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

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

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

BRADEN
Secretary of State,
Washington.

A-392, February 23, 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 im-
migrants will be deferred until after Dr. Aydin 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