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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
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TAGS: PREL, PROP, SOCI, UR, XM  
SUBJECT: LENINGRAD ZNANIYE LECTURE, MARCH 6: SOVIET  
VIEW OF LATIN AMERICA  
1. SUMMARY: CANDIDATE OF HISTORY A. DRIDZO GAVE THE  
SUNDAY, MARCH 6 LECTURE BEFORE A SPARSE CROWD OF  
RETIRES. HE SKETCHED A GLIB AND PREDICTABLE OUTLINE  
OF DEVELOPMENTS IN LATIN AMERICA: SOVIET TIES WITH THE  
REGION ARE GROWING AND LOCAL COMMUNIST PARTIES  
MULTIPLYING, BUT MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE TO COUNTERACT  
U.S. INFLUENCE. THE NICARAGUAN LEADERSHIP, WHICH HE  
STRESSED IS "NOT COMMUNIST," IS MAKING HEADWAY IN A  
DIFFICULT ECONOMIC AND MILITARY SITUATION, BUT THE ROLE  
OF THE CHURCH THERE IS BECOMING MORE HOSTILE TO THE  
REVOLUTION. HE ACCUSED THE U.S. OF BEING INVOLVED IN  
COMBAT OPERATIONS IN EL SALVADOR AND DENIED THAT CUBA  
WAS SUPPLYING ARMS. END SUMMARY.  
2. OVERVIEW  
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LATIN AMERICA, SAID DRIDZO, IS AN AREA UNDER STRONG U.S.

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INFLUENCE. THE U.S. HAS 50 BILLION DOLLARS IN INVESTMENTS THERE; IT FINDS THE REGION ECONOMICALLY ATTRACTIVE BECAUSE EACH ONE DOLLAR OF INVESTMENT YIELDS 2 TO 5 DOLLARS PER YEAR IN PROFITS. EXPLORATION TO DATE, ALTHOUGH IT HAS COVERED ONLY ABOUT TEN PERCENT OF THE REGION'S AREA, HAS TURNED UP VERY PROMISING DEPOSITS OF OIL AND MINERALS. THE GOAL OF LA COUNTRIES IS TO ASSERT NATIONAL CONTROL OVER THEIR RESOURCES. MEXICO WAS ONE OF THE PIONEERS, NATIONALIZING ITS OIL RESERVES SOME 50 YEARS AGO -- LONG BEFORE IT WAS KNOWN HOW VAST THESE ARE. BUT TODAY, EVEN THOUGH MEXICO'S OIL BRINGS IN 13 BILLION DOLLARS PER YEAR, THE COUNTRY HAS A FOREIGN DEBT OF 83 BILLION DOLLARS. HOW DID THIS HAPPEN? ASKED DRIDZO RHETORICALLY. BECAUSE PORTIONS OF THE OIL-PRODUCTION PROCESS ARE STILL IN PRIVATE HANDS. ALSO, MEXICO'S DILEMMA MAKES CLEAR THAT NATIONALIZATION BY ITSELF IS NOT ENOUGH TO SOLVE LATIN AMERICA'S PROBLEMS. POLITICAL TRANSFORMATION AND OTHER CHANGES ARE ALSO NEEDED. AFTER ALL, THERE ARE STILL A NUMBER OF "FASCIST" GOVERNMENTS IN LA; FOR EXAMPLE, THOSE OF PARAGUAY, ARGENTINA, CHILE, EL SALVADOR, AND GUATEMALA.

