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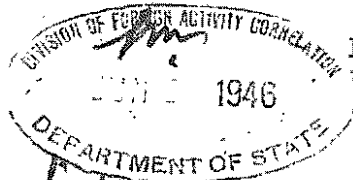


FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF
AMERICAN REPUBLIC AFFAIRS
JUN 11 1946



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FILE NUMBER _____



PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Date: June 3, 1946

To: Mr. Frederick B. Lyon
Chief
Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
Department of State

From: John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: Removal of Cuban Police Chief
Colonel Jose Carreno y Fiallo

837.1051/5-1646

As of possible interest to you and relative to previous reports concerning the transfer of Colonel Jose Carreno y Fiallo, former Chief of the Cuban National Police, to the post of Cuban Military Attache in Mexico, you are advised that Carreno departed from Cuba for Mexico by plane on May 16, 1946. Reliable sources of information advise that the successor to Carreno is presently being considered; however, the apparent inefficiency of the National Police would continue despite this change because the administration of President Grau (San Martin) has and will protect perpetrators of political crimes committed by persons connected with the Grau Government.

It is interesting to note that an estimated number of from 34 to 40 political crimes have been committed since the inauguration of the Grau Regime, and that only one has been officially solved. In this crime, Juan (Guancho) de Cardenas, ex-Chief of the Cuban Buro de Investigaciones, was incarcerated together with three other Cuban police officials for the murder of Eugenio Llanillo. De Cardenas escaped from the police hospital where he was taken for medical treatment on May 4, 1946. Prior to his escape, he is known to have held a conference with Carreno (Fiallo). According to reliable reports, the murder of Eugenio Llanillo was connected with graft being received by Carreno, Cuban Army Chief of Staff Genovevo Perez, Paulina Alsina, VDA. de Grau (the first lady of the Republic), Senator Miguel Suarez Fernandez, an Autentico Party leader who is President of the Cuban Senate, and other high government officials.

It was reliably reported that De Cardenas threatened to reveal the entire story connected with the murder of Llanillo unless he were allowed to escape. Prior to his flight, De Cardenas had petitioned for a change of venue in his case from the civil to the military courts, but this petition was denied on May 1, 1946 and De Cardenas' "escape" was

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reportedly arranged immediately thereafter. This incident was only one among many for which Carreno was attacked by the press and it is reported that President Grau finally bowed to the weight of public opinion in removing one of the most vulnerable men in his government.

According to reliable sources, Army Chief of Staff Perez has submitted the name of several eligible candidates to occupy the post of Chief of Police. However, President Grau is said to be interested in a candidate who is not a close friend of Perez, since he does not wish to concentrate control of both the Army and the police in the hands of the latter.

cc: Chief of Naval Intelligence
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
War Department
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Reading Panel
Military Intelligence Service