

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

AIR POUCH

2003

HUL-A- 863

RYBAT/PBSUCCESS/~~SECRET~~

23 MAY 1954

Chief of Station, Guatemala

LINCOLN

INFO: [] (for Hegarty)
 [] (for Wellbank)
 Hqs.

KUGOSH/SHERWOOD
Script "Communists and workers"

Attached is another such script, this time the first in a series specifically aimed at labor. Like the previous ones, it is meant for your general information and guidance, not for transmittal to any agent.

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JEROME C. DUNBAR

Attachment

EFL/b

20 May 1954

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Communists and Workers

The communist leaders of our country like to pose as the champions of labor rights, as the prize fighters for the improvement of the conditions of the working man. Through their cunning propaganda as well as through their trickery in gaining control over organizations which basically are neither a communist invention nor intended for communist purposes, they have managed to gain strangle holds over our labor unions, over the Institute of Social Security and other institutions in which every wage earner is interested.

Victor Manuel Gutierrez, an old-time Stalinist, once one of the founders of the Teachers Union (STEG), is today Secretary General of the CONFEDERACION GENERAL DE TRABAJADORES DE GUATEMALA (CGTG); at the same time, however, he is a member of the Political Committee of the Communist Party (POT) and chairman of its Commission for Labor Unions. He has been repeatedly to Moscow and elsewhere behind the Iron Curtain to receive the Kremlin's orders as to how to conduct the labor union movement to the best interest of his Soviet masters.

The main organization of rural workers and small peasants, the CONFEDERACION NACIONAL CAMPESINA DE GUATEMALA (CNCG), is equally controlled by communists under its secretary general, Leonardo Castillo Flores, who denies to be a POT member but who is a vice president of the communist - sponsored "Peace Committee", attended the communist Third World Congress of Trade Unions in Vienna in October 1953 and has consistently followed the communist party line.

The government agency which is of most direct importance to the workers, the Guatemalan Institute of Social Security (IGSS), operates under communist orders, too, its manager being Alfonso Salazar Fernandez, a labor lawyer who had once worked with Lombardo Toledano in Mexico and took an active hand already in the earliest stages of the communist conspiracy in our country.

Are the Communists interested in the workers' fate?

You read the communist press and you find many articles deploring the wretched lot of the wage earner exploited by big bad capitalists; you listen to communist speakers who demand higher wages, shorter working hours, paid vacations and other improvements for the workers - and you might think that the communists have really the workers interest at heart. Even quite a few people who call themselves "non-communists" and who say that they reject Marxist doctrine, communist atheism, communist secret police methods or others of the more abhorrent characteristics of Soviet rule, "concede" that the communists whatever their other faults, are at least "progressive", promote the betterment of the workers' conditions, and so forth.

Nothing could be farther from the truth. Most of the founders and top leaders of international communism were never workers themselves: Karl Marx, a rabbi's son, was a philosopher and writer, married to an aristocratic Prussian lady; his closest associate, Friedrich Engels, was a well-to-do business man. Lenin came from an aristocratic family. Stalin

was first student in a theological seminary and then a professional revolutionary. These men did not understand the worker and they did not really try or care either: for their coldly calculating minds, the workman was just another pawn in their all-out gamble for total world conquest.

Lenin, even though he called his party a "workers party", instructed his followers already long before the Russian revolution of 1917 that the worker could really not be entrusted with conducting revolutionary activities: he was too busy earning a living for himself and for his family and he was not educated enough to win a revolution. Lenin therefore demanded that the communist party be organized and led by "professional revolutionaries", that is, by educated and highly trained men and women who devote their entire time, their entire efforts to subversive activities, their living expenses being paid by the party itself.

This "cadre party", as conceived by Lenin and faithfully imitated by communists the world over, including our own country, was to be a party of the "elite", of the advance guard of the revolution. The masses of the workers were not considered worthy to rank with the elite: their place was to be in the labor unions and other mass organizations, to be manipulated from above by communist party emissars. We see this system operating today in Guatemala, too: only 2,000 or so are members of the PGT, many of them not workers, but intellectuals and professional revolutionaries. But several tens of thousands of workers, organized in the CGTC, rigidly disciplined by their communist bosses, are to furnish the "masses", the cannon fodder for the communist conspiracy.

Today and Tomorrow

Today, the communist leaders incite the workers to ask for more pay, less work, better conditions. No doubt, the situation of many of our workers requires urgently improvement. The first question is, however: are the communist methods really improving the workers' lot, considering not only an immediate and apparent gain, but the ultimate outcome?

The communists, leading the fight against foreign capitalists, against UFCO, IRCA etc., may ultimately succeed in driving these enterprises out of our country: this would not disturb us particularly, because we do not wish to defend any of these enterprises - if we could only be sure what the communists (or their faithful servant, Arbens) are going to offer by way of employment opportunities instead. Domestic-owned enterprises? That would suit us fine, but it is an undeniable fact that the fear of more and more communist experiments in our country has been driving an increasing amount of Guatemalan-owned capital out of the country, seeking investment even in far-away Switzerland rather than to wait for confiscation and ruin under Arbens-Fortuny.

Or do you expect the government to provide jobs to replace those which might be destroyed by reckless communist demagoguery? But it is a fact that the financial situation of the treasury has deteriorated rapidly: if it were not for the unexpected rise of coffee prices on the international markets (certainly not a communist achievement), the situation might be even worse. You remember how the highway workers had to wait for weeks in vain until this "pro-labor" government was able to pay them their modest wages.

You know also that our government is indebted in many directions, is trying frantically to obtain loans from the otherwise despised bankers in the USA; because Moscow is willing to furnish arms, but not cash! Therefore you cannot expect the government to help you if communist demagoguery results in the shutdown of the foreign enterprises and loss of jobs!

Naturally, the prospect of creating mass unemployment or financial chaos, whether through the mass withdrawal of foreign and domestic capital or through bankruptcy of the government, does not disturb the communist wire-pullers at all. On the contrary, that is exactly what they want! unrest, struggle of class against class, mounting tension, increased despair! This would lead - they hope - to a "revolutionary situation" in which they can openly proclaim their dictatorship (which they exert today only indirectly, through their puppet Arbans) and can proceed with their further plans of aggression against our non-communist neighbors!

Tomorrow, that is, the day after the communists have fully established their control of the government, their attitude towards the working man will change abruptly. We have seen it happen in quite a few countries where the communists came to power, most recently in Czechoslovakia and in China. Today, that is, against capitalist employers, the communists clamor for higher wages, shorter working hours, less work; tomorrow, when most workers will be employed by a communist government, wages will be lowered and changed into piece-rate pay, squeezing the last ounce of energy out of every worker (adding the whip of "socialist competition", whereby every worker must try to work more and faster than every other worker, thus further lowering the

pay rates). Tomorrow, the communists will ask for such longer working hours - 60 hours per week is the actual average for industrial workers in the Soviet Union -, plus additional unpaid working time "in honor of Stalin's memory" or under any other ideological pretext.

Thus, whether under capitalism or under communism, the communists do not treat the worker as a fellow-man, as a being with his own interests, his own dignity, but merely as a means to an end, a tool to achieve their purposes, with no regard to his desires, his interest or even his life.

Workers, beware of the sinister snares in which the Soviet agents are ensnaring you! Join with us in the Liberation Movement to rid our country of the communist pest!