3. THERE ARE 32 GOVERNMENTS IN LA, AND 26 COMMUNIST PARTIES, SAID DRIDZO. OF THE LATTER, JUST OVER HALF ARE ABLE TO OPERATE LEGALLY. SUCH PARTIES, NOT NECESSARILY CALLED "COMMUNIST," ARE FOUND IN:

- CUBA (RULING PARTY)
- MEXICO ("FAIRLY STRONG")
- COSTA RICA ("PEOPLE'S AVANT GARDE")
- PANAMA ("PEOPLE'S PARTY")
- JAMAICA ("JAMAICAN WORKERS PARTY")
- GUYANA ("PEOPLES PROGRESS PARTY")
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC ("LEGALIZED TWO YEARS AGO")
- MARTINIQUE AND GUADELOUPE (FRENCH TERRITORIES, BUT THE COMMUNIST PARTY IS INDEPENDENT OF THE FRENCH CP, SAID DRIDZO)
- VENEZUELA
- COLOMBIA
- ECUADOR
- PERU
- BOLIVIA (RECENTLY LEGALIZED)
- ARGENTINA

THE PROLIFERATION OF COMMUNIST PARTIES IN LA TESTIFIES TO THE SUCCESS OF THE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT, SAID DRIDZO. THE USSR NOW HAS RELATIONS WITH GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTING 95 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION AND TERRITORY OF LATIN AMERICA. IN SOVIET TRADE WITH THE REGION, LENINGRAD PLAYS A SPECIAL ROLE: THE "ELECTROSILA" FACTORY EXPORTS LARGE AMOUNTS (UNSPECIFIED) OF HYDROELECTRIC EQUIPMENT. SOVIET TROLLEYS SHUTTLE COMMUTERS IN LIMA, AND SOVIET NIVAS AND ZHIGULIS CAN BE SEEN IN THE STREETS OF MANY CITIES. EVEN BRAZIL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 03 LENINGRAD 00618 HAS PUBLISHED THE WORKS OF LENIN.

4. NICARAGUA

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THE REVOLUTIONARY LEADERSHIP IS MAKING PROGRESS IN

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NATIONALIZING KEY SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY. ABOUT HALF OF AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY IS NOW EITHER NATIONALIZED OR COLLECTIVIZED. RECENTLY THEY NATIONALIZED THE DISTRIBUTION OF KEY FOOD STUFFS SUCH AS OIL AND FLOUR. HOWEVER, NICARAGUA HAS A FOREIGN DEBT OF 1.5 BILLION DOLLARS AND IT IS IN A DIFFICULT MILITARY SITUATION. ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE 700-KILOMETER BORDER WITH HONDURAS ARE 16 MILITARY BASES SUPPLIED BY THE UNITED STATES, WITH UP TO EIGHT THOUSAND NICARAGUAN AND CUBAN COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES. THEIR GOAL IS TO "DELIVER A STRONG BLOW" AND TO SEIZE A POPULATION CENTER FOR 48 HOURS, BUT THEY HAVE NOT SUCCEEDED. WITHIN NICARAGUA, AN OPPOSITION PARTY OPERATES BOTH OPENLY AND UNDERGROUND.

5. TREMENDOUS PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN COMBATING ILLITERACY. BEFORE THE REVOLUTION 52 PERCENT OF THE GENERAL POPULATION WAS ILLITERATE AND 93.3 PERCENT OF WOMEN. NOW LESS THAN 10 PERCENT ARE ILLITERATE, AND NICARAGUA HAS BEEN PRAISED FOR ITS ACHIEVEMENT BY THE UNITED NATIONS.

6. DRIDZO SAID THAT THE CHURCH IN NICARAGUA AT FIRST HAD PLAYED A POSITIVE ROLE BUT IT HAS NOW BECOME MORE HOSTILE TOWARD THE REVOLUTION. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT MOST NICARAGUANS ARE BELIEVERS. HE SAID THAT THE POPE WAS TO HAVE ARRIVED IN NICARAGUA TWO DAYS AGO BUT ADMITTED HE WAS NOT UP-TO-DATE ON HOW THE VISIT HAD GONE. DRIDZO COMPARED THE NICARAGUAN REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT'S STRUGGLE AGAINST THE INDIAN MINORITY, "WITH WHOM THE CHURCH'S COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY INFLUENCE IS STRONG," TO THE SOVIET BATTLE AGAINST THE BASMACHIS IN SOVIET CENTRAL ASIA.

