

# INCOMING AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS TELEGRAPH BRANCH

CONFIDENTIAL

AIRGRAM

*CRB*

3471  
FROM: American Embassy,  
Habana, Cuba

Date of mailing: October 18, 1948

Rec'd:

Oct. 20, 1948 1:00 p.m

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
OFFICE OF  
AMERICAN REPUBLIC AFFAIRS  
OCT 21 1948  
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Secretary of State,  
Washington

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A-1158, October 18, 1948.

Reference Embassy's A-1078, September 24, 1948, reporting on Prio Cabinet.

On October 9, 1948 President-elect Prio announced he would appoint Mariblanca SABAS ALOMA Minister-without-Portfolio. She thus became 17th member of Cabinet, 3rd member without portfolio, and only female member.

Her appointment probably came about 1) because of pressure from organized female political groups for representation on Cabinet and 2) possibility as advanced by ex-Senator Eddy CHIBAS that Cabinet as originally constituted might be unconstitutional because of number of members of Congress therein (see page 5 of Embassy's despatch No. 805, September 30, 1948, subject: "Reaction in Habana to Prio Cabinet").

Mariblanca Sabas Aloma, about 42, has a reputation as a newspaper-woman and poetess and has been working in the Ministry of Education during recent years. She is an Auténtico and an early supporter of Prio's candidacy. She told press October 13 that she was charged by Prio to study certain questions relating to publicity, propaganda, arts, culture and social reform.

A CBD report will be forwarded when more biographic data becomes available.

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