

837.105A/7-1648

No. 619

American Embassy
Habana, Cuba, July 16, 1948

Rec'd.
July 22

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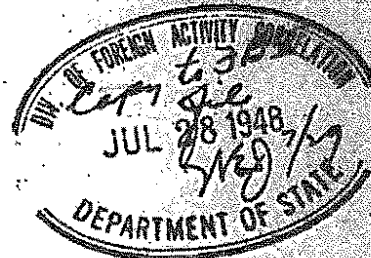
ACTION:
FC

Subject: Communist Propaganda in Connection With
Training of Cuban Police by FBI Agents

INFO:
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XR 837.00B

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.



Sir:

*837.105A/6-1048
FC-CRB*
I have the honor to refer to the Department's instruction No. 167 of July 3, 1948 enclosing copies of an exchange of notes with the Cuban Embassy in Washington concerning the training of the Cuban Police by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The Department's note of July 3, 1948 indicates that Messrs. Clark B. ANDERSON and Joseph B. GARCIA of the Bureau would be sent to Cuba for this purpose.

As the Embassy fully expected, the local Communist organ Hoy is attempting to exploit for propaganda purposes the news of Mr. Anderson's recent arrival and to attack both the United States and the Government of Cuba. On July 14, 1948 four columns of Hoy's first page were devoted to a lengthy article alleging that the United States, in collaboration with the Cuban Government, was creating a vast espionage organization in Cuba under the supervision of American agents and that Cuba was in the process of being converted into a huge concentration camp since the Cuban Police would function directly under the "totalitarian" control of the FBI. This story, a translation of which is enclosed, was carried under a banner headline reading in translation:

G-MAN BECOMES MASTER OF THE CUBAN POLICE

Yesterday Hoy followed up the article of July 14 with an editorial entitled "Yankee Gestapo", which reiterates the above-mentioned statements and adds

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that plans are being made to "transform Cuba into a Police State where all institutions and all citizens will be under the supervision and control of agents and spies of the United States who will function with the submissive consent of the present Cuban Government."

The Embassy feels that the most effective way to combat propaganda of this type is to see to it that the Cuban press is correctly informed of the nature of the agents' mission, viz., that only two agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation are being sent to Cuba at the request of the Cuban Government for the sole purpose of acting as technical police instructors and that such missions are by no means unusual inasmuch as countries desirous of taking advantage of the advanced techniques developed in the United States have frequently requested the Bureau's collaboration. Appropriate action is being taken by the Embassy's Public Affairs Officer.

Respectfully yours,



Lester D. Mallory
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

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Enclosure:
Translation of article
in Box of July 14, 1948.

File No. 610.5
DVAnderson/dts

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