7. EL SALVADOR

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DRIDZO POINTED OUT THAT EL SALVADOR IS ONLY 100-KILOMETERS WIDE AND 200-KILOMETERS LONG -- SMALLER THAN LENINGRAD OBLAST. HE SAID THE "PARTISANS" ARE VERY SUCCESSFUL; EVEN THE U.S. PRESS SAYS THAT THEY HAVE PARALYZED THE REGIME. HE CLAIMED THAT U.S. "ADVISORS" TAKE ACTIVE PART IN COMBAT OPERATIONS AND POINTED TO THE DEATH OF A U.S. SOLDIER IN A HELICOPTER CRASH AS EVIDENCE. "THERE ARE MANY SUCH CASES," HE SAID. DRIDZO SAID THAT THE "PARTISANS" BUY THEIR WEAPONS ON THE FREE MARKET IN EUROPE, LATIN AMERICA AND EVEN THE UNITED STATES. IN THE U.S., THEY DEAL WITH THE MAFIA, "WHICH IS VERY POWERFUL AND CAN EVEN DELIVER THE WEAPONS TO PARTISAN AREAS IN EL SALVADOR."

8. FALKLANDS CONFLICT

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DRIDZO SAID THE FALKLANDS CONFLICT WAS SIGNIFICANT ON A GLOBAL SCALE. IT SHOWED HOW A DECLINING COLONIAL POWER WILL SPARE NOTHING TO DEFEND THE REMNANTS OF ITS EMPIRE. THE UNITED STATES, DESPITE THE RIO TREATY, TOOK THE BRITISH SIDE. AS AN EDITORIAL IN THE ARGENTINE PRESS SAID, "TODAY THEY HAVE BETRAYED US; WHOM WILL THEY BETRAY NEXT?" THE UNITED STATES SIDED WITH BRITAIN ALTHOUGH ARGENTINA'S RIGHT-WING GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN

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READY TO COOPERATE WITH THE UNITED STATES BY CONTRIBUTING TO AN INTERVENTIONIST FORCE IN EL SALVADOR. WHY? BECAUSE ARGENTINA REFUSED TO HELP SET UP A SOUTH ATLANTIC DEFENSE PACT, AND BECAUSE ARGENTINA FAILED TO RESPECT THE U.S. GRAIN EMBARGO AND SIGNED A GRAIN SUPPLY AGREEMENT WITH THE USSR. IT IS NOW ONE OF THE USSR'S LEADING TRADE PARTNERS.

9. CUBA

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THE U.S. IS TRYING TO STRANGLE CUBA LEGALLY BY CUTTING OFF ITS TRADE, DRIDZO SAID. IT ALSO CLINGS TO ITS "PROVOCATIVE" MILITARY BASE AT GUANTANAMO, BUT CASTRO HAS STRUCK BACK BY CUTTING OFF ITS WATER SUPPLY AND CUBAN WORK FORCE. DRIDZO ALSO MENTIONED SEVERAL U.S. ATTEMPTS TO ASSASSINATE CASTRO, ONCE DURING HIS VISIT TO NEW YORK AND ONCE BY POISONING HIS ICE CREAM.

10. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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Q. DOES CUBA PROVIDE ARMS TO EL SALVADOR?  
A. CASTRO HAS STATED PUBLICLY THAT CUBA IS NOT PERMITTED TO TRANSFER WEAPONS RECEIVED FROM THE SOVIET UNION.  
Q. HOW ARE RELATIONS BETWEEN CHILE AND ARGENTINA?  
A. THERE ARE DISAGREEMENTS. CHILE HELPED GREAT BRITAIN IN THE FALKLAND CONFLICT, AND CHILE AND ARGENTINA ALSO HAVE AN UNRESOLVED TERRITORIAL DISPUTE.  
Q. WHY DO THE CUBAN PEOPLE REVERE THE CASTRO BROTHERS?  
A. THE CASTRO BROTHERS, FIDEL AND RAOUL, COME FROM A FAIRLY WEALTHY FAMILY, BUT EVEN BEFORE THE REVOLUTION THEY GAVE UP THEIR RIGHT TO INHERIT THEIR FATHER'S LAND. AND AFTER THE REVOLUTION, FIDEL ANNOUNCED THAT LAND REFORM WOULD BEGIN IN THE VERY PROVINCE WHERE HIS FAMILY'S PROPERTY WAS LOCATED -- TO MAKE CLEAR THAT HE WAS PREPARED TO SACRIFICE FOR THE REVOLUTION. IT IS FOR SUCH REASONS THAT THEY ARE SO ADMIRER.  
Q. WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT FIDEL CASTRO'S WIFE?  
A. THEY WERE MARRIED IN 1953. SHE WAS FROM A RICH FAMILY. IN 1955 THEY FLED TO MEXICO AND A SON WAS BORN TO THEM THERE. SHE MADE IT CLEAR THAT SHE WAS NOT PREPARED TO RETURN TO LIVE IN DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES IN CUBA, AND THEY WERE DIVORCED. BUT FIDEL HAD LAID DOWN THE CONDITION THAT THEIR SON REMAIN WITH HIM. SHE THEN MOVED TO THE UNITED STATES AND MARRIED A FORMER CUBAN DIPLOMAT. LITTLE IS NOW KNOWN ABOUT HER. FIDEL NEVER REMARRIED.  
Q. TELL US ABOUT THE LEADER OF THE NICARAGUAN REVOLUTION.  
A. YOU MEAN ORTEGA? FIRST OF ALL HE IS THE "COORDINATOR" OF THE REVOLUTION, NOT THE LEADER. THERE IS A DIFFERENCE. HE IS YOUNG, NOT A COMMUNIST. IN GENERAL, THE SANDINISTAS ARE REVOLUTIONARY DEMOCRATS AND NATIONALISTS. THEIR GOAL IS SOCIALISM AND THEY ARE FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO MARXISM-LENINISM, BUT THEY ARE NOT COMMUNISTS.  
Q. HOW MUCH OF THE TERRITORY OF EL SALVADOR IS "LIBERATED?"

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A. BETWEEN 30 AND 35 PERCENT -- IN ANY CASE NOT LESS THAN 30 PERCENT.

Q. BOLIVIA EXTRADITED **KLAUS BARBIE**, BUT WHY AREN'T THE OTHER NAZI WAR CRIMINALS EXTRADITED?

A. SUCH PEOPLE OFTEN HAVE CLOSE LINKS TO THE GOVERNMENT, AND THEY ARE ALSO SOMETIMES USEFUL TO THE UNITED STATES.

Q. HOW ARE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND MEXICO?

A. COMPLEX. A MEXICAN COMRADE ONCE SHOWED ME ON A MAP HOW THE U.S. SEIZED HALF OF HIS COUNTRY'S TERRITORY. A MORE RECENT PROBLEM IS THE INFLUX OF MILLIONS OF MEXICAN WORKERS THAT AMERICANS CALL "WETBACKS." MEXICO OWES A LARGE DEBT TO THE U.S., AND THE U.S. ALSO HAS LARGE INVESTMENTS IN MEXICO.

11. COMMENT: DRIDZO'S DELIVERY WAS FAST-PACED, GLIB AND PREDICTABLE. PERHAPS BECAUSE OF THE LONG WEEKEND, HE DREW A VERY SMALL AUDIENCE, UNDER 50 PERSONS OF RETIREMENT AGE. ACCORDING TO THE ADVANCE SCHEDULE OF LECTURES, THE LECTURE WAS TO HAVE BEEN ON "THE IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS." SUCH CHANGES OF TOPIC HAVE BEEN A GOOD DEAL MORE FREQUENT THIS YEAR THAN LAST. SHINN

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