ORGANIZATIONS OF PETROLEUM WORKERS IN LATIN AMERICA

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Supplement to:

LABOR IN THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY IN THE FREE WORLD

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Prepared by :

25X1A9a

Prepared for : IO Division

Case number :

25X1A2g

Date completed: August 1955

ORGANIZATIONS OF PETROLEUM WORKERS IN LATIN AMERICA

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#### **BOLIVIA**

ORGANIZATIONS OF PETROLEUM WORKERS IN LATIN AMERICA

# BOLIVIÂ

Federacion Nacional Sindical de Trabajadores Petroleros de Bolivia (National Federation of Petroleum Workers of Bolivia)

Address:

Casilla 401, La Paz

Affiliation:

Central Obrera Boliviana

(Bolivian Workers Central - COB)

Membership:

10,000 (1954)

Officers:

Sec. General:

\*Fuad MUJAEZ (elsewhere listed

as President)

Sec. of Relations:

Juan ASPORT

Affiliates:

14 unions

Political orientation:

The National Federation of Petroleum Workers of Bolivia was

organized in September 1952 under government sponsorship. It is highly regarded by the government-operated petroleum industry in Bolivia. 1/ The COB, with which the union is affiliated was reorganized in 1952; it advocates the continued development of Bolivia along socialist lines, but has gone firmly on record as opposing Soviet Communism and has rejected vigorously efforts of the Bolivian Communist Party to direct the course of the labor movement. A National Workers Congress in 1954, although expressing friendship and cordiality toward all international labor organizations, voted to maintain the "independence" of the Bolivian labor movement from all such organizations. 2/ The present cabinet of the Bolivian administration holds five members

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regarded as representatives of labor; three of these either held or hold important executive positions in three different labor confederations. 3/

The Congress of Bolivian Petroleum Workers, held in Tarija in the fall of 1954, preparatory to the National Workers Congress, was completely dominated by Fuad MUJAEZ and the left-wing faction of the Movimento Nacionalista Revolucionario (Nationalist Revolutionary Movement - MNR). The delegation from this union to the National Congress was expected to agree with whatever Juan LECHIN Oquendo, then labor minister and head of the COB, asked.

#### **BRAZIL**

#### BRAZIL

Federacao Nacional dos Trabalhadores en Empresas Comercais de Minerios e Combustiveis Minerais (National Federation of Workers in the Petroleum Industry)

Address:

Rua Mexico, No. 11, 5th Andar

Rio de Janeiro

Affiliation:

International Federation of

Petroleum Workers (IFPW)

Membership:

45,000 (1954)

Officers:

President:

Alberto BETTAMIO (Betamio)

Political orientation:

While the Brazilian labor movement as a whole is controlled

to a large extent by the government, this control has lessened considerably, and a growing cadre of young and effective labor leaders is striving to divorce local unions from the influence of the Ministry of Labor, Industry, and Commerce. 4/No information is available concerning the political orientation of the petroleum workers union.

## **CHILE**

#### C H I L E

Federacion Nacional de los Trabajadores del Petroleo de Chile (National Federation of Petroleum Workers of Chile)

Address:

Casilla 11 D, Santiago

Affiliations:

CUTCH (Central Unica de

Trabajadores de Chile)

IFPW ORIT ICFTU

Membership:

1,500 (1954)

Officers:

Sec. General:

\*Luis FUENTES Zapata

Political orientation: No information is available on the political orientation of this federation. It is presumed to be Western-oriented, inasmuch as it is affiliated with the IFPW, ORIT and the ICFTU. It was reported in 1953 to be a major affiliate of the CUTCH. 5/

**COLOMBIA** 

Colombia

#### COLOMBIA

1. <u>Union de Trabajadores Petroleros de Colombia</u> (Ultrapetrol - Union of Petroleum Workers of Colombia)

Address:

Salon Sintranal, Barrancabermeja

Affiliations:

 $\mathtt{UTC}$ 

IFPW

Membership:

20,000 (1954)

Officers:

Sec. General:

Luis Alfonso PERDOMO

Treasurer:

Benjamin DIAZ Herrera

Efforts begun in February 1953 by the Union de Trabajadores Colombiana (UTC) to organize a petroleum federation culminated a short time later in the establishment of Ultrapetrol under the leadership of Luis Alfonso PERDOMO. There are no available indications of the number of affiliates, but workers of the International Petroleum Company at Barrancabermeja and of Empresa Colombiana de Petroleos at El Centro are believed to be affiliated with Ultrapetrol.

The UTC probably still is the largest of the confederations in Colombia, and with the eclipse of Federetrol, Ultrapetrol no doubt represents most of the petroleum workers in Colombia.

