PERU

POLITICAL AFFAIRS

Presumptive Election of Augusto B. Leguía as President—Overthrow of President Pardo, July 4, 1919; Assumption of Power by Leguía as Provisional President—New Congressional Elections and Plebiscite on Constitutional Reforms; Victory of the Government—Recognition by the United States of Leguía as Head of the "de facto" Government, August 28—His Inauguration as Constitutional President, October 12—Continued Designation of His Government by the United States as "de facto."

823.00/249: Telegram

The Consul General at Callao-Lima (Handley) to the Acting Secretary of State

LIMA, May 20, 1919, 9 a.m.

[Received 4.15 p.m.]

Referring to my telegram of May 12, 3 p.m.¹

The presidential election vote Sunday and Monday in Callao-Lima Province gave Leguía large majority. Present indications incomplete returns from other provinces have elected him President of Peru.

HANDLEY

823.00/251: Telegram

The Consul General at Callao-Lima (Handley) to the Acting Secretary of State

LIMA, July 4, 1919, 8 a.m.

[Received 10.10 p.m.]

Three o'clock this morning regiments one and two took the Government Palace, imprisoned President Pardo and most of the Cabinet Ministers, and installed Augusto B. Leguía, President of Peru. All conducted without disturbances. Practically no opposition. Rumored Pardo Government had decided nullify Leguía's election. Army now patrolling Lima. Do not anticipate trouble.

HANDLEY

823.00/252: Telegram

The Minister in Peru (McMillin) to the Acting Secretary of State

LIMA, July 4, 1919, 8 a.m.

[Received 10.28 p.m.]

Four o'clock this morning President Pardo was seized in the Palace and is now imprisoned in penitentiary. Incidental to movement

¹ Not printed.

720
two soldiers killed and three wounded, including minor official. Minister of War and Minister of Government also in prison. Chief of Staff of Navy in prison, Chief of Staff of the Army escaped with 40 men. Prefect of Callao in prison and new prefect in power.

Leguia’s followers instigators of [coup d’état].

As it is customary for the government in power to send official representative to fourth July reception at the Legation, have called off large reception prepared for this afternoon to avoid possible complications which would come from receiving or declining to receive representative of new regime.

McMillin

823.00/253: Telegram

The Consul General at Callao-Lima (Handley) to the Acting Secretary of State

LIMA, July 4, 1919, 3 p.m.  
[Received July 5, 10.26 a.m.]

My telegram of July 4, 8 a.m. In a personal interview with Leguia this afternoon informed me there was deep laid conspiracy afoot deprive him fruits recent election and as last resort reluctantly gave instructions to Army officers resulting in orderly overthrow Pardo Government. Stated that Pardo and Cabinet Ministers would be dealt with fullest justice; that he had no personal hatred against any members of the recent Government. He would be Provisional President of Peru until general elections held within two months. Expect announcement of the new Cabinet tonight. All quiet Lima. No trouble reported in the provinces.

Handley

823.00/254: Telegram

The Minister in Peru (McMillin) to the Acting Secretary of State

LIMA, July 4, 1919, 9 p.m.  
[Received July 6, 1.06 a.m.]

Leguia occupied Palace during the day appointing and swearing following Cabinet: Minister for Foreign Affairs and President of the Cabinet, Porras; Minister of Gobernacion, Cornejo; Minister of Justice, Osores; Minister of War, General Abrill; Minister of Finance, Idiáquez; Public Works, Gutiérrez. Reported Leguia will issue proclamation immediately calling for election new Congress. His present determination is against designation temporary President but no steps yet taken for his own induction to the Presidency. No organized opposition yet developed. City tranquil.

McMillin
Telegram

The Consul General at Callao-Lima (Handley) to the Acting Secretary of State

LIMA, July 5, 1919, 2 p.m.
[Received July 6, 10.02 a.m.]

Provisional President Leguia’s Cabinet, headed by Doctor Meliton Porras formerly Minister for Foreign Affairs during Leguia’s former administration, is composed of highly esteemed statesmen and business men who enjoy national respect. All the provinces have accepted new Government including the military and naval authorities. Alfonso Pezet, formerly Peruvian Minister to the United States, will probably be named Ambassador to the United States. He will arrive here July 10th. This afternoon Government established censor[ship] on foreign cables.

HANDLEY

Telegram

The Minister in Peru (McMillin) to the Acting Secretary of State

LIMA, July 5, 1919, 5 p.m.
[Received July 6, 3.38 p.m.]

