

University of Miami Cuban Heritage Collection

Finding Aid - Cuba: Capitanía General Collection (CHC0380)

Generated by Access to Memory (AtoM) 2.4.0 Printed: May 21, 2018

Language of description: English

University of Miami Cuban Heritage Collection
Roberto C. Goizueta Pavilion
1300 Memorial Drive
Coral Gables
FL
United States
33146
Telephone: (305) 284-4900
Fax: (305) 284-4901
[Email: chc@miami.edu](mailto:chc@miami.edu)
<https://library.miami.edu/chc/>
<https://atom.library.miami.edu/index.php/chc0380>

Cuba: Capitanía General Collection

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Summary information

Repository:	University of Miami Cuban Heritage Collection
Title:	Cuba: Capitanía General Collection
ID:	CHC0380
Date:	1851-1898 (date of creation)
Physical description:	0.50 linear ft. (1 box)
Language:	Spanish
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

This is a collection of “bandos” (edicts), “Reales Ordenes” and official forms (1896-1898) published during the governments of Valeriano Weyler and Ramón Blanco, Captain Generals of the island of Cuba. Weyler was a central figure in Cuba's War of Independence against Spain.

It was Don Práxedes Mateo Sagasta, who in the Spanish Congress of March 8, 1895, inspired the attitude of Spain against the Cuban rebellion: it was necessary to find the harshest and most despised general to lead a war to the death between the metropolis and the colony. General Valeriano Weyler was the man chosen to complete this task.

Weyler, following his acts perpetrated during Cuba's Ten Years War, was already manifesting a policy of proceeding with great energy and without contemplations. After the battles of Coliseo and Peralejo and the advance of Cuban troops into Pinar del Río, Weyler did not vary the general Spanish attitude. Spain showed its vehement desire to retain the beautiful island of Cuba.

It was the general support of the Spanish people that kept the assassin and torturer of 1868 as interpreter of the sentiments of those who wanted to maintain the Cuban people subjected to the oppressive authority of the Spanish government. Weyler carried out a war of extermination against the Cuban people and came to symbolize that terrible time in which ignorance, rage, and blind stubbornness governed the attitude of Spain.

As a result of the barbaric repression of Weyler, thousands of civilians were killed, hundreds of revolutionary patriots were assassinated, and thousands of political prisoners filled the prisons of La Cabaña, El Moro, and La Cárcel. Despite the overwhelming support of the Spanish government, the time came when exasperated with defeats, Spanish leaders branded Weyler as careless and inefficient. In 1897, Weyler was replaced by Captain General Ramón Blanco.

During his government, Weyler dictated many “bandos” (edicts) to be carried out by the Cuban people. One of the most censored was the one related to the “concentración.” The punishment for not following the “bandos” was execution by firing squad.

Scope and content

The Cuba: Capitanía General Collection contains the “bandos” (edicts), “Reales Ordenes” and official forms from the governments of Valeriano Weyler and Ramón Blanco.

Notes

Title notes

Immediate source of acquisition

Purchased from the Librería de Antaño, Buenos Aires, Argentina, December 1993

Arrangement

The Cuba: Capitanía General Collection is organized into three series.
Please see the Finding Aid/Inventory section of this guide for more detailed information.

Alternative form available

This collection has been digitized.
<http://merrick.library.miami.edu/cubanHeritage/chc0380/>

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:124
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Access points

- Weyler, Valeriano, 1838-1930 (subject)
- Documents (documentary form)

- Typescripts (documentary form)
- Spain -- Colonies -- Cuba (subject)
- Cuba -- Politics and government -- 1810-1899 (place)

Series descriptions

Series id6490: Bandos

Date: 1896, 1896-1898 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This series consists of nineteen “bandos” (edicts) issued by Valeriano Weyler and five “bandos” issued by Ramón Blanco, Captain Generals of the island of Cuba. Of particular interest are the “bandos” pertaining to re-concentration and to tobacco and sugar harvests.

Physical description: Five folders (Box1)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Subseries id6491: Weyler, Valeriano

Date: 1896-1897 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Subseries id6492: Blanco y Erenas, Ramón

Date: 1898 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Series id6493: Reales Ordenes (Spain)

Date: n.d., 1866-1898 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This series contains orders given by the Spanish government during Cuba's wars of independence.

Physical description: 10 folders (Box 1)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Subseries id6494: Dirección General de Artillería

Date: 1866 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Subseries id6495: Capitanía General de la Isla de Cuba

Date: n.d., 1866-1898 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Series id6496: Official Forms

Date: n.d., 1851-ca. 1890s (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This series consists of blank forms of war criminal rosters, military hospital records, and applications to become Spanish army volunteers.

Physical description: Seven folders (Box 1)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list