Political orientation: Since the July 1953 coup d'etat by General ROJAS Pinilla, the alliance between the state and the Roman Catholic Church has not been as close as previously. Influence with the Rojas regime of the UTC, which had been organized by the preceding Conservative government under the aegis of the Roman Church, appears to have waned somewhat to the advantage of a newly-established, Argentine-oriented Confederacion Nacional de Trabajadores (CNT), which received government recognition in December 1954. However, at the 1955 annual meeting of the UTC mutual pledges of support were made by the government and the union. 6/

#### 2. Fedepetrol

The Confederation de Trabajadores Colombiana (CTC)-affiliated Fedepetrol apparently has ceased to be a force in Colombian labor. 7/ In 1953 it was reported to have affiliates at the installations of the Andian National Corporation and the Esso Colombiana Company, 8/ and in 1952 at the Compania Petroleo Shell de Colombia, Barrancabermeja, and at the Texas Petroleum Company of Colombia. 9/ There is reportedly a Sindicato de Trabajadores de la Concesionaria "Shell-Condor" at Santander. No information has been found to indicate the present existence or strength of any of these unions.

## **ECUADOR**

#### ECUADOR

Federacion Nacional de Trabajadores del Petroleo (FNTP -National Federation of Petroleum Workers) 10/

Address:

Ancon, Guayas

Affiliations:

Federacion Provincial de Traba-

jadores del Guayas (FPTG regional labor federation)

Confederacion de Trabajadores del Ecuador (CTE - national

confederation)

CTAL (through CTE)

Membership:

1,300

Officers (1948):

Sec. General:

\*Manuel SIGCHO R.

Sec. of Communications: Isaias RONQUILLO

Sec. of Finance:

Enrique MARQUEZ

Sec. of Organization:

Carlos ERAZO

Sec. of Agitation

and Propaganda:

Emilio CANESSA (Communist)

Sec. of Legal Defense: Victor BERMEO (Communist)

Sec. of Charity:

Elias VENEGAS

Sec. of Labor, Cul-

tural & Athletic

Activities:

Romualdo RONQUILLO (Communist)

Sec. of Press and

Foreign Relations:

Francisco MORAN (Communist)

Sec. of Coordination

and Liaison:

Jose J. GONZALEZ (Communist)

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Political orientation: In 1949, the FNTP was one of the strongest industrial affiliates of the CTE and was reported to be leftist-dominated. There is evidence that the members are not necessarily all militant leftists, but Communist strength usually is sufficient to assure the selection of Communists or Communist sympathizers as representatives of the workers. Communist leaders have energetically kept up a constant stream of demands upon the management and by their initiative and drive have influenced the FNTP leftward.

The FNTP reputedly is one of the more solvent Communist-led federations in Guayas Province. The CTAL News has reported financial assistance to the FNTP from the CIO (US) and from the STPRM (Mexico).

Communist manipulators have maneuvered the FNTP into issuing strike threats, but no strikes are known to have resulted. In negotiations with the oil companies, FNTP leaders have called on Communist Party leaders to assist in drawing up lists of demands.

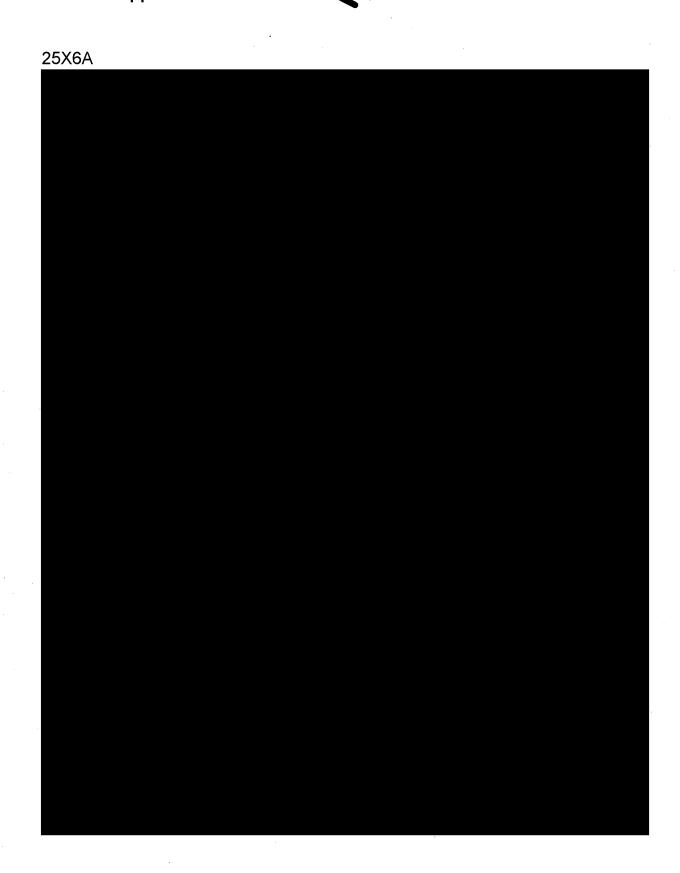
At a meeting of the FPTG on 20 September 1954, which was addressed by Antonio CABRERA, the Argentine member of the CTAL Secretariat, grievances of the Ancon oil workers, members of the Comite de Empresa and the Sindicato General de Trabajadores, were discussed and a manifesto against the Anglo-Ecuadoran Oil Company, Ltd., drawn up. Notices of this meeting had been sent by the Communist Party of Ecuador's Guayas committee to all secretaries general of Communist cells, urging attendance. 11/