This morning Leguia issued a proclamation assuming Provisional Presidency claiming he did it to prevent thwarting public will as expressed [in] recent elections. Says that he was called to Peru by the public and elected President, he could not allow the country to continue in path of ruin. Charges conspiracy by the Government to prevent his election from being acknowledged. Charges Government ran politics to neglect of needy classes and defied judicial authority. Promises indispensable constitutional reforms and that period [of] transition and organization will not exceed two months.

McMillin

Telegram

The Minister in Peru (McMillin) to the Acting Secretary of State

LIMA, July 6, 1919, 10 a.m.
[Received July 7, 2.47 a.m.]

Legation received note [from] Foreign Office signed by newly appointed Minister for Foreign [Affairs] giving names of new Cabinet. See my telegram of July 4, 9 p.m. The note states Leguia has assumed control of Government with provisional character until time legal control can be taken.
Yesterday afternoon 6 o'clock, house of Barreda, cousin [of] President Pardo, was entered by mob. Representative of Prensa and numerous prominent citizens protested against violence and assailants [dispersed]. Newspaper Actualidad attacked by mob, paper temporarily put out of business. El Tiempo resumed publication yesterday. The two labor leaders arrested by Pardo government during recent strike released. Under the law, the Supreme Court decides contested congressional election cases and has been considering those resulting from recent elections. La Prensa today says Leguia Government has ordered Supreme Court [to] suspend this work. The Court published notice of its suspension. Today tranquil.

McMillin

823.00/254 : Telegram

The Acting Secretary of State to the Minister in Peru (McMillin)

WASHINGTON, July 7, 1919, 1 p.m.

Your July 4, 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. [p.m.] and July 5, 2 p.m.

Has Leguia proclaimed himself or been proclaimed President, if not who is now administering executive branch Government.

Was Leguia's election for the next presidential term definitely settled or was it still an open question. What is the customary date for the inauguration of the next President.

Strictly confidential and for your own information only. Your action in calling off reception approved and you are instructed to quietly avoid for the present any action which should lead new regime to believe they have been recognized by this Government. What action, if any, has been taken by the rest of the diplomatic corps in regard to the new government. Is Pardo and former Cabinet still in prison. Rush reply.

Phillips

823.00/261 : Telegram

The Minister in Peru (McMillin) to the Acting Secretary of State

LIMA, July 3, 1919, 10 a.m.

[Received 10.50 p.m.]

Confidential. Your July 7th 1 p.m. Legations July 5th, 5 p.m. and July 6th, 10 a.m. Leguia's declaration assuming Presidency provisionally reported in Legations July 5th, 5 p.m. further confirmed in the note published yesterday to Supreme Court signed by new Minister of Justice Osores saying "The President Augusto Leguia
has assumed the Presidency of the Republic with provisional character until the next session of Congress and named Cabinet etc.” Names of Cabinet given Legations July 4th, 9 p.m. except Minister of War now changed to Colonel Bedoya.

Leguia’s election to Presidency had not been definitely determined as such contest would go before Congress to meet July 28th. See Legations July 6th, 10 a.m. concerning Supreme Court suspension of consideration of the contested Congressional election cases. I am reliably informed that Provisional Government proposes call new elections for Congress and amendment to Constitution.

Regular inauguration of the President August 17th.

Dean of the Diplomatic Corps has called a meeting today at the request of certain members to exchange ideas upon the present situation. From informal conversation at the French Legation inclined to believe French and British will recommend recognition of Leguia. British new Chargé d’Affaires more inclined to take hasty action than French Minister, probably moved by pending negotiations of British railroad interests in Peru.

Pardo, Minister of War and Minister of Gobernacion with some minor officials still in prison.

Consul General of the Netherlands informed Legation that American Consul General visited Leguia July 4th at the Palace; every other American official has followed strictly course indicated by the Department. Leguia sent his card to the Legation 4th of July and bearer informed that no reception held. La Prensa July 5th reported that Nuncio, American Minister and the British Chargé d’Affaires called on Leguia, British Chargé d’Affaires and I did not go and on private notification La Prensa made correction on own responsibility. Nuncio’s visit at the request of Pardo family and personal.

McMillin

823.00/261a : Telegram

The Acting Secretary of State to the Minister in Peru (McMillin)

WASHINGTON, July 8, 1919, 6 p.m.

1. Is Leguia planning to have new congressional elections and if so when?
2. Is he planning new presidential election?
3. Have you tangible evidence in your possession that statements made by Leguia party which have appeared in the press are true, to the effect that Pardo attempted to use fraud in decision of presidential election contest?

Rush reply.

