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OFFICE OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS AFFAIRS

SECRET

May 1, 1947

CRB Mr. Walker

A-Br Mr. Braden 40 "" " PELLY AFFAIRS

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POLITICAL SITUATION IN CUBA

Ambassador Belt informed me by telephone this morning that he is greatly preoccupied over political developments in Cuba (see attached telegram 230, April 30 from Habana) and is considering proceeding to Habana by air tonight. He said he was endeavoring to reach President Grau by telephone and would inform him in effect that the President has a "brilliant opportunity" to reorganize the government and at long last to get rid of some of the "bandidos" (sic) now infesting the administration. Belt is afraid however that the President may be tempted merely to reshuffle his Cabinet with the same officials (presumably including the "bandidos") occupying positions.

I wished the Ambassador the best of luck in the event he goes to Habana, and thanked him for giving me the information.

Ellis O. Briggs

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