

ACTION		
REP	AF	
ARA	EUR	FE
NEA	CU	INR
E	P	IO
L	FBO	AID
AGR	COM	FRB
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR
ARMY	CIA	NAVY
OSD	USIA	NSA

AIRGRAM

POL 2 DOM REP
FOR RM USE ONLY

A-330 NO. CONFIDENTIAL HANDLING INDICATOR CARON

TO : Department of State

DEPT PASS: Amembassy CARACAS
Amembassy PORT-AU-PRINCE
CINCSO (7)-OSD
USCINCLANT -NAVY

FROM : Amembassy SANTO DOMINGO

SUBJECT : Weekly Political Review No. 35 (September 5-11, 1969)

REF :

DATE: Sept. 15, 1969

OSI District 27 AIR For
COMCARIBSEAFRON NAVY For COMANTO EFCOM
COMNAVBASE GTMO -NAVY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction
2. Air Issue Gets Airing
3. More on UNACHOSIN Strike
4. President Allows Outdoor Political Rallies
5. MNJ Restructures Executive Committee
6. Two Church Meetings Concluded
7. Three Astronauts Visit Santo Domingo
8. Little Local Reaction to Rockefeller Report
9. Other Developments

1. Introduction

Solid political news and developments again remained largely in the background this week although the public airing of problems within the National Youth Movement headed by Victor GOMEZ Bergés indicated that all is not well within that group, particularly with respect to its relations with certain sectors of the Reformist Party. Civil aviation issues (including the possible sale of CDA) and discussion of the pros and cons of an "open skies" policy received heavy play in the press. Despite the tensions created by the recently concluded UNACHOSIN strike, moves toward a settlement between the union and President Balaguer were received without much public comment although behind-the-scenes interest was extensive. The week in general, therefore, was a generally quiet one with no single national issue dominating the scene. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

GROUP 3
Downgraded at 12-yr.intervals;
not automatically declassified

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY

☐ In ☐ Out

FORM 4-62 DS-323

CONFIDENTIAL

Drafted by: See last page:9-12-69:hok

Clearances: ECON:JTroy (in draft) POL:JCHaahr

Contents and Classification Approved by: DCM:FJDevine

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 969000

2. Air Issue Gets Airing

Aviation was news this week as the issue of the proposed sale of the Dominican Aviation Company (CDA), Vice President Francisco Augusto LORA's resignation as President of its Administrative Council, and the question of "opening" Dominican skies to foreign carriers, all received front page treatment by the nation's press.

The idea of selling CDA, one of the CORDE companies which has been a perennial money loser, was suggested by President Balaguer at the September 3 meeting of the National Development Commission (NDC). Complicating CDA's fiscal situation is the fact that it has to obtain guarantees to cover credits to purchase a new DC-9 for its San Juan and Miami routes (SD-2770). The sale plan, which has received the most support, and which allegedly is favored by President Balaguer, is one in which 70% of the company's shares would be sold: 40% to foreign concerns and the remaining 30% to the Dominican private sector. Opposition to the sale, however, has been considerable. Only two days after the debate began, Vice President Lora resigned as President of the Administrative Council for CDA. The Vice President described the reasons for his resignation as "confidential". However, local trade sources feel that his resignation was prompted by Lora's desire to eliminate partisan politics from the CDA controversy (SD-2806). President Balaguer later effectively shelved the issue by declaring the sale a very "controversial" subject that would have to receive "careful" study before any action would be taken.

The second issue in this week's aviation controversy was also aired at the September 3 meeting of the NDC, when the Director General of Tourism, Angel MIOLAN, called for the "opening" of the Dominican Republic to all foreign airlines. Mr. Miolan's "open sky" position encountered considerable popular opposition. Typical of those opposing the plan was the Administrator of Aerovias Quisqueyana (a private Dominican airline), Rafael ESPADA, who declared that the proposal was "anti-nationalist" and "designed to sink native Dominican aviation interests".

Reaction within government circles was somewhat more positive, although still qualified. Director General of Civil Aviation, Coronel Antonio ALVAREZ Albizu, declared that he was in favor of permitting new airlines to operate out of Santo Domingo so long as it was practical and didn't prejudice national interests and announced negotiations for new service by ALITALIA and Air France.

