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FROM HABANA

302

TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

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REF

SUBJECT PUBLICITY GIVEN MIAMI "CUBA DAY" IN HABANA PRESS;
ASSISTANT SECRETARY MILLER'S SPEECH LAUDED.

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The Habana press has publicized fully the events held in Miami on August 17, 18, and 19 in connection with the annual "Cuba Day" sponsored by that city. Particular attention was given to the speech of Assistant Secretary of State Edward G. MILLER, which was published in full by several newspapers and also lauded editorially. Headings such as, "Miller Praises Amity of American Republics"; "America, Example of Cooperation"; and "Miller Lauds U.S.-Cuba Relations at Miami Meet", were used to describe the speech.

Diario de la Marina entitled the lead editorial in its August 19 issue, "The Solid Friendship Between Cuba and the United States". While praising Mr. Miller's words highly as "sincere, gentlemanly, important and timely", La Marina did not miss the opportunity to cite them as proof that Cuba is entitled to better treatment with regard to the sugar quota. It says that the Assistant Secretary has been correct in pointing to the friendship existing between the two countries as an outstanding example of the practical effective functioning of the Good Neighbor Policy. Referring to the approval of the law reducing Cuba's sugar quota, La Marina then expresses the opinion that Cuban-U.S. sugar relations should be established on a more solid basis than a law subject to Congressional approval. It concludes that the recognition accorded by Mr. Miller to the friendship and cooperation extended by Cuba to the United States should help considerably to reach a more solid understanding on the sugar question.

The Havana Herald editorial of August 19 pointed to Miami's "Cuba Day" as evidence of growing hemisphere consciousness of the people of the United States. It said that the choice of Mr. Miller as the principal speaker was a happy one because of his many years' residence in Cuba and because he is a "Caribbean" product. It said that the Assistant Secretary's presence in Miami indicated that "Cuba Day" has become far more than a local event; that it is a concrete gesture of Inter-American amity and cooperation.

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PREPARATION TIME

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The Habana press also reported fully the speech of the Under Secretary of Navy closing the "Cuban Day" festivities in which he stated that United States-Cuban liberty is threatened by international Communism.

Meanwhile, Communist La Ultima Hora seized upon Assistant Secretary Miller's statement that Cuban-U.S. relations are "exemplary" and then attempted to prove that they are exemplary "only in a negative sense". Ultima Hora first referred to the proposed reduction in the sugar quota as "an example of Yanqui friendship". It then said that Mr. Miller had signed the orders requiring visas for Cubans to enter the States, and contrasted this procedure with the "unfettered" manner in which Yankees are allowed to enter Cuba. The article concluded with the statement, "The facts demonstrate that Mr. Miller's words insult not only the truth but also our national dignity".

One protest concerning the conduct of the festivities was reported in El Mundo of August 21. It stated that the delegation from the Habana municipal council had returned disgusted with the treatment it had received in Miami. The following complaints were listed:

- (a) None of the speakers mentioned the Cuban councilmen's presence;
- (b) Ex-Mayor Harold TURK, who presided over the festivities, did not say hello to Andres AVELINO Fonseca, who was responsible for obtaining for Turk the Habana Gold Medal.
- (c) The previously arranged program was changed entirely and the Cuban visitors, including the municipal councilmen, were "at sea" throughout their stay;
- (d) Despite the attempt to eulogize Cuba, the dances carried out were either Spanish or American, but not Cuban;
- (e) Dr. Jacobo de PLAZOLA, who represented Habana's Mayor Nicolas CASTELLANOS, was not given a place of honor, but instead seated in a corner of the presidential stand;
- (f) But, "curiously enough, the Under Secretary of the Navy of the United States spent more than 45 minutes talking with our delegation, giving them emotional abrazos".

COMMENT:

It is possible that this alleged treatment of the Habana councilmen may have some relation to the series of events which have taken place following Mayor Turk's denunciation of those signing Communist Peace Petitions (Habana's 2343, May 25, 1951) which was an obvious direct reference to Mayor Castellanos. A few weeks later when Mayor Turk returned to Habana for an official event, Mayor Castellanos was conveniently out of the city. Also it will be noted that Mayor Castellanos did not find it possible on the present occasion to attend

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personally the festivities being held in connection with "Cuba Day".

Copies of editorials and articles from the local press are enclosed.