Polk
The Minister in Peru (McMillin) to the Acting Secretary of State

LIMA, July 9, 1919, 11 a.m.
[Received July 10, 1.55 a.m.]

Confidential. Italian Minister, senior member Diplomatic Corps, was requested by relatives President Pardo to see Leguia and get assurances of personal safety of Pardo, also to ascertain if he would be permitted to go to New York till family could join him and thence to Europe. Italian Minister called unofficially to prevent recognition of new Government. Leguia further promises safety assurances and said he would allow the departure of Pardo if he would sign renunciation of Presidency. Pardo replied that he would remain prisoner balance of term and four years more rather than resign. Leguia finally agreed to proposed departure of Pardo without resigning, allowing a few days to arrange business affairs in Peru. Arrangement will probably be carried out within ten days.

McMillin

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The Minister in Peru (McMillin) to the Acting Secretary of State

LIMA, July 9, 1919, 2 p.m.
[Received July 10, 1.10 p.m.]

Diplomatic Corps assembled last night on call Dean of the Diplomatic Corps to consider political situation. It developed that only three responses had been made to letter of new Minister for Foreign Affairs announcing change in the Government and new Cabinet. Chinese response recognized new Government. Argentine Minister replied that he had referred communication to his Government. Uruguayan Chargé d’Affaires acknowledged receipt. He afterwards told Secretary of Legation his Government would act with United States. Brazilian Chargé d’Affaires told Secretary of Legation he had recommended his Government that he be permitted to act with the United States in the matter of recognition. When asked what action my Government is taking we said we were keeping it fully advised and would wait for instructions; that only three days having elapsed since [note of] Minister for Foreign Affairs was received, [we] regard little further waiting on developments wisest. Spanish and some other Ministers approved this. French Minister suggested propriety waiting for answers until Pardo leaves Peru if he is to go abroad. This met with favor. Meeting dissolved without definite action except general acquiescence in a waiting policy.

McMillin
The Minister in Peru (McMillin) to the Acting Secretary of State

LIMA, July 10, 1919, 5 p.m.
[Received July 11, 7:11 a.m.]

Your July 8th, 6 p.m. 1 and 2. Leguia planning elections extent of which not yet known. Has promised last three days would publish decree thereon. Promises press to publish tomorrow.

3. No tangible evidence now in possession of the Legation and none so far obtainable. Having military attaché discreetly investigate.

McMillin

The Minister in Peru (McMillin) to the Acting Secretary of State

LIMA, July 11, 1919, 9 a.m.
[Received 3:50 p.m.]

Your July 8, 6 p.m. Legation's July 10, 5 p.m. Press this morning contains decree issued last night by Leguia and by others for change Constitution and election new Congress. The following is a textual translation:

"WHEREAS: 1. The national movement which ousted the former régime was inspired by a noble aspiration for the realization of constitutional reforms which would implant in Peru an effective democracy;

2. These reforms, because of their fundamental character, should have the sanction of the people itself in order that political or bureaucratic interests may not deflect them from their purely national purpose;

With the unanimous vote of the Council of Ministers;

IT IS DECREED: 1. That there be called a general election of representatives in accordance with a decree to be issued separately.

2. That there be submitted to the plebiscitary vote of the nation the following constitutional reforms:

ARTICLE 1. The renewal of the Legislative power will be entire and the date of this renewal will necessarily coincide with that of the renewal of the Executive power. The term of office of both powers shall be five years.

ARTICLE 2. The Legislature shall consist of a Senate composed of 35 senators and of a House composed of 110 deputies. This number may not be altered except by amendment of the Constitution. An organic law shall fix the departmental and provincial districts and the number of senators and deputies which each shall be entitled to elect.

ARTICLE 3. The senators and deputies of the Republic shall be elected by direct popular vote. Only in case of the death or resignation of the President of the Republic, the Congress shall elect, within 30 days, the citizen who shall complete the presidential

*Corrected on the basis of comparison with the Spanish text published in Anuario de la Legislación Peruana, vol. 14, Anexos, pp. I-II.
term, the powers of government being exercised meanwhile by the Council of Ministers. Vacancies occurring in Congress shall be filled by special elections.

**Article 4.** The regular session of Congress shall extend over a period of not less than 90 nor more than 120 days each year. A special session of Congress may be called by the Executive whenever he deems it necessary.

**Article 5.** The two Houses will meet in joint session only for the purposes of opening the sessions, of ratifying international treaties, and of fulfilling the electoral functions which the Constitution assigns to Congress.

**Article 6.** The legislative function is incompatible with every other public employment, whether in the national or in local administration. Employees of benevolent institutions or of associations dependent in any form on the State shall be included in this disqualification.

