

UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



GENERAL

S/2480
16 January 1952
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Dual Distribution

LETTER DATED 5 JANUARY 1952 FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
EXTERNAL RELATIONS OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC ADDRESSED TO
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL GIVING THE TEXT OF THE DECLARATION
SIGNED BY THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND CUBA BEFORE THE
INTER-AMERICAN PEACE COMMITTEE ON 25 DECEMBER 1951

Ciudad Trujillo
District of Santo Domingo,

5 January 1952

I have the honour to inform you that on 25 December 1951 the Dominican Republic and Cuba signed before the Inter-American Peace Committee a declaration concerning their dispute which had been submitted to the Committee and which arose out of the trial and conviction by the ordinary Dominican courts of the Cuban members of the crew of the revolutionary vessel "Quetzal". The text of the declaration follows:

"With reference to the facts placed before the Inter-American Peace Committee for its consideration in their notes of 26 November and 7 December 1951 respectively, and to other difficulties in the conduct of relations between their countries, the representatives of the Republic of Cuba and of the Dominican Republic agree to make the following declaration to the Committee:

1. They are resolved to conform at all times to the principle of non-intervention which is embodied in the various Inter-American instruments in force and which they regard as essential for the maintenance of friendly relations between States;
2. They desire to maintain normal diplomatic relations in keeping with the policy of peaceful good neighbourliness; and, accordingly, they are willing to extend to the diplomatic representatives accredited to their respective Governments, on a duly reciprocal basis,

- all the customary facilities which are essential for the proper discharge of their functions;
3. They are determined to avoid, in conformity with paragraph 5 of the Conclusions of the Inter-American Peace Committee of 14 September 1949, and subject to the provisions of their respective Constitutions, any planned hostile propaganda, by whatsoever medium expressed, against either of the countries concerned or its Government;
 4. They are convinced that, more particularly in the present serious international situation and for the good of all the American Republics, it is necessary to ensure the continued maintenance of fraternal and good neighbourly relations and of the mutual bonds of continental solidarity;
 5. They accept the Inter-American Peace Committee's offer to lend its good offices for the consideration of any difficulty with regard to the facts to which this declaration relates.

For the Dominican Republic: Virgilio Diaz Ordonez.

For the Republic of Cuba: Gonzalo Guell."

I have the honour also to inform you that in virtue of the pardon granted by His Excellency the President of the Dominican Republic in a decree of 23 December 1951 to the aforementioned ship's company, on the petition of the men themselves and of the Cuban colony in Ciudad Trujillo, the men were released on 25 December 1951, the sentence of 20 years' public works which had been imposed on them by final and irrevocable decision of the Court of Appeals of the Department of Santo Domingo being thus remitted and the competence of the Dominican courts to prosecute and try the aforesaid seamen for the commission of the crime against the security of the Dominican State with which they were charged and the legality of the sentences imposed being recognized in consequence.

I have pleasure in informing you, in accordance with the provisions of Article 54 of the United Nations Charter, that the dispute concerning the imprisonment and conviction of the Cuban members of the crew of the revolutionary vessel "Quetzal" has thus been satisfactorily settled by means of the Declaration communicated above.

(Signed) Virgilio DIAZ ORDONEZ

Secretary of State for External Relations

