

INCOMING AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS TELEGRAPH BRANCH

C RB

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF
AMERICAN REPUBLIC AFFAIRS
RESTRICTED
DEC 11 1947
adm file 1000

1076

FROM: American Embassy
Habana, Cuba

Dated: December 4, 1947

Rec'd. Dec. 5, 1947
11:10 a.m.

Secretary of State,

WASH-ARA Washington.

A-1150, December 4, 1947

Cabinet Changes - Cuba

Having accepted the resignations of Carlos PRIO Socarrás, Minister of Labor, and Germán ALVAREZ Fuentes, Minister of Agriculture (see A-1145, December 3), President Grau yesterday appointed Román NODAL Minister of Agriculture and Francisco AGUIRRE Minister of Labor.

Nodal, 42, is Republican Representative from Matanzas, Chairman of the House Committee on Budget and Finance and a political protégé of Guillermo ALONSO Pujol, head of the Republican Party. His appointment might well have been intended to show that, contrary to recent rumors, the Alliance between the Republicans and the Autenticos is still in full force and effect.

Aguirre is Autentico Representative from Habana, leader of the Restaurant and Hotel Workers' Union and Vice Secretary General of the Executive Committee of the CTC. The appointment of this well known Autentico labor leader, coming as it does shortly after the entry into the Cabinet of another Autentico labor leader (José NUÑEZ Carballo, Minister of the Interior), has been criticized by the Communists who in their daily organ Hoy of today say that Aguirre's appointment is a bad omen and predict that he will be no better than their arch enemy Carlos Prio.

Further Cabinet changes are predicted in view of expected resignations of Dr. José ALBERNI (Republican).

PERMANENT RECORD COPY.—This copy must be returned to DC/R central files with notation of action taken.
RESTRICTED

837.002/12-447

CW

RESTRICTED

A-1140, December 4, 1947,
Embassy, Habana.

- 2 -

Minister of Justice, and Dr. José ANDREU (Republican) Minister of Public Health, both of whom will run for reelection to the Senate. It is rumored that Alberni will be replaced by Evelio ALVAREZ del Real (Republican - Cuban Minister to Costa Rica), and Andreu by Dr. Carlos de ARAZOSA, now Minister of Education. It is expected that Dr. Miguel A. de la GUARDIA, Undersecretary of Education, will replace Arazosa.

NORWEB

DVAnderson/dte

RESTRICTED