



THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Habana, Cuba, December 27, 1950

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO

Official--Informal

Dear Eddie:

I had a visit with President Prio yesterday regarding the Cuban Nickel Company situation regarding which I wired you and also discussed with you on the telephone. I also talked to Jess Larson, as per our conversation.

During my conversation with President Prio, I approached him on the possibility of having the proceeds of a lottery given to the Cuban American Cultural Institute. He said that Dr. Portell Vilá had taken this matter up with him but that he had shelved it. However, the President told me that he would see that the proceeds of a lottery, amounting to around \$40,000 would be given to the Institute. This will be of great help to the Institute and, in time, will pay dividends.

One thing that should always be remembered regarding President Prio, whenever we have asked him anything regarding Cuban foreign policy he has always stated that Cuba will follow United States' leadership which, I feel, is very commendable. We couldn't ask for anything more in this regard. Prio has also told me on numerous times that he is going to take care of the claims. He has also been very cooperative in the securing of the property here for the new Chancery. He was exceedingly cooperative in putting legislation through for private universities. This, I believe, is one of the most important things for the future of Cuban students. It will eventually change Cuba's entire educational field. The precedent is now set and other universities will spring up. I have been informed

The Honorable  
Edward G. Miller, Jr.,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Department of State,  
Washington, D. C.

611.347/12-2750

that Southern Methodist University is anxious to get into Cuba as well as a Baptist University. Having broken the log-jam, there will be considerable change in Cuba's educational system -- which will advance more rapidly and bring about a better understanding between the United States and Cuba.

I am enclosing a copy of a letter that I received from Father Kelly, Rector of Santo Tomas de Villanova College which is self-explanatory.

I am looking forward to seeing you around the 9th.

With all good wishes to you and yours for the New Year,

Sincerely,

✓ Bob V Butler