**Article 7.** Diplomatic representatives shall be appointed by the Government with the approval of the Senate.

**Article 8.** Individual guarantees may not be suspended by any law or by any authority.

**Article 9.** The judicial service shall be governed by a law which establishes definite and invariable rules for promotion. Judicial appointments for the courts of first and second instance shall be ratified by the Supreme Court every five years.

**Article 10.** The income tax shall be progressive.

**Article 11.** Conflicts arising between Capital and Labor shall be submitted to compulsory arbitration.

**Article 12.** Congress shall not make personal grants which result in expense to the Treasury nor increase the salaries of public functionaries or employees excepting upon the initiative of the Government.

**Article 13.** Fiat money with legal tender character shall not be issued except in case of a national war.

**Article 14.** There shall be three regional legislatures, one for the north, one for the center, and one for the south of the Republic, consisting of deputies elected by the provinces at the same time as the national representatives. These legislatures shall hold each year a session for a period of 30 days during which they may not be prorogued. Their functions shall be determined by a special law. They may not occupy themselves with personal matters of any kind whatever. Their resolutions shall be transmitted to the Executive for enforcement. If the Executive considers any of them incompatible with the general laws or with the national interest he shall submit them with his comment to the Congress, which shall follow in regard to them the same procedure as with bills which have been vetoed.

**Article 15.** The provincial councils shall be autonomous in the conduct of the affairs with which they are intrusted. The creation of new taxes shall be subject to the approval of the Government.

**Article 16.** There shall be organized a Council of State composed of six members elected by the Council of Ministers with the approval of the Senate. The cases in which the Government is bound to obtain its opinion and those in which it may not act contrary to its opinion shall be defined by law.
ARTICLE 17. The Government alone may, in accordance with law, grant pensions, retirement allowances, and compensations for disability, without the Legislature having power for any reason to intervene.

ARTICLE 18. No one may receive more than one salary or emolument from the State, no matter what the employment or function which he may exercise. Salaries or emoluments payable by local institutions or by associations in any manner dependent upon the Government are included in this prohibition.

ARTICLE 19. The next Congress shall convene on September 15th of the present year, shall be presided over by the President of the Senate and shall remain in session for 30 days as a national assembly for the purpose of promulgating such reforms as are approved by the plebiscite.

Given in Government House in Lima the tenth day of the month of July nineteen hundred and nineteen."

Signed by the President and all the Cabinet.

McMillin

823.00/269 : Telegram

The Minister in Peru (McMillin) to the Acting Secretary of State

LIMA, July 12, 1919, 9 a.m.
[Received 9.45 p.m.]

Legation's confidential July 11, 11 a.m. As Legation forecast President Pardo with his aide-de-camp was placed in custody of Italian Minister and Peruvian Ministers of Government and Justice and taken to the suburb Chorrillos and put on board tug boat Hercules 4 this morning which proceeded to Paita where the President and brother Juan will be transferred to the Peruvian vessel Ucayali, thence to Panama and New York City where he waits for family accompanied by brother Enrique. All will go to Paris.

McMillin

823.00/253 : Telegram

The Acting Secretary of State to the Consul General at Callao-Lima (Handley)

WASHINGTON, July 12, 1919, [4 p.m.]

Your July 4, 3 p.m.

Department at a loss to understand how your private interview with Leguia came about. Did you call upon him? You are instructed to ascertain from American Minister the attitude of this Government toward recent events in Peru and be governed accordingly.

Polk

823.00/270: Telegram

The Consul General at Callao-Lima (Handley) to the Acting Secretary of State

LIMA, July 13, 1919, 3 p.m.
[Received July 14, 4:06 a.m.]

Your July 12, 4 p.m. My interview with Leguia purely accidental. I called upon an intimate friend, who is Leguia’s legal adviser, regarding recent events as many conflicting reports were about. He invited me to go to the Palace with him where he would endeavor to procure definite information. After his conversation with Leguia the latter called me in as a friend. I particularly informed him my presence was not official, but purely accidental, which he understood. The Department’s instructions will be strictly observed.

HANDLEY

823.00/278

The British Embassy to the Department of State

MEMORANDUM

As regards the new Government in Peru, His Majesty’s Representative has been instructed to act in concert with his French, Italian and United States colleagues or with a majority of them to accord recognition which pending the completion of constitutional formalities should be de facto only. If other Powers accord full recognition, His Majesty’s Government are prepared to consider similar action.

WASHINGTON, July 16, 1919.

