

Air Priority
PRIORITY

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION
(Security Classification)

DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE

737.00 (w)/6-1253
Final
Noted

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : AMEMBASSY, HABANA *JUN 11 1953* 1945
DESP. NO.

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

June 12, 1953
DATE

REF : hsf

18 For Dept.	ACTION OLI	DEPT. I N F O	ARA	EUR	UNA	I	IPS	IFI	IBS	<i>Final</i> <i>File</i>
Use Only 515	REC'D JUNE 16	OTHER	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	OSD	CIA			

SUBJECT: Joint Weeka No. 24 for State, Army, Navy and Air Departments from SANA

Part I

Political

(CONFIDENTIAL) Autentico-Ortodoxo Meeting at Montreal. The majority of those who had left Cuba to attend the meeting of Autentico and Ortodoxo leaders at Montreal (see Weeka No. 23) have now returned to Habana. They were not molested by the Cuban authorities on arrival. Their statements to the local press have strengthened the impression in Cuba that the document issued at the end of the conference may be a cover for plans to overthrow Batista. Possible dates mentioned for such an attempt range from mid-June to early August.

(SECRET) Increased Military Security Measures. The Embassy has received a report (B-3) that among new precautionary measures taken at Camp Columbia, the military headquarters, is the designation of a general on a rotation basis to command the Camp guard at night and have sole authority to permit ingress or egress. This measure is said to have been due to Batista's lack of complete trust in any but his generals and supersedes the system whereby the Officer of the Day granted permission to enter or leave the Camp.

(RESTRICTED) Comment. While the Embassy has not been able to verify this report, the measure would appear a logical, if extreme, step to protect the key military establishment, easy entry into which played such a vital part in Batista's own coup of March 10.

(UNCLASSIFIED) Rumored Cabinet Changes. There have recently been many rumors of imminent cabinet changes, with the Ministries of Labor, Information, Justice, Defense and Interior mentioned. The latest report is that the Minister of Education, angered at criticism by members of the Government of the plan to reorganize the teaching profession, will provoke a crisis at the next meeting of the Council of Ministers.

FCFornes, Jr.:ep
REPORTER

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

ACTION COPY — DEPARTMENT OF STATE

The action office must return this permanent record copy to DC/R files with an endorsement of action taken.

This Document Must Be Returned To
DC/R
Central
Files
737.00 (w)/6-1253

SECRET FILE

Psychological

(UNCLASSIFIED) Italian Elections. Non-Communist analysts were preoccupied with the closeness of de Gasperi's victory in the Italian elections and said that he would have to demonstrate great statesmanship to carry through his program of cooperation with the West. The Communist treatment of the elections is shown by the headlining of reports: "Great Communist Victory in Elections Held in Italy"; "Strong Clerical Setback in Inability to Achieve Absolute Majority"; "War Policy Defeated"; "Desirous of Falsifying Italian Electoral Results"; "Yankee Interventionists and Reactionary Clergy Defeated"; and "Communist Triumph Surpassed Calculations". Editorially, Hoy said that the elections were a recognition that only the Italian Communist party could lead the people to "full independence, full liberty, well being and peace."

(UNCLASSIFIED) Reaction to the Korean Truce. Reaction to South Korean opposition to the truce in Korea was mixed. On the one hand, some commentators felt that the objections to the truce by South Korea were absurd and that the armistice was justified by the fact that the hostilities had not resolved anything. On the other hand, other analysts considered Syngman Rhee's attitude justified on the ground that the truce would represent a reward for aggression. Communists took the line that the "imperialist invaders" were forced by the pressure of world opinion to accept the formula proposed by the Red Chinese and North Koreans.

(UNCLASSIFIED) Eisenhower's Speech in Minneapolis. Early editorial reaction to President Eisenhower's Minneapolis speech in which he called for the union of all free countries for the defense against Communism was laudatory. The speech was praised as manifesting the President's statesmanlike vision and for helping to dissipate the doubts and confusion caused by the recent recommendations of Senator Taft.

(UNCLASSIFIED) Rosenberg Case. As the date set for the execution of the Rosenbergs draws near, the Communists have intensified efforts in their behalf and have become increasingly vituperative. The director of Hoy wrote that "it is still possible to win this battle against the bestiality of a regime, which, precisely because of its infamies, is demonstrating its complete decadence, corruption and putrefaction."

(UNCLASSIFIED) Government Requested to Endorse "Big Five Peace Pact". According to the Communist press, a delegation representing the "National Peace Committee" and composed of known Communists and fellow travelers, presented demands through the Minister of State that the Government endorse the proposal

for a "Big Five Peace Pact", adopt an "independent international policy", and develop "economic and cultural relations with all countries". This constituted the most outstanding of recent attempts to drum up support for the "Pact".

(RESTRICTED) Comment. There is no reason to believe that the Cuban Government is unaware of the Communist inspiration behind the "National Peace Committee" or that it will seriously consider complying with its demands.

(UNCLASSIFIED) Communist Finances. Statements by Blas ROCA and Anibal ESCALANTE during the week gave evidence that the financial situation of Hoy and the other Communist publications continues to be a matter of concern in spite of efforts to correct the situation.

(CONFIDENTIAL) Communist Party President Leaves for Vienna. Juan MARINELLO, president of the Communist Partido Socialista Popular, left Habana for Vienna on June 10 via KLM. It is presumed that he is bound for the meeting of the World Peace Council scheduled to convene at Budapest on June 15.

ARMY, NAVY


Negative.

AIR

(UNCLASSIFIED) Cuban Air Force Increases Number of Specialists. On June 7, 1953 eighteen students returned from the USAF Technical Schools for Latin America at Albrook AFB, Panama. Personnel were trained in individual courses in the specialist fields of supply, aircraft maintenance, communications, Link trainer, and meteorology.

(UNCLASSIFIED) Comment. This brings the total of Cuban Air Force personnel trained at Albrook AFB to over 100 graduates. Graduates of these schools have increased considerably the overall effectiveness of the Cuban Army Air Force. The schools have done much to further strengthen Cuban Air Force-U.S. Air Force relationships.

For the Ambassador:



Earl T. Crain
Acting Counselor of Embassy

Page 4 of
Desp. No. 1945
From Habana

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION
(Classification)

Page _____ of
Encl. No. _____
Desp. No. _____
From _____

Participants:

ETGrain, JCanter, FCFornes, Jr., ETerrell
Elmore (MA), Beckett (AA)

Copies to:

Amembassies Ciudad Trujillo, Port-au-Prince, Rome
AmConsGen, Montreal

MA (4) for USARCARIB and USARFANT
AA (1)
NA (3) for Guantánamo

man

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION