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1. Reports from Cuba indicate that a clash exists between President Carlos Prío Socarras and Guillermo Alonso Pujol, Vice President, owing to the latter's ambition to become President of Cuba. Pujol is supported in his ambition by former associates of Prío who are dissatisfied because only the inner Prío clique has been profiting from graft under the present regime. In an effort to counteract this movement, Prío reportedly plans to eliminate the possibility of opposition by combining the Cuban Revolutionary Party, the Republican Party, and the Liberal Party, and by cutting potential opponents in on more graft.
2. According to Deputy Manuel Romero Padilla, who maintains liaison between Senator Jose Manuel Aleman in Miami, Florida, and the Union Insurreccional Revolucionaria (UIR) in Cuba, Pujol and Aleman are working together to oust President Prío from office in order to elevate Pujol to the presidency. Ex-President Ramon Grau San Martin is another member of the combination. Comment. Pujol told Deputy Rolando Masferrer, a member of the Republican Party, that Aleman has no political sense but is useful because of his financial assistance.)
3. After a visit with Senator Aleman in Miami, Inspector Landa of the Cuban Ministry of the Treasury asserted that certain activities involving the smuggling of arms were being developed in the United States among Senator Aleman, Vice President Pujol, ex-General Gomez Gomez, an officer in the Cuban Army during the time of Batista, ex-General Hernandez Nardo, former Chief of the Cuban National Police, and ex-General Francisco Tabernilla. Financial backing of these smuggling activities, at least in part, was to be supplied by the Dominican Republic. According to the Cuban Consul in New Orleans, four torpedo vessels have been purchased by these alleged smugglers. Landa asserted that the combination was associating with Trujillo for the double purpose of financial gain and of embarrassing the Prío regime by strengthening Dominican military power.

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4. An individual named Masconcelos, who has been a frequent visitor of Aleman in Miami, is in charge of a defamation campaign against General Genevevo Perez Tamera. This campaign has been undertaken by Aleman and ex-Generals Gomes Gomes and Tabernilla to weaken the position of the Army through the creation of unrest and confusion, eventually, they hope, causing the resignation of President Prio. In this event, Vice President Pujol would then assume the presidency of Cuba.
5. Vice President Pujol, who financed part of Masferrer's election campaign, asserted to Masferrer that contrary to reports he was cooperating with President Prio. He claimed that as a result of this cooperation the Republican Party would now share in the graft in the same measure as Prio's clique.
6. Orlando Puente, administrator of the Presidential Secretariat, stated to source that Pujol is now working wholeheartedly with Prio. Pujol has assured Prio that he will not resign his position as President of the Republican Party.
7. It was stated further that during January 1949, Masferrer, as well as other Republicans, would begin to receive concessions from the government which would consist of botellas and shares in the distribution of lottery tickets.
8. Governor Maceo of Oriente Province, also a Republican, was assured by President Prio that he would be the beneficiary of botellas and lottery money in the near future.
9. Source states that during the latter part of December 1948 it was evident that President Prio and his brother Francisco "Paco" Prio, who is regarded as the brains in the Prio combination, decided to eliminate all opposition or the possibility of opposition by closely combining the Cuban Revolutionary Party, the Republican Party, and the Liberal Party. The plan involves the distribution of government revenue, obtained from the lottery, customs, the two per cent tax, and the tax on utilities. In this way, President Prio intends to obtain the allegiance of the leaders of the three parties. ~~Comment.~~ 25X1A6a  
A number of items appeared in the Habana press from 21 December through 28 December disclosing an apparently new combination of Cuban political parties. The implication was made that the Democratic Party would combine with the Republican Party, of which Vice President Pujol is the National President. The present administrative party, which is known as the Autenticos, consists of the Cuban Revolutionary Party and the Republican Party.)
10. During a luncheon on 25 December, Antonio Prio, present Minister of the Treasury and also a brother of the President, delivered a large number of jobs directly to the Vice President in order to further cement Prio's relations with Pujol.
11. As a result of representations made by Francisco Prio, Senator Suarez Rivas, President of the Liberal Party, has placed the Liberal Party at the disposal of the Autenticos. ~~Comment.~~ Recently, an item appeared in the press stating that Senator Suarez Rivas would not present a Liberal candidate for Mayor of the City of Habana in the election of 1950. One of the candidates for Mayor of Habana in the election of 1950 is Antonio Prio. Suarez Rivas' intention to enter no Liberal Party candidate is a move to strengthen Antonio Prio's chances for election. Under the present system, Antonio Prio must be nominated by the Municipal Assembly of the Cuban Revolutionary Party, which is controlled by Antonio Fernandez Macho, a henchman of Senator Aleman. Most of the delegates to the Municipal Assembly of the Cuban Revolutionary Party were elected to their posts through funds supplied by Senator Aleman. In order to obtain the nomination Antonio Prio must have the support of Aleman, which is not likely, or he will have to buy Aleman's delegates. Offers have been made to Aleman to join with the Prios in the creation of a single political party.)
12. Deputy Masferrer stated that the object of President Prio is to create a system similar to that in Mexico, where all candidates for office are selected from within the factions of one revolutionary party. Prio's intention is to eliminate all party lines. All political parties will be invited to join except the Partido Socialista Popular (PSP-Cuban Communist Party) and the Cuban People's Party of Eduardo Chibas. Masferrer asserted that ex-President

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-3-

Fulgencio Batista will be in the combination. Masferrer also anticipated that Aleman will not give his wholehearted support but will tacitly cooperate. Masferrer believed that the entire Prio movement to combine the parties was undertaken because Prio was aware that Alonso Pujol was attempting to oust him as President in order to assume the presidency himself.

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