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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET / 1501 00936 1957

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FROM: **RI/AN** **3P**

DOCUMENT NUMBER: **00936**

EXECUTIVE DATE: **3 Feb 57**

TO	ROOM NO.	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS
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2. <i>[Signature]</i>			Feb 57	<i>[Signature]</i>	
3. <i>[Signature]</i>		5 MAR. 5		<i>[Signature]</i>	
4. Mexico		6 MAR 6		<i>[Signature]</i>	
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6.				<i>[Signature]</i>	
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Chief, WID

Chief of Station, [redacted]

INFO: COS, [redacted]

Operational

Mexican-Dominican Relations: Francisco DEL RIO
Canada

REF: [redacted]-109, 2 February 1956
[redacted]-888, 20 January 1957

1. On 26 November 1956 BILSON and COS invited Francisco DEL RIO Canada, Mexican Ambassador to the Dominican Republic, to lunch to discuss the tendency of the Dominican Republic's Motion Picture Censorship Board to declare Mexican films as unfit for public consumption. Present at lunch was Mr. Bruce WILLIAMS of Mississippi who is Columbia Pictures representative in the Dominican Republic and who handles many Mexican films.

2. From the conversation above it was learned that a number of 1953 Mexican films were being banned by the Dominican Republic. American films from the United States, Italy, Spain, and France were generally getting by without difficulty. DEL RIO and WILLIAMS claimed that many of the French and Italian films were far more liberal than the Mexican films.

3. Francisco DEL RIO stated that there were groups in existence which had a vested interest in painting the Mexican Government as being pro-Communist. COS asked what groups these were. DEL RIO stated that COS knew very well who they were. He indicated that some American businessmen (meaning underlings of William F. PAMLEY and Henry W. HOLLAND) were very active in spreading information about Mexico. He stated that COS was not to blame because the Mexican Government was very pro-American. However, that he and most Mexicans could not understand the racial ideology of some of the United States' allies. At this point he lashed out heavily against the United States and argued that for the United States to continue to be a world leader and to continue to contradict itself was a disgrace for the world as a defender of democracy and freedom. He called for the strongest possible action by the United States.

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[Redacted]

against Britain and France in order to establish clearly to the world that the United States would not stand for their actions. He also argued that the United States had nothing to gain from alliance with nations so materially, spiritually, and morally bankrupt.

4. At this point EMBROW lost patience with DEL RIO's language and began to question severely DEL RIO's judgment and reasoning. DEL RIO made an abrupt retreat and omitted again to the subject of the Mexican Government's and his own valuable friendship for and cooperation with the United States.

5. When the conversation got back to Mexican films, DEL RIO stated that he could see no reason whatsoever for such right censorship. He felt that multilateral international procedure should be placed on the Dominicans to force them to run a fairer and less discriminatory censorship. However, he objected to having Mexican films highlighted as the major victims. He did not want Mexico to be singled out as the chief protector.

6. To date nothing has been done, to COS' knowledge, about Mexican films.

7. COS comments again that his observation of Francisco DEL RIO Canedo leads him to believe that this man constantly speaks on morality, justice, democracy, etc., but uses such phrases to his own personal advantage without meaning a word of what he says. Perhaps DEL RIO might be one of the most unjust, immoral, and undemocratic characters in the local diplomatic corps.

[Handwritten signature]
Francisco J. Canedo

28 January 1957

Distribution:
1 : Headquarters
1 : [Redacted]

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