

66 Galiano St.,
Havana, Cuba,
March 8th, 1921

My distinguished friend:

Knowing that you are interested in the welfare of Cuba, and that you desire as much as us, its independence and progress, I hasten to inform you about the gravity of the political situation here.

The United States Government through General Crowder, whose efforts deserve every praise, have not been able to convince this Government of the necessity of holding legal and impartial elections, and the vast majority of the electoral body continue being the object of intimidation and coercion, systematically carried out by the Government, as you will see by the enclosed memorandum. General Crowder and the Cuban people are being the object of mockery by the Cuban Government.

The policy of persuasion has failed completely, and the Government, part of the Army, and many armed civilians of the Government Party continue in a state of open rebellion against the law, public order and the liberty of suffrage in Cuba.

An immediate, very urgent, and decisive action on the part of the American Government in pursuance of the Platt Amendment, which is a part of the Cuban Constitution, is imperative in order to reestablish justice, by an American supervision of the elections.

With kindest regards to Senator Watson, I beg to remain

Very respectfully yours,

Fernando Ortiz.

The Hon. Albert S. Fall,
Secretary of the Interior,
Washington, D.C.