President Balaguer is reported to have stated later that Miolan's "open sky" declaration was "misinterpreted", and that what was meant to be said was that the sky would be "open, but with certain restrictions". Balaguer then reportedly concluded that provided it was not at variance with the D.R.'s national interests, the government favored the arrival of new airlines in the country. (UNCLASSIFIED)

CONFIDENTIAL

3. More on UNACHOSIN Strike

President Balaguer met with UNACHOSIN leaders this week and agreed to give the union -- or discuss further -- substantially what it was striking for with respect to labor benefits (the 72-hour taxi drivers strike was called off by the union on August 30). The two principal gains for the union were the President's agreement to exonerate the customs duties on 300 taxis for UNACHOSIN members and to make available 100 apartments in government housing for union members. Union representatives met later with Santo Domingo Mayor Guarionex LLUBERES who agreed to limit the number of taxis operating in the city to 3,500 plus retaining under temporary permits only the 200 taxis placed into service during the strike.

According to sources of the Labor Attache, after the strike President Balaguer directed the Secretary of Labor to prepare the necessary legal action to have UNACHOSIN's legal status rescinded on the grounds of having engaged in an illegal strike. There is no present indication that such action will now be taken. Why the President would ask for this action and then turn around and settle on relatively easy terms, especially after taking a hard line against the strike, is still an open question. Elements within UNACHOSIN, the PRD and the MPD are said to be accusing UNACHOSIN Secretary General Felix ALBUQUERQUE of a sellout to Balaguer. Other anti-UNACHOSIN labor leaders profess to believe that the President's settlement will cause the dissolution of UNACHOSIN because of the internal jealousies aroused. (WPR #33 and previous) (CONFIDENTIAL)

Comment: It is entirely possible that the President's rather hasty meeting with UNACHOSIN representatives took place because of Balaguer's desire to preempt any possible political gains by Guarionex Lluberés. The President's moves seem to have helped to estrange UNACHOSIN's leadership from the union rank and file, thus materially aiding Balaguer's position. (CONFIDENTIAL)

4. President Allows Outdoor Political Rallies

The already obvious pre-electoral atmosphere became even more patent this week with a letter from President Balaguer to Secretary of Interior and Police Francisco A. ORTEGA Ventura in which the Chief Executive asked that, owing to the proximity of the May 1970 elections, outdoor political meetings and rallies be permitted for parties recognized by the Central Electoral Board (JCE). The President's stipulations were that the meetings be held away from congested downtown areas and at sites approved by the Secretariat of Interior and Police, and that public order and private property not be jeopardized by the manifestations. The President also stressed that any police intervention be by specially trained agents who would

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 969000

strictly observe individual rights. Ortega Ventura quickly replied by saying he had received the President's directive with "true approval", and that he believed the appropriate (political) climate for the celebration of outdoor meetings now existed. (UNCLASSIFIED)

Comment: Outdoor political rallies have been prohibited by the Balaguer Government since its inception in August 1966. (UNCLASSIFIED)

5. MNJ Restructures Executive Committee

The Movimiento Nacional de la Juventud (MNJ), a pro-Balaguer organization formed with the President's blessing in November 1968, this week restructured its National Executive Committee replacing some 14 members. Victor GOMEZ Bergés (who is also Secretary General of the Dominican Municipal League) was confirmed in his post as president. Speaking at the election meeting, Gómez charged that unnamed persons (presumably including those removed from the executive committee) had been conspiring against and trying to divide the MNJ. An earlier press release accused the dismissed leaders with a lack of "loyalty, honor, consideration and discipline". A few days earlier the press reported the mass resignation of 800 leaders and members of various barrio subcommittees of the organization. Some of those who resigned to join the Movimiento de la Juventud Democrática Dominicana (MJDD), a recently organized group formed in the barrios of Santo Domingo, criticized Gómez Bergés and Daniel GÓMEZ Martínez (formerly head of the MNJ's National District Committee who was named first vice president of the group in the reorganization) as "demagogues and aristocrats" who were going to defend the marginal classes but had only defended their families and those of their class. (UNCLASSIFIED)