823.00/273: Telegram

The Minister in Peru (McMillin) to the Acting Secretary of State

LIMA, July 18, 1919, noon.
[Received July 19, 11:15 a.m.]

Prensa July 14 publishes the reply of Supreme Court to letter of Acting President of the Chamber of Deputies declining his request that they resume consideration of the contested election cases pending before them. July 13 is the day provided by law for the preliminary meeting of Congress to prepare for the installation [of] new Congress. The same paper contains an interview with Miro Quesada, the President of the Senate. When asked if he would issue call for the new Senate to meet July 28, replied that he had no jurisdiction in the matter; that his term as President of the Senate would cease
on that day. Commenting on the same subject, M. Balta Aanad, President of the House of Deputies, said it was clear from the time the decree calling general election was issued that the July 4 revolution had been directed against the present Congress, and as the present Government [controlled] all elements of force it was useless to assemble the Deputies for preparatory session.


McMillen

823.00/273: Telegram

The Minister in Peru (McMillin) to the Acting Secretary of State

LIMA, July 21, 1919, 10 a.m.
[Received July 22, 3:27 a.m.]

Legation’s July 6th, 10 a.m., July 18th, noon; Department’s July 7th, 1 p.m. Complying with instructions, I have refrained from acknowledging the note of Minister for Foreign Affairs July 5th.

British Chargé d’Affaires instructed to cooperate with the French, Italian and the United States representatives or a majority. At conference he manifested anxiety to answer note and take up urgent pending commercial negotiations with Peru which he has done. France and Italy also answered the note. Practically all representatives have now acknowledged note. A portion of them stating they have informed their Governments, but without further recognizing Provisional Government.

McMillen

823.00/284

The Peruvian Chargé (Gibson) to the Secretary of State

[Translation]

The Chargé d’Affaires of the Peruvian Embassy, ad interim, presents his compliments to the Secretary of State and has the honour to communicate that the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Peru has sent him the following circular-cable:—“The President Elect, Mr. Leguía, has assumed the provisional presidency of the Republic by virtue of the nation-wide movement, effected by the people and the army without bloodshed, in complete order and with the enthusiastic assent of public opinion. The deposition of presi-
dent Pardo was effected for the purpose of preventing the realization of the design, which his Government was preparing, to avoid proclaiming the president-elect and likewise owing to acts of a dictatorial nature undertaken with this object. The new Cabinet is composed as follows:—Cornejo, Interior; Osores, Justice; General Abril, War; Idiaquez, Finance; Salvador Gutierrez, Development and the undersigned Foreign Relations and the presidency of the Council—Porras."

Carlos Gibson takes advantage of this opportunity to reiterate to the Secretary of State the assurances of his highest consideration.

WASHINGTON, July 26, 1919.

823.00/276

The Department of State to the British Embassy

MEMORANDUM

The Department of State has received the British Embassy’s memorandum of July 16, 1919, in which, with reference to the new Government in Peru, announcement is made that the British Representative has been instructed to act in concert with his American, French and Italian colleagues, or with a majority of them, to accord recognition which pending the completion of constitutional formalities should be de facto only. It is added that if other Powers accord full recognition, the British Government is prepared to consider similar action.

The Department of State begs to advise the British Embassy that the Government of the United States has not as yet taken any action in regard to this matter, which, however, is receiving its attentive consideration.

WASHINGTON, July 29, 1919.

823.00/302

The Special Assistant (Fletcher)\(^6\) to the Secretary of State

[Extract]

WASHINGTON, August 1, 1919.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: I had a long interview with Pezet,\(^6\) who left the accompanying memorandum.\(^7\) The gist of his argument in favor of Leguia’s recognition is:

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\(^5\) Ambassador to Mexico, on duty in the Department of State.
\(^6\) Federico Alfonso Pezet, in the United States on special mission. See also telegram of July 5 from the Consul General at Callao-Lima, p. 722.
\(^7\) Not printed.
First: That he was really elected by the people at the recent elections.
Second: That the Pardo Government was about to declare the election indecisive and throw it into the Congress, which might, and probably would, have chosen some one else.
Third: That the Leguía coup prevented civil war, which would have resulted had the Pardo Government attempted to carry out its plans.
Fourth: That the change has been made without bloodshed, and that the new regime is generally accepted by the people.
Fifth: That Leguía, as Provisional President, has called elections for a new Congress to assemble on September fifteenth, which will act as a Constitutional Assembly for thirty days to consider and pass upon the changes which he proposes to make in the Constitution, and which have already been submitted to the people to be voted upon.
Sixth: These proposed changes are found in Exhibit One of the memorandum attached, and seem to be sound and beneficent.

