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CONFIDENTIAL

November 14, 1967

To - South Downings  
Wilson

OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

Jackson W. Wilson, Esquire  
American Embassy  
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Dear Jack:

POL 15-1 DOM REP  
XR POL 15 DOM REP

Sacha Volman came in November 1 to talk about his plans for Pena Gomez' trip here in January or February. He said he would arrange for Pena to see Rockefeller, perhaps Romney, Pat Holt and several Senators for a quiet exchange of views. He also mentioned the lecture tour he hopes Mrs. Warner will arrange (STATE 61887) and said Arthur Schleisinger had agreed to have Pena invited to speak at his University (presumably City College in New York City). He said Pena would also like to talk with Bill Bowdler and those of us working on Dominican affairs if this could be arranged as a private gathering. Because of the PRD's position on the intervention, etc., Pena could not come to the State Department or the White House Executive Offices, but would nevertheless like to talk with us.

I told Sacha that I had no problem with Pena's making a trip such as this and certainly we in CAR would be happy to see him at a private home if he wished. I did warn Sacha that if Pena were to reopen the debate on the 1965 crisis in a public forum it could again become a political issue here, and the Administration would have to reply. He said Pena did not want to reopen old wounds and embarrass the Administration. This, he said, would serve no useful purpose. In any case, I cautioned Sacha that the PRD's line on the 1965 crisis would not now be as popular in liberal circles as it might once have been. Many of the Administration's early critics agree that our action at least turned out well even though it may not have been justified in the beginning. The Balaguer Government is well thought of in such places as the New York Times and Washington Post, which had been on the PRD side in the debate over the 1965 crisis. Few opposition politicians would be anxious at this point to identify with the PRD position. Furthermore, Bosch's popular dictatorship pronouncements have cost the PRD some of

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liberal supporters in this country. Sacha seemed particularly  
impressed by the last point. He assured me again that Pena did  
not intend to reheat old controversies.

Sorry to have taken so long in getting this down to you. Best  
personal regards,

Sincerely,

George E. Brown

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cc: *m. Baudler*

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