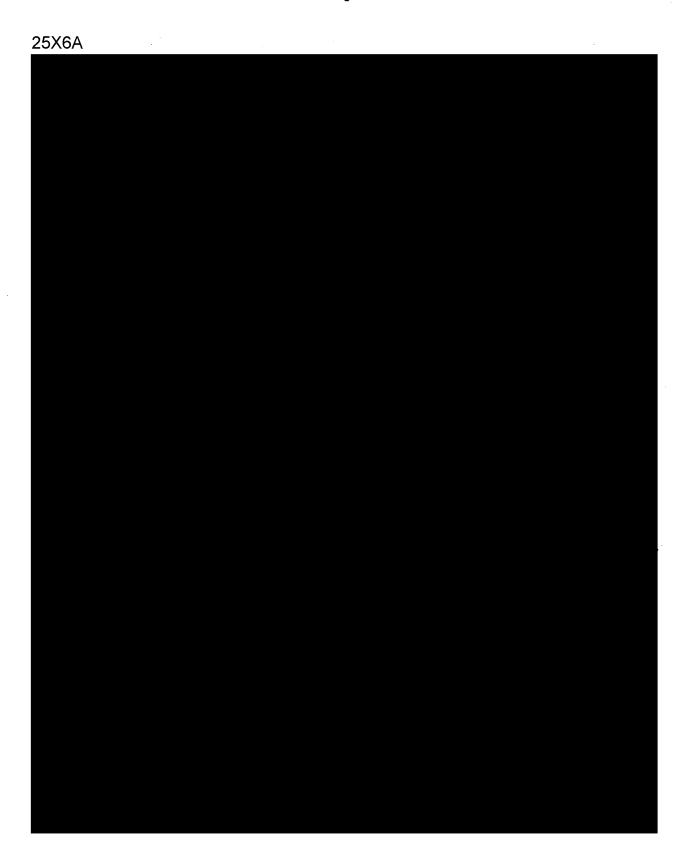
Reports were received early in August that the Ancon oil workers and the railroad employees were planning a general strike between 15 and 20 August. 12/ However, the strike did not materialize. The government arrested several labor leaders, both Communist and Socialist, about that time, but whether the failure of the strike can be attributed to this action or to weakness of the unions is not known.