For the Chargé d'Affaires ad interim:

Henry A. Hoyt

Henry A. Hoyt
Second Secretary of Embassy

Enclosure: *115*
Newspaper clippings

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AUG. 19 1951

Miller Lauds U. S.-Cuba Relations at Miami Meet

MIAMI BEACH, Aug. 17. (AP)—Assistant Secretary of State Edward Miller declared today human history affords no finer example of cooperation among nations than the friendly relations between Cuba and the United States.

"The continuous cordial interchange between Miami Beach and Habana on the municipal level," Miller added, "exemplifies the solidarity between our two countries and this in turn is part of the overall solidarity of the 21 Republicans of this hemisphere, within the framework of the United Nations."

Miller spoke at the Cuba Day Service Club luncheon inaugur-

ating the fourth annual Cuba Day festival here. He was one of a number of speakers who lauded the friendship between the two countries.

"We should have peace among the countries of the world," Miller told the gathering, "as we have peace among the Americans, if all the other nations would learn from the American democracies, and practise fully, the lessons that our peoples have learned so well in the past three-score years: the lesson of consultation, in complete equality; the lesson of mutual difficulties brought to a common council ta-

ble, and there considered in the honest desire to find bases of agreement; the lesson of concerted action resulting from conclusions reached through peaceful and civilized procedure."

Miller recalled the measures taken at the Washington Inter-American Conference to safeguard the hemisphere against international Communism. He also noted the Aug. 20 meeting of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council in Panama and the September 10 session of the Inter-American Cultural Council.

"These three meetings," he declared, "are typical of the nature of Inter-American problems and of the Inter-American cooperation in dealing with them."



Celebra Miami Beach el "Día de Cuba"

Poco antes de inaugurarse oficialmente el "Día de Cuba" organizado por cuarta vez por el Municipio de Miami Beach, fueron sorprendidos por la cámara en el Hotel Delano el alcalde de Miami Beach, Mr. Harold Turk; Edward G. Miller, Jr., Subsecretario de Estado de Estados Unidos y el embajador en el hermano país, Dr. Luis Machado.—(INP).

AUG 18 1951

Miller Praises Amity Of American Republics

Assistant State Secretary Speaks At Luncheon
Inaugurating Miami Beach's 'Cuba Day' Festival

MIAMI BEACH, August 17.—(UP).—World peace would be achieved if other nations would study the American democracies and practice fully the lessons of cooperation they have learned, Assistant Secretary of State Edward Miller, Jr., declared today.

"Human history affords no finer example of cooperation among nations," he told a gathering of Miami service club leaders at a luncheon inaugurating the fourth annual "Cuba Day" festival here.

The State Department's director of inter-American affairs referred to the "lessons" learned by the American peoples:

"The lesson of consultation in complete equality; the lesson of mutual difficulties brought to the common council table and there considered in honest desire to find a basis of agreement; the lesson of concerted action, resulting from conclusions and reached through

peaceful and civilized procedure."

Miller said that the three major inter-American conferences that will be held this year illustrate the unified approach of hemisphere nations to their common problems. He said: "These three meetings of the foreign ministers, of the Economic and Social Council, and of the cultural council are typical of the nature of inter-American problems and of inter-American problems and dealing with them. The peoples of the American republics are constantly on guard to assure the integrity of the hemisphere against aggression.

"At the same time the American nations never leave off seeking ways of building a better and more rewarding life for all their citizens."

Miller himself will attend the Inter-American Economic and Social Council meeting which opens in Panama next Monday. The Inter-American Cultural Council will hold its first meeting in Mexico City in September.

The Assistant Secretary praised the work of the fourth meeting of consultation of the American foreign ministers in Washington last March. He said, "That meeting upheld unanimously the preservation of the internal security of our peoples, intensification of their economic cooperation, and assumption by each country of its own part in ensuring the security of all."

Miller devoted much of the address to a review of the long association between Florida and the Caribbean islands, which began with an expedition from Puerto Rico which "established Ponce De Leon both as first publicity agent for Florida and as Point Four innovator." The Spanish explorer brought with him domestic animals, seeds and roots to stock settlements he planned to establish in Florida.

Miller reviewed the long-standing commercial and cultural interchange between Cuba and Florida and declared: "The citizens of Cuba and the citizens of Florida necessarily share the past with much in common in the democratic reality of their progressive and forward-looking present. Their association is all the closer because it is a voluntary interchange of friendship.

"Continuous cordial interchanges between Miami Beach and Havana on the municipal level exemplify the solidarity between our two countries."