

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
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VIA AIR
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~~SECRET~~
CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief of Station, Lincoln

DATE 28 MAY 1954

FROM : Chief, WH

SUBJECT { GENERAL KUGOWN
SPECIFIC Prague Institute for Training Agents

RYBAT PBSUCCESS

RE: LINC 2894

Attached are excerpts from variously classified documents selected from a file search on the above Subject. Some of the material is unclassified and can be used directly, i. e., that quoted from overt sources. The rest should be used with appropriate caution, and cannot be quoted directly nor can the sources be given.

[OLIVER G. GALBOND]

Attachments - 7 pages

24 May 1954
Distribution:
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17 JUN 1954

~~SECRET~~ RYBAT
CLASSIFICATION

4 PAGE(S)

NON-RESPONSIVE

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On January 29 Professor Cesar de Leon Propaganda Secretary of the (Communist) People's Party and President of the Panama Pro-Peace Committee, reportedly cabled Panamanian Communist Carlos de Bello in Prague, Czechoslovakia, directing him to inform the World Peace Council of the arrest in Panama of a prominent Panamanian Communist just returned from the World Peace Congress in Vienna. De Bello was also advised not to arrive in Panama with recordings, pictures, "and other unnecessary things." (S State [] 29 Jan 53 OCI)

Vicente Lombardo Toledano traveled from Brussels to Prague, 24 Jan 53.

[] 104682, 9 Jan 53.

During Dec. "unusually large" number of South Americans, speaking fluent Spanish but seemingly of European descent, transitted Switzerland en route from Prague to Latin America. Most possessed passports from Venezuela, Nicaragua, and Guatemala, and a few from Mexico, entrance and exit visas from Czechoslovakia were not stamped on passport pages but on separate inserts, loosely attached.... Incident unexplained. However, Prague is center of international front organizations. Possible, but unlikely considering time and route, that these were delegates returning from Vienna Peace Conference.

IN 28120. [] 14 Jan 53

Soviets have set up an organization in Prague to initiate strikes and attacks on the Latin American economy, with the assistance of Communist Parties in the various countries.

Ernesto Beltran FABREGA, Panamanian Minister in Uruguay, in letter to a friend. [] 96113.

The Latin American political commission was organized early in 1951, as a dependency of the Cominform, with headquarters in Prague, Czechoslovakia. Pablo Neruda, Chilean Senator and poet and Jorge Amado, Brazilian Communist writer, who were then in Prague, were instrumental in its formation.

After Neruda and Amado left Prague to return to their respective countries, Professor Jan Mukarovsky, of the Charles University in Prague, assumed direction of the political commission. The commission is now composed of three members: Mukarovsky, Gorgio Ezhov, a Spaniard who went to Russia in 1939, when he was ten years old, and became a Soviet citizen, and a Spanish speaking professor of the Charles University. Mukarovsky is advised by a group of young Spaniards who have resided behind the Iron Curtain since the end of the Spanish Civil War, and who have been educated in the Marxist-Soviet system.

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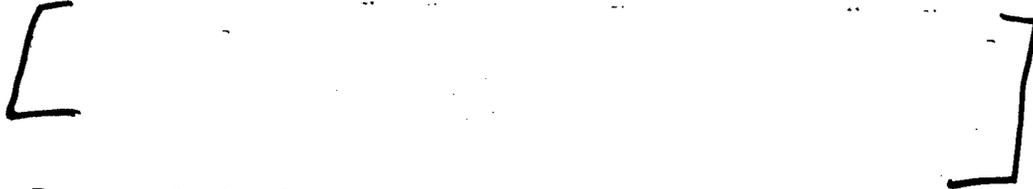
DIAZ, a ceramic engineer, studied his profession in Prague and became an active Communist there. It was pointed out that he would have some professional acquaintances there, and that he might be able to assist in the establishment of clandestine groups that would operate in Spain.

CS 25946, 1 Dec 53, B-3 eval.

Latin America - Prague

Jorge ARELLANO, Ecuadorean Communist student leader sent abroad in July 1953 for further training; Flores, member of Exec. Committee of PCE and representative in Ecuador of IUS. Letter addressed to Arellano at IUS, Vojteska 12, Prague 2, CSR.

See CS 30994, 11 Feb 54, based on Heq 467.



Prague - Guatemala

Major Alfonso MARTINEZ, Former presidential secretary to President Jacobo ARBENZ of Guatemala, and Chief of the National Agrarian Department, returned to Zurich from Prague on 9 Feb 1954. He had a visa on a separate paper not stamped in his passport. When questioned, he said he was planning to spend ten days in Bern, where he could be reached at the Guatemalan Legation.

Source F-3, CS 32000 23 Feb 1954.

BOLIVIAN STUDENT TO GO TO PRAGUE.

From CS 34548, 31 Mar 1954, [] 285, F-3

The Communist led Federacion Universitaria Local (FUL) of La Paz, Bolivia, has selected Andres HEREDIA, a Bolivian Communist student, from a free trip to Prague, CSR, where he will receive long-term medical treatment under the joint auspices of the Communist Union Internacional de Estudiantes (UIE) and the San Andres University of La Paz. This arrangement was made during a recent visit to La Paz of Francisco COSTA NETTO, Latin American UIE representative from Rio de Janeiro. HEREDIA had difficulty raising funds, and UIE leaders in Prague sent cable on 9 Feb 1954 sending funds for his travel costs.