

INCOMING AIRGRAM

AIRGRAM

424

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS TELEGRAPH BRANCH

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM: American Embassy,
Habana, Cuba

CRB

Date of Mailing: Feb. 1, 1949

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file
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Secretary of State,
Washington.

4:30

A-161, February 1, 1949

Grau's Trip to Miami

Reference previous correspondence (see Embassy's telegram 613, August 23, 1948) regarding proposal that honorary degree be conferred on ex-President Grau by the University of Miami.

Embassy has learned that Grau has reserved three seats on Pan American flight 416 scheduled to leave here for Miami February 6 at 9:45 a.m. and that he has made return reservations on flight 419 leaving Miami February 8 at 10:00 a.m. According to press reports, Grau will be accompanied by his nephews: Senator Francisco GRAU Alsina, Minister of Agriculture, and Ramon GRAU Alsina, member of the House of Representatives.

When rumors regarding Grau's trip first began to circulate several days ago there was considerable speculation that the former President might have decided to go into voluntary exile in the United States. Although it was later learned that he was proceeding to Miami to receive an honorary degree, commentators surmise that he will take the occasion to confer with Senator José Manuel ALEMÁN regarding problems confronted by the Autentico Party and the charges recently brought by Senator Pelayo CUERVO that Grau and members of his government had misappropriated some 174 million pesos of Government funds. (See Embassy's A-97, January 21, and A-144, January 28, 1949.)

Since no approach has been made to the Embassy regarding visas for Dr. Grau and the members of his party, it may be that they have decided to enter the United States under the 29-day provision. Perhaps the Department will wish to have appropriate instructions issued to our immigration and customs officials at Miami.

MALLOY

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