

CUBA

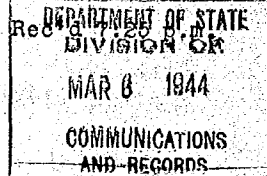
00024

*War Refugee
Bd (Mr. Belle)*

BJR - 391
This telegram must be
paraphrased before being
communicated to anyone
other than a Governmental
agency. (BR)

Habana ✓

Dated March 4, 1944



Secretary of State,
Washington.

231, March 4, 5 p.m.

Yesterday afternoon I explained to President Batista that many injustices would probably result from the proposed decree to freeze immigrants' deposits. (My telegram No. 207, February 28, 5 p.m. and previous correspondence). I explained our concern on the score that both the Department and Embassy were already being flooded by inquiries from refugee associations and said it was evident that if enacted it would bring us many headaches.

The President said he recognized the injustices and would seek to avoid them; he promised to study the matter further with the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance although he admitted the decree had already been signed.

In a conversation with Nufer this morning the Minister of Finance stated that the decree had been held up and that the government is studying other ways
of raising

000225

-2- #231, March 4, 5 p.m., from Habana.

of raising subsidy funds for port laborers. Although the labor unions are continuing to put strong pressure on the government my conversation with first the Prime Minister and then the President at least appear to have delayed action and I hope this may mean that this attempted swindle will be abandoned.

BRADEN

BB

000226

*was refused.
Mr. Palle*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Embassy, Habana
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: February 28, 1944
NUMBER: 207

Reference is made to the Department's 174, February 26
and my airgram A-364, February 19, 3:45 p.m. *noted file 3/6 AM.*

The Minister of the Treasury confidentially informed
Nufer yesterday at Nicaro that he expected the proposed
decree to be changed on return of the President and the
Prime Minister to Habana this week, in which event I hope
this may mean abandonment of the project.

BRADEN

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-78
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 1 1972

000227

CONTROL COPY

2 - War Refugee
Bd (Mr. Dink)
FROM:

HABANA

DATE: February 25, 1944

REC'D: Feb 26-30

file

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF
FEB 27 1944
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

Secretary of State,
Washington.

A-392, February 25, 11 a.m.

Embassy's airgram No. A-364, February 19, 3:40 p.m.

The Prime Minister's office has informed me that final decision concerning the Decree "freezing" deposits of immigrants will be deferred until after Dr. Saydín returns from his trip to Oriente with President Batista and after consultation with the Minister of Finance.

I hope this means abandonment of this indefensible project but it would not be safe to count on it.

BRADEN

850.4

000228