Comment: The most widely rumored reason for the removal of the 14 MNJ leaders is that they were attempting to replace Gómez Bergés with Secretary of Agriculture Fernando ALVAREZ Bogaert (which Alvarez has denied). Since the new members of the board at a quick glance seem to be Balagueristas, we tend to believe that the problem arose as a result of an internal power struggle within the MNJ, but assisted from without by anti-Gómez Bergés elements within the Reformist Party who have long resented his catapulting himself to power over their heads. Whatever the motive behind the changes, it seems certain that Gómez has strengthened his position as MNJ president by installing an executive committee more responsive to his leadership. (CONFIDENTIAL)

6. Two Church Meetings Concluded

Bishop Hugo E. POLANCO Brito and some 180 clergymen and lay leaders of the Santo Domingo Archdiocese concluded on September 6 a one-week organizational session designed to prepare the archdiocese to carry out its social mission. The meetings were under the direction of two CELAM representatives, Fathers Edgar BELTRAN and J. Ramón VEGA, who will perform a similar role in the other dioceses in the country.

CONFIDENTIAL

the decisions taken at the sessions centered around the reorganization of the archdiocesan Pastoral Council, a 28-member advisory body to the Bishop, composed of priests, religious and lay group representatives formed in December 1968. Some of the more significant resolutions that emerged were to seek pastoral coordination in social reform matters at the national level, to study organization of a technical advisory organ within the archdiocese and to suggest that the Bishop should recommend to the Conference of Bishops that the Concordat be examined with a view toward its abrogation. The group also issued a press release in which it stated that human rights are being violated in the D.R. and denounced "the social disorder which exists in our Republic".

Just before the start of the meeting referred to above, a seminar organized by Father Fernando ARANGO, a Jesuit and social reform activist, and attended by 130 priests and lay leaders and two lay representatives of the International Movement of Reconciliation, was held to discuss non-violent means to achieve social change. Father Arango defended the seminar against charges by President Balaguer's press secretary Cesar HERRERA who inferred that the meeting was "subversive". (UNCLASSIFIED)

7. Three Astronauts Visit Santo Domingo

Three U.S. astronauts, John Swigert, Paul Weitz and Walter Cunningham, accompanied by a group of North American "investors", made a 2-day private visit to the Dominican Republic this week described by them as a "courtesy visit". All local arrangements, including a call on President Balaguer, were handled by the Santo Domingo city government. J. A. BRUNO Pimentel, the city's public relations director, denied reports that astronaut Weitz wounded nine persons, including Secretary of Finance Antonio MARTINEZ Francisco, with birdshot during a hunting expedition. (SD-2778, SD-2808) (UNCLASSIFIED)

8. Little Local Reaction to Rockefeller Report

There was little public or private reaction in the Dominican Republic to wire service stories concerning the Rockefeller report presented to President Nixon last week. One radio comment predicted that "in case just and adequate measures are not taken this time to assure progress and development the United States will gradually lose the support and friendship of those who traditionally have been their most faithful and sincere friends". An El Caribe columnist this week commented that the decision not to make the report public and the news that a second part of the report would follow would delay the formation of new U.S. policy and would leave the initiative in LA to the communists. The columnist also predicted difficulties in the future relations between the U.S. and its neighbors to the south because of President Nixon's "opposition" to a second part of the Alliance for Progress and because Washington seems to want to treat each American republic separately while the Latins want "multi-national agreements". (UNCLASSIFIED)

