

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : ARA - Mr. Holland  
 THRU: MID - Mr. Newbegin  
 FROM : MID - Mr. Hoyt

DATE: July 1, 1955

SUBJECT: Cuban Ambassador's Visit

The Cuban Ambassador wishes to discuss "revolutionary activities" in his meeting with you this morning. I presume that he will particularly want to talk about arms leaving the United States for Cuba.

Diario de las Americas on June 30, 1955 carried a headline article about a "military plot" in Cuba. According to the article, four civilians and four military persons were arrested and a quantity of arms seized, which the article says were "brought to Cuba clandestinely from the United States for insurrection purposes."

We also have just received a despatch from the Embassy quoting a radio report to the effect the the Cuban Minister of the Interior "does not know when the American Government is going to get tired of the buying of arms and other instruments of war that, Dr. Prio is doing in the United States; and that the government of that country ought to put a stop to such subversive activities." The Minister of the Interior is also reported to have stated that the facts frequently demonstrate that Ex-President Prio and his friends continue to buy arms in the United States.

You will recall that since the Cuban Government issued its amnesty decree, there have been several incidents, including the killing of Ex-Chief of the Secret Police, Agostini; the closing of the opposition newspaper, "La Calle"; and the order for the arrest of Prio and some of his friends, which have created further unrest in Cuba. These acts have practically nullified the effect of the amnesty law and are being cited by the opposition as indications of the terrorist nature of the Batista regime.

The Customs Officials in Florida are working constantly on this matter of arms traffic involving Cuban exiles. I am told, in fact, that it is the matter which receives the greatest part of their attention at the present time. They have effectively stopped a lot of the gun-running, although it is almost certain that some arms have gotten through. It has not, however, been for a lack of attention to the problem.

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