Subject: Inauguration of President-elect Carlos Prio Socarras

The Honorable
The Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to the Department's restricted telegram No. 696 of September 30, 1948, 7 p.m., indicating that Ambassador Robert Butler's Special Mission for the inauguration of the President-elect Carlos Prio will be composed of Ambassador Louis E. Denfeld, USN, Lt. General Matthew B. Ridgway, U.S.A., Major General Willis H. Hale, USAF, and approximately 15 Embassy Officers designated by the Ambassador, and to forward attached, for the Department's information, a self-explanatory copy of note No. 616 dated October 1, 1948 addressed to the Minister of State.

Respectfully yours,

[Signature]

Harold S. Tewell
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

Enclosure: alt

1. Copy of note.

Vlansing Collins, Jr./Ida
Habana, Cuba, October 1, 1948

Excellency:

I have the honor to refer to my note No. 598 of September 26, 1948 in which I informed Your Excellency of the composition of the Special Mission to the Inauguration of Dr. Carlos Prio Socarras, which will be headed by Ambassador Robert Butler, with the rank of Special Ambassador.

The following is a revised list of the persons who will form Ambassador Butler's Special Mission:

Admiral Louis E. Denfeld, Chief of Naval Operations, Department of the Navy;

Mrs. Denfeld;

Lt. General Matthew B. Ridgway, Commander in Chief, United States Forces, Caribbean;

Mrs. Ridgway;

Major General Willis H. Hale, Commanding General, Caribbean Air Command;

Mrs. Hale;

Mr. Lester D. Mallory, Counselor of Embassy;

Mrs. Mallory;

Colonel Edgar E. Glenn, Air Attaché;

Mrs. Glenn;

Captain Thomas F. Cullen, Naval Attaché and Naval Attaché for Air;

Mrs. Cullen;

Major Alfred E. Coffey, Acting Military Attaché;

Mrs. Coffey;

Mr. Carlos E. Warner, First Secretary of Embassy;

Mrs. Warner;

Mr. Daniel V. Anderson, First Secretary of Embassy;

Mrs. Anderson;

Mr. John A. Hamilton, Cultural Attaché;

Mrs. Hamilton;

Mr. Clarence W. Moore, Attaché;

Mrs. Moore;

Mr. V. Lansing Collins, Jr., Second Secretary of Embassy;

Mrs. Collins;

Mr. A. John Cope, Jr., Second Secretary of Embassy;

Mrs. Cope;

Mr. W. Wendell Blanche, Second Secretary of Embassy.

Please accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Harold S. Towell
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

V Lansing Collins, Jr/Ida
American Embassy,
Caracas, Venezuela, October 1, 1948.

Subject: Venezuelan Delegation to the Inauguration of the President of Cuba

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that the President of Venezuela has designated the following persons to represent this country at the inauguration of Dr. Carlos PRIO Socarras as President of Cuba:

Dr. Eligio ANZOLA Anzola, Minister of Interior,
Chief of the Mission with rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary;

The Honorable José NUCETE Sardi, Venezuelan Ambassador to Cuba;

Señor Luis ARROYO Farejo, Director of Protocol, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;

Señor Rafael RIVAS Vásquez, Office of Protocol, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;

Major José MONSALVE Durán;
Navy Lieutenant Armando LOPEZ Conde;
Military Attachés: Captain Martín BASTIDAS Torres,
Captain Martín MARQUEZ Añez;
Dr. Antonio J. ROMERO Espeso;
Señor Pálmenes YARZA.

I understand that the Cuban Government, through the Cuban Minister here, has invited the Honorable Rómulo BETANCOURT, former President of Venezuela, to attend the inauguration as the guest of the Cuban Government, but that Betancourt has declined the invitation owing to the pressure of work here and the fact that he has just returned from a visit to the United States.

Respectfully yours,

Walter J. Donnelly

cc: AmEmbassy, Habana
Dear Mr. Secretary:

In reply to your letter of September 7, 1948, I wish to inform you that I am designating the following officers to represent the National Military Establishment at the inaugural ceremonies of the new president of Cuba to be held at Habana October 10, 1948:

Admiral Louis Denfeld, United States Navy

(in the event that Admiral Denfeld is unable to attend, Rear Admiral Daniel E. Barbey will attend in his place)

Lt. General Matthew B. Ridgway, United States Army

Major General Willis F. Hale, United States Air Force

Yours sincerely,

James Forrestal

The Honorable
George C. Marshall
Secretary of State
Office Memorandum

TO: CRB - Mr. Walker
FROM: CRB - Miss Hale
SUBJECT: Views of President-Elect Carlos Prio

An analysis of President-elect Prio's public statements during the last two months made by Embassy Habana reveals the following policies:

1. Opposition to Communism.
2. Support of measures improving the status of labor.
3. Promotion of greater industrialization for Cuba; preference for Cubans in all employment.
4. Promotion of greater agricultural diversification.
5. Suppression of gangsterism and "cleaning up" of administration.
6. Inauguration of a huge plan of public works.
9. Establishment of full diplomatic relations with Spain.
10. Promotion of friendly relations with democratic governments and opposition dictatorships.

The absence of many topics in international relations is noted as an indication of Prio's insular outlook and lack of breadth of vision.

ARA:CRB:AHale CONFIDENTIAL