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DEPARTMENT (Classification)
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FROM : Embassy Habana

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March 18, 1952

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DATE

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON

AIR POUCH
PRIORITY

MAR 19 1952

REF :

2 enclosures

SUBJECT: CAPITOL SKIRMISH; ALONSO PUJOL RESIGNATION

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For Dept.

Use Only

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I have the honor to enclose a clipping from today's EL MUNDO which reports the effort made by a small group of Senators and Congressmen to inaugurate the session of Congress which should have opened yesterday under Article 132 of the Constitution. The Senators were led by Senate President Manuel A. de VARONA, and the Representatives were led by House President Lincoln RODON Alvarez. After having been prevented by police from entering the Capitol Building, the Senators and Representatives released to the press a previously prepared statement of protest which likewise is contained in the clipping.

The enclosure also contains the statement of the Orthodox Party condemning the Batista regime's action in preventing the meeting of Congress.

In an effort to explain yesterday's incident at the Capitol, Ernesto de la Fé, Propaganda Minister, pointed out that constitutional guarantees had been suspended and that public meetings were prohibited. He stressed that no Congressman had been detained. His statement is also included in the clipping.

There is enclosed also the text of Vice President Guillermo ALONSO PUJOL's resignation as published in today's DIARIO DE LA MARINA.

Willard L. Beaulac
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Enclosures:

1. Clipping from EL MUNDO, March 18
2. " " DIARIO DE LA MARINA, March 18

WLBeaulac/dw

REPORTER(S)

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