HENRY P. FLETCHER

823.00/287: Telegram
The Secretary of State to the Minister in Peru (McMillin)

WASHINGTON, August 5, 1919, 5 p.m.

Strictly confidential. In your opinion is will of majority of people of Peru expressed in support of action of Leguía in overthrowing Pardo and calling for new elections. Give Department available figures for Leguía and figures for Government candidate in recent election.

Have you discovered any tangible proofs of plot to defraud Leguía. Cable reply.

LANSING

823.00/291: Telegram
The Minister in Peru (McMillin) to the Secretary of State

LIMA, August 9, 1919, 9 a.m.
[Received August 10, 12:50 a.m.]

Strictly confidential. Department's August 5, 5 p.m.
1. My opinion expressed in Legation's 366, July 14:9
"Leguía unquestionably has now and had at the time of elections a strong popular following. Whether this was sufficient to elect I do not know. He had absolute control over army. I am therefore

9Decree of July 10; for text, see telegram of July 11 from the Minister in Peru, p. 726.
9Not printed.
of the opinion that he will be able to overcome any and all opposition that may arise against his rule for the present and near future. The same forces that aided him in taking the Government from Pardo will enable him to hold it, at least for the present now that Pardo is out of power and out of the Republic."

Allied Ministers seem to be of this opinion. I believe that a majority of the people have acquiesced in overthrow [of] Pardo Government but not in calling new congressional elections. They do not see how same elective procedure could be regular as to the President of the Republic and irregular as to the Senators and Deputies when all were conducted at the same time and place and by same officers.

2. Impossible to obtain the exact figures of result of elections. The following data is the most accurate that the Legation [could obtain]. The officials of election board of Province of Lima returned 10,878 votes for Leguia and 3,185 for Aspillaga. Election board for Callao, 1,979 votes for Leguia and 330 for Aspillaga (see despatch No. 352 May 31\textsuperscript{11}). After a careful search the following figures were obtained from the adherents of the respective candidates: twenty provinces, not including Lima and Callao, gave Aspillaga 93,800; twenty-eight towns and cities, not including Lima and Callao, gave Leguia 52,050. The returns for Leguia do not include cities in certain of his strongholds of the southern provinces. He claims to have received over 200,000 votes. Except for Lima and Callao the figures are merely claims on the part of adherents. In many of the provinces there were contests, both sides claiming victory and sending to the Supreme Court having jurisdiction of the matter their respective contentions. The Supreme Court was engaged in deciding these contests but had not completed them at the time of the revolution, hence impossibility of giving complete and reliable figures. Elections generally passed off without disturbances.

3. All tangible evidence has been forwarded to the Department in Legation's telegrams [omission] and despatches 366, July 14,\textsuperscript{11} and 371, July 30.\textsuperscript{11} The copies of the telegrams and letters brought to the attention of the Legation do not amount to proof but is evidence tending to show that efforts were being made to secure election of Government candidates. As to the attitude of the Government on the eve of elections, see Legation's despatch No. 352, May 31, pages 3 and 4.\textsuperscript{11}

\textsuperscript{10} Antero Aspillaga.\textsuperscript{11} Not printed.
The Minister in Peru (McMillin) to the Secretary of State

LIMA, August 15, 1919, 2 p.m.
[Received August 16, 8.10 p.m.]

The elections for Congress and plebiscite vote for amendments of the Constitution called for August 17th and 18th have been postponed, by decree of Cabinet, to the 24th and 25th of August. National Assembly to be installed September 24th. The elections and plebiscite to be held September 14th and 15th in the Departments of Loreto, San Martin and Madre de Dios as decreed August 2nd shall remain in force.

The reason given is that there was not sufficient time to transmit to all districts the appointment of the taxpayer who is to form part of the ballot boards and to assure the polling of the votes of the greatest possible number of citizens.

McMillin

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The Minister in Peru (McMillin) to the Secretary of State

LIMA, August 26, 1919, 8 p.m.
[Received August 27, 4.43 a.m.]

Elections held Peruvian Republic Monday for Senators, Deputies and Constitutional amendments passed off quietly. Result from interior not yet received. A very light vote polled but Government candidates elected placing the present Government in absolute control of situation. The vote is to be held later in three remote provinces which will not change the result.

McMillin

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The Secretary of State to the Minister in Peru (McMillin)

WASHINGTON, August 28, 1919, 4 p.m.

In view of the facts reported in your August 26th, 8 p.m., you are instructed to address an informal communication to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Leguia government informing him that the Government of the United States extends to Mr. Leguia recognition as the head of the de facto Government of Peru.