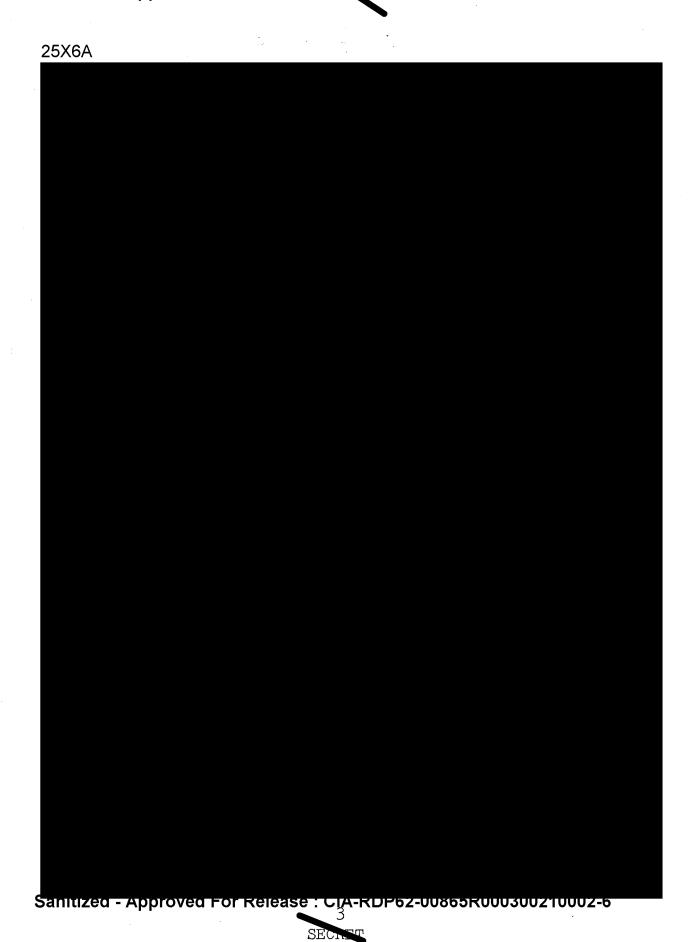
# Mexico

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**MEXICO** 







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**NETHERLANDS WEST INDIES** 

#### NETHERLANDS WEST INDIES

#### 1. Petroleum Workers Federation of Aruba (PWFA)

Address:

Nuijenstraat No. 7, San Nicolaas

Affiliations:

IFPW ORIT ICFTU

Membership:

700 (dues-paying - April 1955)

Officers:

not known; were to be elected

March 1955

Organizing Committee:

Chairman:

N. KOCK

Secretary:

Jose A. HERNANDEZ

Members:

P. BENNETT H. TROMP F. BARENO J. deVRIES

Fees:

Fls. 5 initiation fee Fls. 2.50 monthly dues

Political orientation: The political orientation of the PWFA is not clear-cut for two reasons: first, it is a new organization founded late in 1954; second, the Partido Patriotica Arubana (PPA - Aruban Patriotic Party) originally thought to be sponsor of the PWFA, has not yet identified itself with the federation.

Organization of the federation was led by David Sternback, CIO (US) regional director for Puerto Rico on loan to the IFPW. Sternback has stated that the initiative for organization originated with requests by workers, including members of the Lago Employees Council, directed to Mr. Adrian VERMEULEN, secretary of the Nederlands Verbond van Vakverenigingen (Netherlands Trade Union Confederation) when he visited Aruba two years ago. 18/ VERMEULEN apparently carried the request back to the ICFTU, which in turn passed it on to the petroleum federation. Considering its birth-ties to the IFPW and ORIT, the PWFA, in the short

term at least, may be counted in the camp of Westernoriented unions. It will probably remain dependent on
these forebears for a considerable length of time, and
thus its present orientation and functions may be expected
to continue. The possibility exists, nevertheless, that
it may be exploited for political ends and thus become
less effective in fostering workers' benefits.

History: The new federation appeared to spring full-blown into existence; it first came to public attention through a handbill attesting its affiliation to the IFPW. 19/ It was thought to be a reincarnation of the Federacion de Obreros Arubanos (FOA), led by J. E. "Juancho" Irausquin, Aruban politician and head of the PPA. It was referred to as "Irausquin's union," and Sternback was a guest of Irausquin during his stay on Aruba in November 1954, when he came to assist organization of the group.20/ The federation also appeared to be a logical culmination of the PPA's increasingly pro-labor pronouncements preceding the November 1954 elections, which Irausquin's party swept.

However, Irausquin has never openly identified himself with the PWFA, and recently he has reserved his support. Various theories have been advanced to explain this. One theory holds that the detachment is a temporary expedient, adopted to prevent alienation of many of Irausquin's conservative political supporters. Another theory attributes his lack of support to the organization to jealousy of the support rendered the PWFA by W. S. van der Meer, the minister of social affairs and an ambitious politician in his own right. Van der Meer was legal adviser to the PWFA at the time of its organization, although reportedly he was to be forced to relinquish that position because of his cabinet post. 21/ The fact that Irausquin recently has made apparent efforts, through his lieutenants, to strengthen the Lago Employees Council lends credence to this theory.

Opposition: Officials of the PWFA accuse the Lago Oil and Transport Company of using threats and intimidation to impede the progress of the union. They charge that the company threatened to demote several of the PWFA members and officers unless they left the federation and that they warned supervisors of the dangers of union organization. Efforts also have been made to strengthen the company-sponsored Lago Employees Council as a counter to the union. One source termed the company's opposition shortsighted, as it might drive the union to accept government

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support which could easily evolve into government domination. 22/ Another commented that the question was not whether Aruba should have a union, but rather what kind of union it should have.

Among the arguments advanced by opponents of the new union are two which appear significant. The PWFA offers equal treatment for all workers, regardless of nationality, which runs counter to the strong current of "Aruba for the Arubans" sentiment among the population. The union has been widely criticized for this affront to nationalist pride. The present contract with the Lago employees grants preferential treatment to Arubans, an advantage they are loath to lose.

