

AIR MAIL

Subject: (Appointment of Evaristo ULLOA
y Ferro as President of the
Cuban Maritime Commission)

CONFIDENTIAL

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yes	no
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The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that the Cuban Government has accepted the resignation of Dr. Rafael SANTOS JIMENEZ, President of the Cuban Maritime Commission, and appointed in his stead Sr. Evaristo ULLOA y Ferro (Decree no. 251 of January 22, 1945, promulgated in Official Gazette no. 69 of January 30, 1945), a leader of the Auténtico Party and a former Cuban Navy officer.

Contrary to the Embassy's expectations (See despatch no. 2713 of April 7, 1943, file no. 880/800, on the appointment of Dr. Rafael Santos Jiménez as head of the Cuban Maritime Commission), Dr. Santos Jiménez' activities were hardly less objectionable than those of his predecessor, Dr. Gustavo GUTIERREZ. Not only has the Embassy good reason to believe that he was involved last year in an attempt to "shake down" the American terminal companies operating in Cuba, in return for obtaining the modification of certain resolutions of the Cuban Maritime Commission to which these companies had objected, but he also was responsible for the issuance of several resolutions which, while ostensibly designed to promote a Cuban merchant marine, are in conflict with the broader policies of our Government in respect of maritime shipping and trade restrictions.

Whether Sr. Ulloa will be any improvement over Dr. Santos Jiménez remains to be seen, but the information which the Embassy has thus far received on him is not unfavorable. A biographic sketch is being prepared on Sr. Ulloa and will be forwarded to the Department in the near future.

Respectfully yours,

For the Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

Albert F. Nufer
Albert F. Nufer
Counselor of Embassy
for Economic Affairs

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