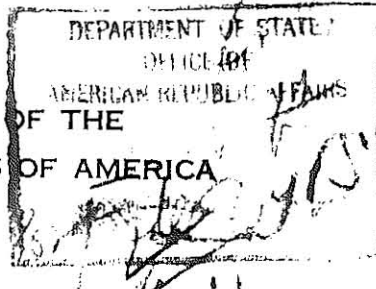




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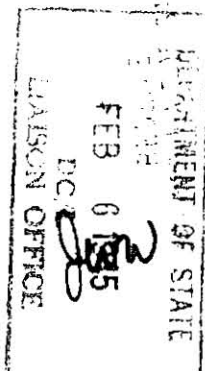
EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



No. 5255

Montevideo, Uruguay,  
January 4, 1945.

Subject: Visit to Montevideo of ex-President Batista  
of Cuba.



The Honorable  
The Secretary of State,  
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to the Department's confidential instruction of October 27, 1944 (file no. 837.001 Batista/10-2744) concerning the journey of ex-President BATISTA of Cuba through Central and South America.

General Batista's visit to Montevideo was somewhat delayed and he did not arrive until the afternoon of December 25, having proceeded from Chile via La Paz and Sao Paulo. He was accompanied by Dr. Félix HURTADO and Dr. Oscar FIGAROLA, former Ambassador CONCHESO having been detained en route. The party left for Rio de Janeiro on the morning of January 3.

In spite of the fact that the visit coincided with the Christmas and New Year's holidays an appropriate although not very elaborate program of entertainment and sightseeing was arranged and carried out by the Uruguayan Government. The principal features were a luncheon and a dinner tendered by President AMEZAGA and Vice President GUANI respectively, a reception given by the Cuban Minister, and visits to Punta del Este and other seaside resorts and to the Rio Negro Hydroelectric Works.

On December 27 I gave at the Embassy a luncheon of 20 covers in General Batista's honor, the guests including the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, National Defense, Interior, and Public Works, and other persons of prominence. On the General's arrival Colonel Harry E. McKINNEY, Military Attaché, greeted him at the airport and presented my respects.

Further details as well as a review of the generally favorable press comment will be found in the enclosed memorandum prepared by Mr. Frederick C. WEIMER of the Embassy staff.



General

837.001 Batista