

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED
2003

C/R No. 46

DATE: 7 March 1954

PERSONS PRESENT: [] and BOB FORD

SUBJECT: PANCHO Letter to [], Dated 1 March

Paragraph 1.

I had forgotten to tell you that IDIGORAS Fuentes recently appeared in several El Salvadorean newspapers; it contained one paragraph which related to the internal political situation of this country. This paragraph was considered as a valid excuse by the leaders of El Salvador to eject IDIGORAS Fuentes from this country. This is a possibility which I understand they have been considering for quite some time. This individual is completely without friends and the letter itself has to do with the recent events which happened in Guatemala. Still, by no means does IDIGORAS have the confidence of the high officials of the Salvadorean government.

Paragraph 2.

The Group's representative in El Salvador is a good friend of ESTER, that is -- of IDIGORAS. He is circulating there, telling people what a good friend he is of IDIGORAS and how much confidence he has in him. But this friendship is not shared by the Group and he (the representative of the Group) is, in the Spanish phrase, en aprietos-- that is, extremely upset. It seems to me that this is not the role of a diplomat: to be making conjectures, particularly in a matter such as this.

Paragraph 3.

(This paragraph contains several names and phrases which without [] help I cannot translate. This will be followed up in a subsequent report.)

Paragraph 4.

As you well know now, ANITA is completely burned. This was in accordance with the plan which we had arranged.

Paragraph 5.

We are very busy here and we are not bothered by trifling matters. We have now begun to move several men to places where they will be training for their military missions. PANCHO seems to be much more enthusiastic now that he takes account of the preparations which are so much better planned and formalized. Our

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publicity campaign is also going ahead full speed. We are reproducing articles and distributing them in all parts. My speech continues to be subject to great comment, even in Guatemala. In Mexico there is also an intensified propaganda campaign. LOPEZ has conducted himself marvelously and I am very much impressed by his work.

Paragraph 6.

On several occasions I have noticed a lack of control in the reports and data which we are sending out from here. I realize that these are subject to security control by our friends but it would always take into account exactly how these matters are arriving so that they will not occur again. I would like to list the following examples:

Example A. The case of my tourist card from the United States. I returned that the following day, after my return here. Yesterday they came to me and asked that I return it.

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Example B. Yesterday I was asked to send a detailed list of the things which make up the deficit for the month of January. All of those documents were forwarded with the rest of the material which I sent to you. These items are actually not worth the trouble of mentioning; nevertheless they do add to a poor understanding. I have noticed some evidence which shows that there are some people in charge of our affairs who have not seemed to maintain the proper harmony which is necessary. It would be extremely dangerous if we managed our respective affairs, which are of great importance, without the necessary harmony. It would be ideal if there could be one individual through whose hands all material would pass and who would receive all material.

Paragraph 7.

I have just received another message asking me for details regarding the gestures towards making black flights both to Honduras and to El Salvador. I have always advised that there would be absolutely no trouble on the flights arriving here if through another method.

Paragraph 8.

I am sorry to say that as of this date I still have not received any indication of the use of the propaganda work destined for the

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Caracas conference. We still do not know if it would not have been better to have it presented by another friendly government or if it was more appropriate to do it in the manner in which we set forth the work to you. It is my idea that it would have been extremely useful if a neighboring friendly country could have presented this work. Also, I have thought that it would have served our cause very well to have sent one of our men there, to the Conference, with our work; in certain moments, when it would be necessary to hear the story of the opposition, our man would be there to discuss these vital problems. We have finished another similar propaganda work and I beg of you to advise me what is to be done with it. It is not at all similar to the previous work and it would be a shame not to take full advantage of it.

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8 March 1954

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