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FROM AMEMBASSY, HABANA

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January 26, 1954

TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

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SUBJECT: Press Article Re Carlos Prío

The weekly magazine Gente, a labor publication, published in its January 24, 1954 issue an article by one Antonio LLANO Montes reporting 1) that Sam ROSEMAN, Prío's attorney, is to put on a tremendous publicity drive in connection with his defense of Prío before the Grand Jury, and 2) that Prío has refused a deal whereby Costa Rica would attend the Caracas Conference in return for Prío's "absolution" by the Grand Jury.

A copy and translation of the article are enclosed.

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Comment

Sr. Llano is a commentator of little influence. Similarly, the magazine Gente is relatively obscure. The article is submitted merely as an indication of the line that may be taken in connection with the Prío case, here or elsewhere, by the less responsible press.

For the Ambassador:

Earl T. Crain
First Secretary

Enclosure

1. Copy of article
2. Translation

cc: Amembassy, San José

ETCrain:ep

REPORTER

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ACTION COPY — DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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Gente
January 24, 1954

Por Antonio LLANO MONTES

! EXCLUSIVO PARA "GENTE". El juicio que se le sigue al Ex Presidente Prío en los Estados Unidos, va a tomar una fase muy importante. Lo que se pensó iba a perjudicar al depuesto Presidente, se va a convertir en un show de grandes proporciones. Prío ha contratado a un abogado demócrata de mucha personalidad en los Estados Unidos, que alcanzó gran notoriedad por haber sido uno de los consejeros íntimos del ex Presidente F. D. Roosevelt, para que haga llegar al pueblo norteamericano sus puntos de vista sobre el problema cubano. Sam Roseman es, además de un gran abogado, un destacado publicista al estilo de Chibás y maneja a capricho a la opinión pública norteamericana. Su primera medida, después de comprometerse plenamente con Carlos Prío a echar el resto, ha sido comenzar la organización de una agencia de publicidad que será establecida en la ciudad de Nueva York y la cual se ocupará únicamente del juicio de Prío en el Gran Jurado. Los honorarios de S.R. alcanzan la cifra de cien mil pesos y éste se ha comprometido a no dejarse influenciar por presiones políticas de ningún tipo.

POR LAS CANCELLERIAS AMERICANAS. Cuatro gobiernos americanos se han interesado por el proceso de Carlos Prío y han expuesto sus puntos de vista en el State Department, a través de sus Embajadores en los Estados Unidos. El Departamento de Estado Norteamericano le ha insinuado a Carlos Prío que la causa que se le sigue será sobrellevada si abandona el país en unión de sus amigos, informándole al mismo tiempo que Costa Rica está dispuesta a admitirlo como refugiado. Todo esto obedece a las conversaciones sostenidas entre la Cancillería de Costa Rica y el State Department, donde se ha pactado la asistencia de C.R. a la conferencia de Caracas, a cambio de la absolucíon de Prío en el Gran Jurado. Por su parte el depuesto Presidente cubano ha contestado que no a las posibilidades de ese arreglo que le ha insinuado el State Department.

Gente
January 24, 1954
(Translation)

Exclusive for "Gente." The trial of ex-President Prío in the United States is going to take a very important turn. What was thought would be harmful to the deposed President, is going to be converted into a show of great proportions. Prío has retained a Democrat attorney very well known in the United States who achieved great notoriety through having been one of the intimate counselors of ex-President F. D. Roosevelt, who will see to it that his views on the Cuban problem reach the American people. Sam Roseman is, besides a great lawyer, an outstanding publicist in the Chibás style who manages U.S. public opinion at will. His first measure, after committing himself fully with Carlos Prío to "shoot the works", was to start organizing a publicity agency to be established in New York City and which will devote itself solely to Prío's hearing before the Grand Jury. S.R.'s fees amount to \$100,000 and he has promised not to permit himself to be influenced by political pressures of any type.

IN THE AMERICAN CHANCELLERIES. Four American Governments have interested themselves in the trial of Carlos Prío and have expressed their points of view in the Department of State, through their Ambassadors in the United States. The U.S. Department of State has insinuated to Carlos Prío that the case against him would be closed were he to leave the country together with his friends. He was informed at the same time that Costa Rica is disposed to admit him as a refugee. All this is due to conversations between the Chancellery of Costa Rica and the State Department, where the presence of Costa Rica at the Caracas Conference was agreed to in exchange for the acquittal of Prío by the Grand Jury. On his part, the deposed Cuban President has said "no" to that arrangement insinuated to him by the State Department.