I will have to consult my papers as to the exact date of the revolution that was planned against the President. It will be recalled that for a number of days as a result of a plot by the head of the army who had previously been a great friend of the President and who had been put into his place by the President, the President was practically a prisoner during three days in the Palace. At the end of two or three days a close friend of the President came to see me to say that the President that night was going to the Campo de Mayo on the outskirts of the city without arms and speak to the troops. He told me in details as to how the President would go, etc. I was naturally concerned as to what would happen. This army officer who was heading the so-called revolt was a very decent man in some ways but he was utterly incapable of heading any government. I feared that the President at the Campo de Mayo would not have the reception which he expected. About two o'clock in the morning Mrs. Messersmith and I were awakened in our bedroom by some army officers on the veranda of our residence. They called through the windows from the grating that they were there with a message from the President. I went in my pyjamas into one of the living rooms of the residence and met these men and told them that the President had sent me a message to the effect that as soon as he arrived at the gates of the Campo de Mayo he had been welcomed by the troops, he had made a speech to them, that the head of the revolt and the officers concerned were all under arrest. The President wanted me to know that everything was in order, that no one had been hurt, that he would be at the Palace in the morning, and he would be very glad if I were to come over to see him. He wished me to have this word immediately as he knew I would be concerned over developments. He also wished me to say whether it would be possible for air transportation to be planned and provided for these army officers who had headed the revolt, to be taken across to Miami. I told them that whenever the President wished to send these officers out of the country I would see that the air transportation was supplied.

The following morning about 11 o'clock I went to the palace. I was immediately received by the President. His natural complexion is very dark. He was
almost white. He had on a brown leather jacket. I never saw a man so utterly
fatigued. He smiled and said he was glad to see me. He was happy to have been
able to keep in touch with me during the time that he had been in the Palace and
unable to leave. He had sent me word as soon as he knew everything was all right.
He said he had never been so tired in his life before. I told him I never saw a
man so tired. I said that now that things were in order he ought to take some rest.
He said there were just a few more things to be done, but that he had wanted to
see me before he went to bed for some hours.

All at once his face lit up and he said, "My friend," and he put out his
thumb and there was a drop of blood, "This is the only drop of blood that
has been shed." One drop of blood. He had caught his thumb in one of the buttons
of the jacket which were fastened on by wire. It is a fact that not one drop of
blood was shed during this so-called revolt. If Batista had not been a really very
decent man, such as he is, he could easily have had these army officers shot and a
lot of other people who were behind them. Like all men in his position he has
been in many ways misrepresented.