CONFIDENTIAL

9. Other Developments

In other developments this week (a) three members of the Executive Committee of the Revolutionary Social Christian Party (PRSC), including Vice President Josefina Padilla vda. Sanchez and Secretary General César Estrella Sadhalá, resigned for "personal reasons" (airgram in preparation); (b) the slate of candidates loyal to PRSC President Caonabo JAVIER Castillo was elected (98-71) at a meeting of the National District organization of the Juventud Revolucionaria Social Cristiana (JRSC); (c) José A. FERNANDEZ Caminero, President of the Frente Revolucionario de Unidad Nacional (FRUN), said his anti-reelection group would support the presidential candidacy of Vice President Francisco Augusto LORA; Fernandez also said the possibility exists that Wessin's PQD would unite with FRUN and the sector of the PR supporting Lora to "impede" the reelection of President Balaguer; (d) the PQD protested as "an abuse of power" the government's decision to close the PQD radio program (it was still off the air at week's end) allegedly because of remarks regarding Balaguer's "lack of attention" to the Armed Forces; (e) missing MPD leader, Henry SEGARRA Santos, still had not been located at week's end; his wife met this week with President Balaguer and also requested the assistance of the Chamber of Deputies; (f) the National Commission of Public Spectacles voted 3-2 to prohibit the showing of the 20th Century Fox film "Che" thereby setting off a heated debate; (g) Foreign Secretary Fernando AMIAMA Tió announced the formation of two mixed commissions, one between the D.R. and Barbados (diplomatic and consular relations will be established between the two countries) and one between the D.R. and Jamaica, both to promote commercial relations; (h) National Police in Cotui accused 18 persons of operating a clandestine commando organization affiliated with the MPD; and finally (i) rumors that Finance Secretary Antonio MARTINEZ Francisco would be named to replace Gaetán BUCHER as head of the Dominican Sugar Corporation (CEA) gave rise to a great deal of speculation regarding other possible cabinet changes; at the same time Martínez said he might resign from his cabinet post because of "pressures" from Luis JULIAN Perez, president of the National Development Commission and a member of the CEA Board of Directors; Julián Perez in turn said that if Martínez resigned it would be because he was not named to the CEA position (the President this week appointed César ALVAREZ Valera, former administrator of the Dominican Cement Factory, as the new CEA executive director). (UNCLASSIFIED)

J.E.M.

MELOY

by J.J.D.

POL:JCHaahr:LRFleischer:FAlberti:CFSwezey:RLFenton

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 969000

AIRGRAM

POL 2 DOM REP

FOR RM USE ONLY

REP	AF
ARA	EUR
FE	
NEA	CU
INR	5
E	P
10	5
L	FBO
AID	9
AGR	COM
FRB	10
INT	LAB
TAR	6
TR	XMB
AIR	5
ARMY	CIA
NAVY	5
OSD	USIA
NSA	3
NASA	4
Nsc	6

A-330 NO. CONFIDENTIAL

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

DEPT PASS: Amembassy CARACAS
 Amembassy PORT-AU-PRINCE
 CINCSO (7)-OSD
 USCINCLANT -NAVY

OSI District 27 AIR For
 COMCARIBSEAFRON NAVY For COMANTO EFCOM
 COMNAVBASE GTMO -NAVY

FROM : Amembassy SANTO DOMINGO

DATE:

Sept. 15, 1969

SUBJECT: Weekly Political Review No. 35 (September 5-11, 1969)

REF :

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction
2. Air Issue Gets Airing
3. More on UNACHOSIN Strike
4. President Allows Outdoor Political Rallies
5. MNJ Restructures Executive Committee
6. Two Church Meetings Concluded
7. Three Astronauts Visit Santo Domingo
8. Little Local Reaction to Rockefeller Report
9. Other Developments

1. Introduction

Solid political news and developments again remained largely in the background this week although the public airing of problems within the National Youth Movement headed by Victor GOMEZ Bergés indicated that all is not well within that group, particularly with respect to its relations with certain sectors of the Reformist Party. Civil aviation issues (including the possible sale of CDA) and discussion of the pros and cons of an "open skies" policy received heavy play in the press. Despite the tensions created by the recently concluded UNACHOSIN strike, moves toward a settlement between the union and President Balaguer were received without much public comment although behind-the-scenes interest was extensive. The week in general, therefore, was a generally quiet one with no single national issue dominating the scene. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

GROUP 3

Downgraded at 12-yr.intervals;
 not automatically declassified

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY

☐ In ☐ Out

FORM 4-62 DS-323

CONFIDENTIAL

Drafted by:

See last page:9-12-69:hok

Contents and Classification Approved by:

DCM:FJDevine

Clearances:

