

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : ARA - Mr. Raboltom

DATE: October 7, 1959

FROM : CMA - Mr. Stevenson *AS*

SUBJECT: Your Visit with Ambassador Dihigo at 4:00 Today *145*

*937-723*

Dr. Pando, who has returned from his vacation in Cuba, called on me yesterday and on the occasion of this visit asked me if it might be possible for Ambassador Dihigo to call on you today in order that he might take up with you certain questions with relation to the hijacking of the Cubana plane which was on a flight from Habana to Santiago de Cuba on October 2, 1959. Such details as we have on this incident are attached at Tab A. Dr. Pando gave no hint as to what the Cuban complaint might be with regard to the hijacking (which would seem to have been purely a Cuban matter) but it is my conjecture that it may have something to do with the handling of the plane after it landed in Florida and/or perhaps the asylum given to the hijackers.

Dr. Pando said that Ambassador Dihigo also wishes to discuss with you the subject of illegal shipments of arms from the Miami area to enemies of the Castro administration. On this subject, I have attached at Tab B various communications in which the U.S. interest in preventing illegal shipments of this nature has been manifested to the Cuban Government with as yet no response on its part.

You may recall that United States intelligence sources reported to us last Sunday that Ambassador Dihigo had been instructed by Roa to come in and discuss the above two topics with you. In view of the fact that Dr. Pando has indicated the subjects to be raised there would appear to be no danger to security in our being prepared in advance. Following our conversation with Ambassador Bonsal I called SCA and asked them if they would inquire of Justice whether it would be possible to step up enforcement activities with regard to the illegal arms traffic in the Miami area. I have had no reply as yet from SCA but it would be correct to state, if you should so desire, that the Department is making renewed efforts to prevent this type of activity.

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Attachments:

1. Cubana incident of October 2, 1959. (Tab A)
2. Communications re illegal shipments of arms from Miami area. (Tab B)

ARA:CMA:RAStevenson/ymd

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