Lansing
The Secretary of State to the Peruvian Chargé (Gibson)

WASHINGTON, September 4, 1919.

Sir: I have the honor to inform you that the Government of the United States has recognized Señor Leguía as head of the de facto Government of Peru.

Accept [etc.]

For the Secretary of State:
ALVEY A. ADEE

The Minister in Peru (McMillin) to the Secretary of State

LIMA, September 5, 1919.

[Received September 24.]

Sir: Referring to Department’s telegram of August 28, 4 p.m., concerning the recognition of Augusto B. Leguía as head of the de facto Government, I have the honor to report:

That pending the question of recognition, as reported by me from time to time by cable and despatch, all the Governments represented here were anxious concerning the attitude of the United States, and the time when our Government would recognize President Leguía. Several of them had requested that I notify them when I received instructions to recognize in one form or other the existing Government. The spirit manifested by several of the Governments was such that I felt that this was not an unreasonable request. Therefore, when the above referred to telegram concerning recognition was received, I made known to the representatives of other Governments the action that our Government proposed to take, and wrote a note to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, extending the recognition that I was authorized to make. I delivered this note in person.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs greeted me cordially and expressed a wish for continuance of the friendly relations that have so long existed between Peru and the United States. Two days afterward, he and the Assistant Minister, Mr. Elguera, called on me at the Legation and exhibited every manifestation of cordiality.

I called on President Leguía who was exceedingly cordial and expressed the hope that [the] great development which is inevitable in Peru will be participated in by capitalists of the United States. He is credited with being friendly with all foreigners in Peru, and of being very friendly to foreign enterprises and the introduction of foreign capital.
It is due to say that President Leguía is most cordially greeted and applauded wherever he goes, whether in discharge of public or private functions.

The French Government has recognized the Government and Leguía as President; the English Legation has recognized the de facto Government and Leguía as Provisional President since our recognition was extended.

I send herewith clippings from the Lima press, together with translations, giving an account of this action.\textsuperscript{12} El Tiempo had a well timed and thoughtfully prepared comment on the recognition of the United States, in which it justified the delay of our Government in the matter of recognition. I send other clippings and translations herewith that the Department may see what the drift of comment and action has been.

As informed by Legation’s telegram,\textsuperscript{12} Senor Pizarro\textsuperscript{13} resigned the portfolio of Minister of War, and Colonel Gerardo Alvarez has been appointed Minister of War and Navy. The resignation of General Pizarro was on account of his election to senatorship and the inhibition to hold two offices, under the newly amended Constitution. I am enclosing clippings from La Prensa of September 2, together with translation, concerning this change.\textsuperscript{12}

I am [etc.]\textsuperscript{12} \textbf{Benton McMillin}

\textbf{S23.00/300 : Telegram}

\textit{The Chargé in Peru (Smith) to the Secretary of State}

\textbf{LIMA, September 6, 1919, 2 p.m.}

[Received September 7, 7.44 a.m.]

During the last few days Belgium, Bolivia, Ecuador, France and Italy have recognized the Peruvian Government. Uruguay and England have recognized the de facto Government.

\textbf{Smith}

\textbf{S23.00/302\frac{1}{4} : Telegram}

\textit{The Chargé in Peru (Smith) to the Secretary of State}

\textbf{LIMA, September 11, 1919, 8 a.m.}

[Received September 12, 12.10 a.m.]

Late at night Tuesday Provisional Government felt obliged to take drastic measures against proposed plot to assassinate the Provisional President, claimed to have been known by the Government for some time. The measures taken were the arrest and imprisonment of a number of the adherents of the Pardistos including Luis Pardo, brother of ex-President; Ramon Aspillaga, brother of former

\textsuperscript{a}Not printed. \textsuperscript{b}José R. Pizarro.
candidate for the Presidency; Felipe Barreda, cousin and Carlos Heeren, brother-in-law of the ex-President; also four army officers and a number of others. The Government claims to have done this in order to nip the conspiracy in the bud to prevent disorder and bloodshed.

Commencing early Wednesday morning there were large crowds of Leguía’s adherents marching through the streets condemning plotters and approving Leguía. During the evening the mob increased and became more violent. About seven o’clock it attacked homes of Antonio Miro Quesada, editor Comercio and former President of the Senate; Augusto Durand, owner of Prensa; Antero Aspillaga, candidate for President, doing great damage to furniture and in the case of Miro Quesada burning the house almost to the ground. After venting their spite on these they marched to the newspaper Prensa breaking in doors, doing great damage to machinery, so much so that paper will not be able to appear for some time. From there they went to Comercio where they did damage to outside of building but only slightly smashing up some of the machinery. The paper was able to issue a small edition this morning.

