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737.13/5-2550

RECEIVED ACTION INFORMATION

MAY 29

ARA

FROM : HABANA 1210 May 25, 1950

REF : CBD July 28, 1949

SUBJECT : DEATH OF MIGUEL A. DE LEON Y FUENTES

DCR OLIE

Miguel A. de LEON, Minister without portfolio in the PRIO Administration since May 27, 1949, died on May 19 in the General Hospital of Boston. He had been suffering from heart trouble for some time and, as a result, had been relatively inactive in Cuban politics, despite the fact that he retained his title as Minister. Sr. De Leon was a former President of the Partido Democrático, having been replaced by José ANDREU in August 1949.

The remains of the ex-Minister were flown to Habana from Boston and he was accorded a state funeral on May 23, with President Prio and other high dignitaries of the Government attending.

As yet there has been no official indication as to a possible replacement for De Leon as Minister. The names of Simeon FERRO Martínez, President of the Provincial Council of the Democratic Party in Pinar del Rio, and Angel FERNANDEZ Valera, Democratic Representative in the House of Representatives, have been mentioned. In any event, it seems certain that the Democratic Party will make a strong bid to have one of its members replace De Leon. Political sources indicate that President Prio is unlikely to name a new Minister until after the June 1 elections.

For the Ambassador:

Henry A. Hoyt

Henry A. Hoyt,
Second Secretary of Embassy.

HAHoyt/elw
May 25, 1950

737.13/5-2550

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