ECON:JTroy (in draft) POL:JCHaahr

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 967000

1969 SEP 22 PM 2 32

COPYFLO-PBR

PASS-14

NAN
 RS/R File
 N W
 10/2/69

ANALYSIS BRANCH
 SEP 22 12 37 PM 1969

RECEIVED
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 BUREAU OF
 INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS
 SEP 23 1969

2. Air Issue Gets Airing

Aviation was news this week as the issue of the proposed sale of the Dominican Aviation Company (CDA), Vice President Francisco Augusto LORA's resignation as President of its Administrative Council, and the question of "opening" Dominican skies to foreign carriers, all received front page treatment by the nation's press.

The idea of selling CDA, one of the CORDE companies which has been a perennial money loser, was suggested by President Balaguer at the September 3 meeting of the National Development Commission (NDC). Complicating CDA's fiscal situation is the fact that it has to obtain guarantees to cover credits to purchase a new DC-9 for its San Juan and Miami routes (SD-2770). The sale plan, which has received the most support, and which allegedly is favored by President Balaguer, is one in which 70% of the company's shares would be sold: 40% to foreign concerns and the remaining 30% to the Dominican private sector. Opposition to the sale, however, has been considerable. Only two days after the debate began, Vice President Lora resigned as President of the Administrative Council for CDA. The Vice President described the reasons for his resignation as "confidential". However, local trade sources feel that his resignation was prompted by Lora's desire to eliminate partisan politics from the CDA controversy (SD-2806). President Balaguer later effectively shelved the issue by declaring the sale a very "controversial" subject that would have to receive "careful" study before any action would be taken.

The second issue in this week's aviation controversy was also aired at the September 3 meeting of the NDC, when the Director General of Tourism, Angel MIOLAN, called for the "opening" of the Dominican Republic to all foreign airlines. Mr. Miolan's "open sky" position encountered considerable popular opposition. Typical of those opposing the plan was the Administrator of Aerovias Quisqueyana (a private Dominican airline), Rafael ESPADA, who declared that the proposal was "anti-nationalist" and "designed to sink native Dominican aviation interests".

Reaction within government circles was somewhat more positive, although still qualified. Director General of Civil Aviation, Coronel Antonio ALVAREZ Albizu, declared that he was in favor of permitting new airlines to operate out of Santo Domingo so long as it was practical and didn't prejudice national interests and announced negotiations for new service by ALITALIA and Air France.

President Balaguer is reported to have stated later that Miolan's "open sky" declaration was "misinterpreted", and that what was meant to be said was that the sky would be "open, but with certain restrictions". Balaguer then reportedly concluded that provided it was not at variance with the D.R.'s national interests, the government favored the arrival of new airlines in the country. (UNCLASSIFIED)

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 969000

3. More on UNACHOSIN Strike

President Balaguer met with UNACHOSIN leaders this week and agreed to give the union -- or discuss further -- substantially what it was striking for with respect to labor benefits (the 72-hour taxi drivers strike was called off by the union on August 30). The two principal gains for the union were the President's agreement to exonerate the customs duties on 300 taxis for UNACHOSIN members and to make available 100 apartments in government housing for union members. Union representatives met later with Santo Domingo Mayor Guarionex LLUBERES who agreed to limit the number of taxis operating in the city to 3,500 plus retaining under temporary permits only the 200 taxis placed into service during the strike.

According to sources of the Labor Attache, after the strike President Balaguer directed the Secretary of Labor to prepare the necessary legal action to have UNACHOSIN's legal status rescinded on the grounds of having engaged in an illegal strike. There is no present indication that such action will now be taken. Why the President would ask for this action and then turn around and settle on relatively easy terms, especially after taking a hard line against the strike, is still an open question. Elements within UNACHOSIN, the PRD and the MPD are said to be accusing UNACHOSIN Secretary General Felix ALBUQUERQUE of a sellout to Balaguer. Other anti-UNACHOSIN labor leaders profess to believe that the President's settlement will cause the dissolution of UNACHOSIN because of the internal jealousies aroused. (WPR #33 and previous) (CONFIDENTIAL)

