

CONFIDENTIAL

January 10, 1967

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION FOR THE FILES

Participants

Dominicans: Ambassador Hector Garcia Godoy
Marco de Pena
Alfredo Ricart

ARA/CAR : Edward T. Long, Caspar D. Green, John E. Nepple,
Melville E. Osborne, George E. Brown

(This was the first of regular weekly meetings to be held between Ambassador Garcia Godoy and Mr. Long and members of their respective staffs. Garcia Godoy welcomed the idea of weekly meetings as an opportunity to review on a regular basis the many matters in which we have a common interest.)

1. Haiti. Mr. Long reviewed the Masferrer-Father Georges attempt to invade Haiti which was broken up by United States officials last week. Garcia Godoy took the opportunity to open a general discussion of the Haitian situation. He was aware of the initial plan of the group to stage the invasion attempt from Dominican territory and asked whether any Dominicans were members of the invasion group. Mr. Long said he knew of none though he did not have complete information. Ambassador Garcia Godoy said that relations between the Dominican Republic and Haiti now are good and that Duvalier has firm control of his country. Nevertheless, he recognized that Duvalier is mortal and noted the analogy with the Dominican Republic during Trujillo's time. He said an eruption in Haiti would necessarily have repercussions in the Dominican Republic, with an influx of refugees across the border from Haiti.

Mr. Long mentioned that we too were concerned and have in past months sounded out various Latin governments for ideas they might have for dealing with the situation when Duvalier passes from the scene. We would not want to have to act alone and this would certainly be an OAS problem. Garcia Godoy commented that the United States may have to act unilaterally whether it wants to or not. Mr. Long said we had not found the Latin governments to be particularly forthcoming with helpful ideas. He suggested that while this was a sensitive matter it might be useful for Garcia Godoy to raise the question with his Latin colleagues. The Ambassador said he had already discussed it with some of his colleagues in the OAS, including Penna Marinho, and even the Haitian Ambassador knew of his discussions. The idea had been advanced among some of the Ambassadors

Group 3

Downgraded at 12 year intervals;
not automatically declassified.

CONFIDENTIAL

ARA / CAR : GE Brown etc

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 969000