13 1952

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