Comment: It is entirely possible that the President's rather hasty meeting with UNACHOSIN representatives took place because of Balaguer's desire to preempt any possible political gains by Guarionex Lluberes. The President's moves seem to have helped to estrange UNACHOSIN's leadership from the union rank and file, thus materially aiding Balaguer's position. (CONFIDENTIAL)

4. President Allows Outdoor Political Rallies

The already obvious pre-electoral atmosphere became even more patent this week with a letter from President Balaguer to Secretary of Interior and Police Francisco A. ORTEGA Ventura in which the Chief Executive asked that, owing to the proximity of the May 1970 elections, outdoor political meetings and rallies be permitted for parties recognized by the Central Electoral Board (JCE). The President's stipulations were that the meetings be held away from congested downtown areas and at sites approved by the Secretariat of Interior and Police, and that public order and private property not be jeopardized by the manifestations. The President also stressed that any police intervention be by specially trained agents who would

strictly observe individual rights. Ortega Ventura quickly replied by saying he had received the President's directive with "true approval", and that he believed the appropriate (political) climate for the celebration of outdoor meetings now existed. (UNCLASSIFIED)

Comment: Outdoor political rallies have been prohibited by the Balaguer Government since its inception in August 1966. (UNCLASSIFIED)

5. MNJ Restructures Executive Committee

The Movimiento Nacional de la Juventud (MNJ), a pro-Balaguer organization formed with the President's blessing in November 1968, this week restructured its National Executive Committee replacing some 14 members. Victor GOMEZ Bergés (who is also Secretary General of the Dominican Municipal League) was confirmed in his post as president. Speaking at the election meeting, Gómez charged that unnamed persons (presumably including those removed from the executive committee) had been conspiring against and trying to divide the MNJ. An earlier press release accused the dismissed leaders with a lack of "loyalty, honor, consideration and discipline". A few days earlier the press reported the mass resignation of 800 leaders and members of various barrio subcommittees of the organization. Some of those who resigned to join the Movimiento de la Juventud Democrática Dominicana (MJDD), a recently organized group formed in the barrios of Santo Domingo, criticized Gómez Bergés and Daniel GOMEZ Martínez (formerly head of the MNJ's National District Committee who was named first vice president of the group in the reorganization) as "demagogues and aristocrats" who were going to defend the marginal classes but had only defended their families and those of their class. (UNCLASSIFIED)

Comment: The most widely rumored reason for the removal of the 14 MNJ leaders is that they were attempting to replace Gómez Bergés with Secretary of Agriculture Fernando ALVAREZ Bogaert (which Alvarez has denied). Since the new members of the board at a quick glance seem to be Balagueristas, we tend to believe that the problem arose as a result of an internal power struggle within the MNJ, but assisted from without by anti-Gómez Bergés elements within the Reformist Party who have long resented his catapulting himself to power over their heads. Whatever the motive behind the changes, it seems certain that Gómez has strengthened his position as MNJ president by installing an executive committee more responsive to his leadership. (CONFIDENTIAL)

6. Two Church Meetings Concluded

Bishop Hugo E. POLANCO Brito and some 180 clergymen and lay leaders of the Santo Domingo Archdiocese concluded on September 6 a one-week organizational session designed to prepare the archdiocese to carry out its social mission. The meetings were under the direction of two CELAM representatives, Fathers Edgar BELTRAN and J. Ramón VEGA, who will perform a similar role in the other dioceses in the country.

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 969000

decisions taken at the sessions centered around the reorganization of the archdiocesan Pastoral Council, a 28-member advisory body to the Bishop, composed of priests, religious and lay group representatives formed in December 1968. Some of the more significant resolutions that emerged were to seek pastoral coordination in social reform matters at the national level, to study organization of a technical advisory organ within the archdiocese and to suggest that the Bishop should recommend to the Conference of Bishops that the Concordat be examined with a view toward its abrogation. The group also issued a press release in which it stated that human rights are being violated in the D.R. and denounced "the social disorder which exists in our Republic".

