

INCOMING AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS TELEGRAPH BRANCH

CONFIDENTIAL

AIRGRAM

3471

FROM: American Embassy,
Habana, Cuba

Date of mailing: October 18, 1948

Rec'd:

Oct. 20, 1948 1:00 p.m.

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Secretary of State,
Washington

A-1158, October 18, 1948.

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

On October 9, 1948 President-elect Prío 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 Prío 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
Prío's candidacy. She told press October 13 that she was charged by
Prío 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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