

INCOMING AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS TELEGRAPH BRANCH

2483

AIRGRAM

RESTRICTED

FROM: American Embassy,
Habana, Cuba.

Date of Mailing: Sept. 13, 1949

Rec'd. Sept. 15, 1949; 9:09 a.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

1173, September 13, 1949

Reference Embassy's despatch No. 674 of September 1, 1949 re arrival of ex-Cuban Army Chief of Staff Genovevo PEREZ Damera at Miami on August 27, 1949.

Today's press reports that ex-Cuban Army Chief of Staff Perez Damera arrived yesterday unannounced at Habana on a National Airlines plane, accompanied by Mrs. Perez Damera and their children Genovevo and Marta. The ex-Chief of Staff is reported to have told the press: "I come to my country because I am just another Cuban. I will stay here for some time."

Comment

It is assumed that the GOVT and the new Army Chief of Staff (who sent an Army Captain to meet the ex-Chief at the airport) agreed to Perez' return on the grounds that he is no longer in a position to threaten the political stability of the country. Also it is considered possible that Perez may have returned merely to comply with U.S. Immigration Regulations with a view to obtaining U.S. visas at a later date. His return has caused little stir so far in the Cuban press, El Diario de la Tarde having buried the news among "Passenger Arrivals" on page 12.

ELBRICK

BTCrain/dts.

RESTRICTED