Just before the start of the meeting referred to above, a seminar organized by Father Fernando ARANGO, a Jesuit and social reform activist, and attended by 130 priests and lay leaders and two lay representatives of the International Movement of Reconciliation, was held to discuss non-violent means to achieve social change. Father Arango defended the seminar against charges by President Balaguer's press secretary Cesar HERRERA who inferred that the meeting was "subversive". (UNCLASSIFIED)

7. Three Astronauts Visit Santo Domingo

Three U.S. astronauts, John Swigert, Paul Weitz and Walter Cunningham, accompanied by a group of North American "investors", made a 2-day private visit to the Dominican Republic this week described by them as a "courtesy visit". All local arrangements, including a call on President Balaguer, were handled by the Santo Domingo city government. J. A. BRUNO Pimentel, the city's public relations director, denied reports that astronaut Weitz wounded nine persons, including Secretary of Finance Antonio MARTINEZ Francisco, with birdshot during a hunting expedition. (SD-2778, SD-2808) (UNCLASSIFIED)

8. Little Local Reaction to Rockefeller Report

There was little public or private reaction in the Dominican Republic to wire service stories concerning the Rockefeller report presented to President Nixon last week. One radio comment predicted that "in case just and adequate measures are not taken this time to assure progress and development the United States will gradually lose the support and friendship of those who traditionally have been their most faithful and sincere friends". An El Caribe columnist this week commented that the decision not to make the report public and the news that a second part of the report would follow would delay the formation of new U.S. policy and would leave the initiative in LA to the communists. The columnist also predicted difficulties in the future relations between the U.S. and its neighbors to the south because of President Nixon's "opposition" to a second part of the Alliance for Progress and because Washington seems to want to treat each American republic separately while the Latins want "multi-national agreements". (UNCLASSIFIED)

CONFIDENTIAL

Other Developments

Other developments this week (a) three members of the Executive Committee of the Revolutionary Social Christian Party (PRSC), including Vice President Josefina Padilla vda. Sanchez and Secretary General César Estrella Sadhalá, resigned for "personal reasons" (airgram in preparation); (b) the slate of candidates loyal to PRSC President Caonabo JAVIER Castillo was elected (98-71) at a meeting of the National District organization of the Juventud Revolucionaria Social Cristiana (JRSC); (c) José A. FERNANDEZ Caminero, President of the Frente Revolucionario de Unidad Nacional (FRUN), said his anti-reelection group would support the presidential candidacy of Vice President Francisco Augusto LORA; Fernandez also said the possibility exists that Wessin's PQD would unite with FRUN and the sector of the PR supporting Lora to "impede" the reelection of President Balaguer; (d) the PQD protested as "an abuse of power" the government's decision to close the PQD radio program (it was still off the air at week's end) allegedly because of remarks regarding Balaguer's "lack of attention" to the Armed Forces; (e) missing MPD leader, Henry SEGARRA Santos, still had not been located at week's end; his wife met this week with President Balaguer and also requested the assistance of the Chamber of Deputies; (f) the National Commission of Public Spectacles voted 3-2 to prohibit the showing of the 20th Century Fox film "Che" thereby setting off a heated debate; (g) Foreign Secretary Fernando AMIAMA Tió announced the formation of two mixed commissions, one between the D.R. and Barbados (diplomatic and consular relations will be established between the two countries) and one between the D.R. and Jamaica, both to promote commercial relations; (h) National Police in Cotui accused 18 persons of operating a clandestine commando organization affiliated with the MPD; and finally (i) rumors that Finance Secretary Antonio MARTINEZ Francisco would be named to replace Gaetán BUCHER as head of the Dominican Sugar Corporation (CEA) gave rise to a great deal of speculation regarding other possible cabinet changes; at the same time Martínez said he might resign from his cabinet post because of "pressures" from Luis JULIAN Perez, president of the National Development Commission and a member of the CEA Board of Directors; Julián Perez in turn said that if Martínez resigned it would be because he was not named to the CEA position (the President this week appointed César ALVAREZ Valera, former administrator of the Dominican Cement Factory, as the new CEA executive director). (UNCLASSIFIED)

J.E.M.
MELOY by F.J.D.

POL:JCHaahr:LRFleischer:FAlberti:CFSwezey:RLFenton

CONFIDENTIAL