

University of Miami Cuban Heritage Collection

Finding Aid - Laureano Batista Falla Papers (CHC0333)

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Laureano Batista Falla Papers

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Summary information

Repository:	University of Miami Cuban Heritage Collection
Title:	Laureano Batista Falla Papers
ID:	CHC0333
Date:	1961-1992 (date of creation)
Physical description:	Boxes
Language:	Spanish
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	
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Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Laureano F. Batista Falla was a Cuban political activist and founding member of Movimiento Demócrata Cristiano (MDC).

Batista was born in Havana, Cuba, on May 1, 1935. He received his elementary and secondary education at De la Salle School in Vedado, Havana. In 1952, he entered the law school of the Universidad Santo Tomás de Villanueva in Marianao, Cuba, and in 1953, he was admitted to the Escuela de Filosofía y Letras of the University of Havana as a part-time student. After receiving his law degree in 1957, Batista spent a year in Germany, where he studied the German language and took on special studies in banking at the Deutsch Bank A. G. in Hamburg and Munich. In January 1959, he returned to Havana, and was employed in the legal department of the Trust Company of Cuba. In 1960, in response to the Cuban Revolution, Batista left Cuba and entered exile in Miami, Florida.

Batista fought for Cuba's freedom while living in Cuba and in exile. In 1960, he founded the Movimiento Demócrata Cristiano de Cuba with José Ignacio Rasco and others. He was also the president of the Catholic student youth organization Joventud Estudiante Católica (JEC). He continued to work actively against Castro's communist regime in Miami through the Movimiento Demócrata Cristiano de Cuba en el Exilio and organized clandestine operations against the Cuban government. He was a member of the delegations representing the MDC at different congresses such as the Organización Demócrata Cristiana de América, of which the MDC was a member in Lima, Santiago de Chile, Strasbourg, Caracas, and other cities.

Batista continued his education in exile, receiving a master's degree in government from the University of Miami and, in the late 1960s, a Ph.D. in political science from Georgetown University in Washington, DC.

He also lived in Venezuela for several years, where he was a professor at the Universidad Católica Andrés Bello and occupied important positions in different organizations such as Centro de Información y Documentación para América Latina (CIDAL), Ecodata, C.A.; and Cibernética Internacional, C.A. When Batista returned to Miami, he founded the Cuban exile publication *Revista Raíz*, together with Alberto Pérez, Marta Fernández Morell, Raquel la Villa, and others. He was also the director of the Instituto Jacques Maritain in Miami.

Laureano Batista was a tireless advocate of pluralism and democracy. In the last years of his life he organized the Partido Demócrata Cristiano de Cuba, a political party composed of former members of different organizations that fought for Cuba's freedom. He died in Miami in 1991.

Scope and content

The Laureano Batista Falla Papers consists of personal files, human rights material, records of the "Luna" Mission, the Movimiento Demócrata Cristiano, the Organización Demócrata Cristiana de América, political parties, and general material of other associations/institutions and publications. This collection consists of 816 folders in 35 boxes, arranged in eight series.

Notes

Title notes

Physical condition

This collection is housed off-campus and must be requested a minimum of seven calendar days in advance for consultation in the Cuban Heritage Collection Reading Room.

Immediate source of acquisition

Gift of Adela Batista, 1992.

Arrangement

The Laureano Batista Falla Papers are organized into eight series.
Please see the Finding Aid/Inventory section of this guide for more detailed information.

Restrictions on access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions governing use

Requests to publish or display materials from this collection require written permission from the rights owner. Please, contact chc@miami.edu for more information.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
- **Description identifier:** ArchonInternalCollectionID:152

Access points

- Movimiento Demócrata Cristiano en el Exilio
- Batista Falla, Laureano, 1935-1991 -- Correspondence (subject)
- Political parties -- Latin America (subject)
- Cuba -- Politics and government (place)

Series descriptions

Series id6308: Personal Files

Date: n.d., 1960-1990 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series (boxes 1-5) consists of articles, correspondence, manuscripts, theses, conferences, photographs, speeches, curricula vitae, sketches and personal documents.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Series id6309: Movimiento Demócrata Cristiano (M.D.C.)

Date: n.d., 1959-1990 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series (boxes 6-20) includes by-laws and objectives, clippings, conferences, congresses, correspondence, delegations, events, financial records, publications, pamphlets, periodicals and seminars among other general records. This series also contains records of the Comité Ejecutivo and the Departamento Militar of the M.D.C. as well as records of institutions affiliated to the M.D.C.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list**Series id6310: Luna'' Mission**Date: n.d., 1964-1967 (date of creation)Scope and content:

The series (boxes 21-22) contains correspondence, collaborators, financial records, publications, travels and general material pertaining to the mission which is divided in three parts Luna I, II and III.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list**Series id6311: Organización Demócrata Cristiana de América (ODCA)**Date: n.d. (date of creation)Scope and content:

The series (boxes 23-26) consists of by-laws, clippings, congresses, correspondence, declarations, publications, general information on affiliated political parties, organizations in Latin America and Europe, and other general material.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list**Series id6312: Political Parties**Date: n.d. (date of creation)Scope and content:

The series (boxes 27-28) includes by-laws, clippings, congresses and conferences, elections, publications, correspondence among other material pertaining to political parties in Latin América and Europe.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Series id6313: Human Rights

Date: n.d., 1984 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series (box 29) contains correspondence, speeches, material about political prisoners and several records of the United Nations and Centro de Derechos Humanos (CEDEHU) among other material.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Series id6314: Associations and Institutions

Date: n.d., 1961-1990 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series (boxes 30-34) consists of by-laws, clippings, correspondence, congresses, press releases, seminars, publications, surveys and other material pertaining to various associations and institutions.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Series id6315: Miscellaneous

Date: n.d., 1935-1991 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series (box 35) contains clippings, news releases, periodicals, reports as well as some material related to John F. Kennedy's assassination.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list