



DEPARTMENT OF STATE INSTRUCTION

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NO.: A-4 July 5, 1955

SUBJECT: Interpretation of the Air Transport Agreement between US and Cuba

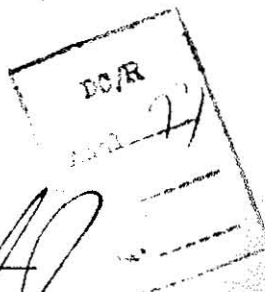
TO: AmEmbassy HABANA

Reference is made to the Embassy's despatch No. 1276 dated June 21, 1955 which transmitted a memorandum dated June 16, 1955 from the Cuban Civil Aeronautics Commission regarding the application of the Argonaut Airways Corporation of Florida for authorization to operate a non-scheduled air service between Key West, Florida and Habana, Cuba. The Commission inquired whether such operations come under the provisions of the air transport agreement between the US and Cuba.

It is the position of the US that the bilateral air transport agreements cover only the operations of certificated scheduled carriers and do not cover the non-scheduled or irregular carrier.

Argonaut Airways contemplated service is not covered under the agreement and it is not to be considered as a designated carrier since (a) it has not been officially designated to the Cuban Government by the U.S. Government and (b) the US does not have a route in the annex corresponding to the operations desired by this carrier.

Permits for the conduct of non-scheduled operations are handled outside the bilateral air transport agreement. Therefore, the Embassy may wish to express the hope, when answering the memorandum from the Cuban Civil Aeronautics Commission, that the Cuban Government may find it possible to grant the application of Argonaut for non-scheduled cargo operations between Key West and Habana outside the terms of the air transport agreement.



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