All these acts apparently were a protest against the attempt to overthrow the present administration. Every one including the President regrets the incident as they realize it will injure the reputation of Peru before the world.

Smith

823.00/313: Telegram

The Chargé in Peru (Smith) to the Secretary of State

LIMA, September 27, 1919, 9 p.m.
[Received September 29, 10:10 a.m.]

On account of the uncertainty of political conditions inauguration of Leguía as Constitutional President which was to have taken place 28 postponed until October 3.

Smith

823.00/328

The Chargé in Peru (Smith) to the Secretary of State

[Extract]

Lima, October 4, 1919.
[Received October 20.]

In the presence of the diplomatic corps and a large concourse of people President Leguía read the opening address at the installation of Congress which took place September 24. Senor Leguía was
given a great ovation upon entering the Chamber which appeared to be sincere and spontaneous.

The first enactment of Congress was to pass a law ratifying all the acts of the Provisional Government.

Yesterday Congress approved the nineteen amendments voted upon and decided that the constitutional term of office of the President and members of Congress shall be five years, beginning October 12, 1919. The President, therefore, will probably be inaugurated Sunday, October 12.

Although the political conditions are much disturbed and political animosity among the party factions is running very high, I believe that, if the army remains loyal to Leguia, he will be able to maintain the Presidency. . . .

I am [etc.]

Wm. Walker Smith

823.00/320 : Telegram

The Chargé in Peru (Smith) to the Secretary of State

LIMA, October 4, 1919, 11 a.m.

[Received October 5, 9.40 a.m.]

Inauguration of Provisional President as Constitutional President again postponed until October 12. The whole Diplomatic Corps will be invited to attend the inauguration and reception by the President. Shall I attend, thus recognizing Leguia as Constitutional President? Please instruct immediately.

Smith

823.00/320 : Telegram

The Secretary of State to the Chargé in Peru (Smith)

WASHINGTON, October 7, 1919, 5 p.m.

Your October 4, 11 a.m.

You may attend inauguration. It should be clearly understood, however, both by you and by the Leguia Government that your attendance does not constitute recognition of Leguia as Constitutional President and does not commit this Government to such recognition.

You are directed to continue to address the Leguia Government as the de facto government until you receive definite instructions from the Department to do otherwise.

Lansing
823.00/326: Telegram

The Chargé in Peru (Smith) to the Secretary of State

LIMA, October 14, 1919, 10 a.m.
[Received 7:40 p.m.]

President inaugurated October 12th without incident. He held reception 13th. No changes as yet in Cabinet except Minister of Marine recently created by law.

No newspapers except sheet bulletin foreign news. Strikes apparently ended owing to Government decree issued Saturday compelling arbitration.

SMITH

823.00/333

The Chargé in Peru (Smith) to the Secretary of State

No. 408

LIMA, October 15, 1919.
[Received November 11.]

SIR: Referring to Department's telegram of October 7, 5 p.m., and Legation's October 14, 10 a.m., I have the honor to inform you that I informally communicated to the Minister for Foreign Affairs the attitude that I was instructed to take should I attend the inauguration of the President.

Together with the Military Attaché of this Legation I attended the inauguration of the Provisional President on Sunday October 12th, on which occasion he took the oath as Constitutional President.

I have received today a communication from the Foreign Office, a translation of which is enclosed.

I am [etc.]

Wm. Walker Smith

[Enclosure—Translation]

The Peruvian Minister of Foreign Affairs (Porras) to the American Chargé (Smith)

No 39

LIMA, October 13, 1919.

Mr. Chargé d'Affaires: I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that yesterday Señor Augusto B. Leguía took the Constitutional oath to exercise the duties of President of the Republic, which duties he had been discharging since July 4th last.

The Council of Ministers which has acted with Señor Leguía will continue its functions, having added as Minister of Marine, Captain don Juan Manuel Ontaneda.
In communicating the above facts to Your Excellency, I am pleased to state that my Government is pursuing its avowed intention of strengthening the friendly relations which exist between our two countries.
I avail myself [etc.]

M. F. PORRAS

BOUNDARY DISPUTE WITH COLOMBIA
(See volume I, pages 80 ff.)

THE TACNA–ARICA QUESTION
(See volume I, pages 123 ff.)

CONVENTION WITH THE UNITED STATES FOR FACILITATING THE WORK OF TRAVELING SALESMEN
(See volume I, page 45, footnote 47.)