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CABLE DATED 31 MAY 1966 FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE  
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-  
GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

I have the honour to transmit to you, for the information of the Security Council, the text of cable No. 1082, dated 26 May, sent by the Ad Hoc Committee to the Chairman of the Tenth Meeting of Consultation.

"Santo Domingo  
"26 May 1966

"No. 1082

"Dr. Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa  
Chairman of the Tenth Meeting of  
Consultation of Ministers of  
Foreign Affairs  
Washington, D.C.

"The Ad Hoc Committee has the honour to inform the Tenth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the events which have occurred in the Dominican Republic since 20 May, the date of our last report.

"After the formation of the commission to investigate allegations in connexion with the carrying out of the electoral campaign, which is composed of persons appointed by each of the presidential candidates and by the Central Electoral Board and a special representative of the Provisional President, and following statements by President García Godoy, the Minister of the Armed Forces, and the Chief of the National Police guaranteeing the proper conduct of the elections, Professor Juan Bosch, the presidential candidate of the Dominican Revolutionary Party, announced that the crisis created by alleged interference by the armed forces in political activities during the electoral campaign had been resolved and that his party would take part in the elections on 1 June.

"The special commission to investigate acts which might disrupt the electoral process was established by an Executive Decree of 20 May and its members are Monsignor Polanco Brito, Apostolic Administrator of the Archdiocese of Santo Domingo, the special representative of the President

of the Republic, Dr. Homero Hernández Almanzar, representing the Dominican Revolutionary Party, Dr. Delfín Pérez y Pérez, representing the Reform Party, Dr. Cirilo Collado, representing the National Integration Movement, and Dr. Luis Augusto González de la Vega, representing the Central Electoral Board. The members of the commission held a session that same day, 20 May, in the President's office. The commission, which will be governed by regulations made by the Provisional Government, is authorized to enter all premises in the State, including those of local authorities and independent institutions and military quarters; it will investigate allegations and complaints made by political parties and will also inquire into compliance with the governmental arrangements for free electoral proceedings. All authorities in the country, civil and military, will be obliged to provide this commission with such co-operation and support as are necessary for it to accomplish its task fully. The Central Electoral Board announced that it is expected that 1,200,000 Dominicans will go to the polls and it has issued a number of notices giving instructions and regulations for the conduct of the election. It announced that the polling stations, ballot-boxes and booths will be protected by the National Police, including the armed forces, if necessary. In a notice of 22 May it stated that citizens could deposit their ballots at the nearest polling station, provided that station was within the electoral district in which the voter resided. In order to make the citizens acquainted with the conduct to be observed at the electoral polling stations with regard to the use of ballot papers, the Central Electoral Board announced in a notice of 23 May that citizens who unlawfully remove any official ballot paper from electoral premises on the day of the elections will be liable to imprisonment of from one month to one year or to fines of from 30 to 300 pesos. The Provisional President, in order to facilitate the obtaining of personal identity documents for the purpose of the elections, issued a decree on 24 May extending to 29 May the period for obtaining this identity document free of charge. On the same day, 24 May, in order to forestall any act which might tend to obstruct the exercise of the vote and to ensure that the forthcoming elections proceed normally, the Provisional Government made a decree forbidding bundles, suitcases, travel bags, handbags, envelopes or parcels of any kind to be brought into premises in which a polling station has been set up, and empowering the Chairman of the polling station to expel from the premises any person endeavouring to disturb public order.

"During the electoral campaign the candidates, devoted themselves to explaining their programmes, principles and aims to the electorate, although on many occasions strong criticisms were expressed. At La Romana on 20 May, during a scuffle between two political gangs, a child was killed and four persons were injured. At La Victoria, in a quarrel between supporters of Dr. Balaguer and supporters of Dr. Bosch on 22 May, a workman died as a result of gunfire. The Ad Hoc Committee has made all

the necessary arrangements to ensure that the persons from other parts of the hemisphere who will attend the elections on 1 June as observers are properly received.

"For the Ad Hoc Committee

"Ilmar Penna Marinho  
Special Representative of Brazil

"Ramón de Clairmont Dueñas  
Special Representative of El Salvador

"Ellsworth Bunker  
Special Representative of the  
United States"

Accept, etc.

José A. MORA  
Secretary General  
Organization of American States

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