SECRET

No. 19713

SUBJECT:

Telephone Conversation of General

Fulgencio Batista.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

With further reference to the Department's confidential circular instruction of October 27, 1945 concerning the visit of General Fulgencio Batista, ex-president of Cuba, to various countries in Latin America, I have the honor to transmit herewith, as of possible interest to the Department, a copy of a telephone conversation between General Batista, in Rio de Janeiro, and a Mr. Manoel Perez Benitoa, in New York, as recorded by the Brazilian Government censors.

> Respectfully yours. For the Charge d'Affaires a.i.

Vinton Chapin First Secretary of Embassy

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TC No. 9014

Enclosure to Despatch no. 19713 of January 25, 1945, from the Embassy at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

4/16/66

FROM: General Fulgencio Batista FOR: Mr. Manoel Perez Rio de Janeiro, D.F. Benitoa, New York

RADIO-TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

The abovementioned exchange friendly greetings and

- F.B. asked if MPB had received his telegram(cut by N.Y. censorship)
- F.B. said that he did not need anything. (Another suspension from N.Y.)
- MPB. said that he was with his daughter at the Hotel of Elisa. That F.B. should not worry. If he should need anything he should send word to him. He could use Amadeo.
- F.B. said that at the moment he did not need any personal things, and he expressed thanks. He asked how business was going with MPB.
- MPB. said that it was going well, without interruption.
- F.B. asked if he had seen "Andy" in Miami.
- MPB. answered no.
- F.B. said that it was too bad and asked whether he had yet published the article on labor which Hernandez had taken.
- MPB. said that he tried to but Hernandez was in Washington.
- F.B. asked that he try to have the original returned at least.
- MPB. said that he would try to do what F.B. asked: he would also speak to the consul.
- F.B. asked whether Elisa had not sent him a recommendation about Mesquita (?).

- MPB. said yes, he was trying to decide about it. There was no risk that they should injure any woman. Though there was no risk of a charge against him, they telephoned him from Cuba not to come, not to come, not to come, perchio (?) and another friend, very thin, who had helped him and had shouted like lions.
- F.B. asked why.
- MPB. explained that they asked financial aid. But he had backed out because he was not disposed to help in this way.
- F.B. said that perhaps it was necessary they should wait for Luz(?) to return to Habana.
- MPB. said that he had spoken to Elisa on the matter and thought of consulting Pacheco.
- F.B. said that he did not have to make a swift decision; there he was safe. What bothered him was not the lack of reflection and responsibility but "another thing".
- MPB. said that they no longer call him "General" or "Batista" in Cuba but "the man".

(They laugh)

- MPB. he thanked him for the remembrance sent and
- F.B. asked whether the child was at MPB's side. That
 he should put her on the telephone, but he did
 not know whether the censor would allow her to speak.

 (There is another interruption in the N. Y. circuit
 and)
- F.B. breaks off the call, bringing it to a close.

No.

To the

Officer in Charge of the American Mission,
Habana.

The Acting Secretary of State transmits for the information of the Ambassador a copy of despatch no. 19713 of January 25, 1945 and its enclosure, in translation, from the Embassy at Rio de Janeiro, relative to a telephone conversation between ex-President Batista and Señor Manuel Perez Benitoa.

Enclosure:

Copy of despatch no. 19713, January 25, 1945, and enclosure, in translation, from Rio de Janeiro.

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No. 19713

EMBASSY OF THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Rio de Janeiro, January 25, 1945.

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