Opposition also arises from elements in the population which do not wish to incur the wrath of neighboring Venezuela, on which Aruban refineries depend for their supplies of crude oil. ORIT has been antagonistic to the Perez Jimenez regime in Venezuela, and some Arubans reportedly fear a violent reaction from the Venezuelan Government should an ORIT-affiliated union become strong among the oil workers. 23/

Outlook: Because petroleum refining is the principal industry in Aruba, any union of petroleum workers will be the most powerful labor organization in the island. The loss, or lack, of Irausquin's support apparently has slowed the progress of the PWFA. Permanent officers were to have been elected in March 1955, and the federation hoped shortly after that to apply for recognition as the legitimate bargaining agent of the Lago workers, but to date no indication has been found that either event has taken place.

# 2. <u>Lago Employees Council (LEC)</u>

Address:

Lago Oil and Transport Company

Affiliation:

none; company-sponsored

Membership:

purports to represent all em-

ployees of Lago

Officers (1955): 24/

President:

F. H. RITVELD

Vice-president:

M. CROES

Secretary:

E. D. TROMP

The Lago Employees Council is composed of eight representatives of the workers, chosen by secret ballot. In February 1955 the LEC voted out of the presidency Jacobo ERASMUS, Irausquin's political cohort, charging that he could not properly discharge his LEC duties because of frequent absences from board meetings due to his required presence in Curacao as a member of the NWI Legislative Council. The officers listed above were elected at that time.

In retaliation Erasmus circulated a petition for a referendum to recall two of the LEC members, including Vice-president CROES, asserting that they were management "stooges." Sufficient signatures were obtained to require such a referendum, but no report of the results has been found. However, in May ERASMUS was reported as holding "unchallenged control" of the LEC; it may be assumed that the referendum recalled the two representatives in question and restored ERASMUS to the LEC. Since that time, ERASMUS reportedly has been actively trying to make the LEC worker representation system work and simultaneously causing the LEC to become increasingly aggressive in negotiations with management. He also has given complete support to the LEC News, which has been well received as a competitor to the PWFA's Federacion.

The Lago management, for its part, has tried to strengthen the LEC to fight PWFA organization of the workers. A recent LEC request for a pay increase was granted by management, in an obvious attempt to increase the prestige of the LEC. The management also has made possible publication of the LEC News. Negatively, the management is trying, through speeches and printed material, to convince its employees that the PWFA and the international organizations with which it is affiliated do not have the best interests of the Aruban workers at heart. 25/

3. Petroleum Workers Federation of Curacao (PWFC)

Address:

Middenstraat No. 4, Willemstad

Affiliation:

none

Membership:

500 (reported paid-up)

Officers:

President:

G. de JESUS

Secretary:

N. EUGENIO

Treasurer:

Roberto A. ADAMUS

Local Organizer:

Domingo ALBERTO

The PWFC reportedly was organized on 19 January 1955 by 22 Shell section leaders. 26/ However, little has been heard of it. The NWI Government approved a PWFC request that an experienced labor adviser be permitted to visit Curacao to provide guidance to the new union, and David STERNBACK has been assisting the group. Thus its orientation, should it grow to be an effective organization, may be assumed to be pro-West.

**PERU** 

#### PERU

Federacion de Trabajadores en Petroleo y Anexos del Peru (FTPAP -- Federation of Workers in Petroleum and Allied Industries of Peru)

Address:

Calle Bolognesi No. 649-651,

Talara

Affiliation:

none (Aprista-oriented)

Membership:

4,000 (1953)

Officers:

Sec. General:

Armando AREVALO Silva

Since the Odria Government assumed office in 1948, two petroleum unions have vied for legal bargaining rights with the oil companies. Union No. 1, presumed to be identical with FTPAP, consistenly has been the stronger of the two and has claimed the loyalty of the majority of the workers. The International Petroleum Company reportedly prefers to negotiate with Union No. 1, which it terms a well-organized, disciplined union. However, the government probably to keep petroleum workers divided, twice has recognized a second, smaller union, which has not been further identified, as the legitimate agent of the workers. 27/ Union No. 1 has not been outlawed, but its effectiveness has been considerably reduced by the government's periodic preferential treatment of Union No. 2.

FTPAP participated in 1953 in a strike against the Internation Petroleum Company which resulted in the Government's forcing a settlement without consulting either the management or the union. 28/

Political orientation: Little is known of the political orientation of the union. One report is that FTPAP is a "democratic" organization, sympathetic to the IFPW, but unable financially to affiliate with that group. 29/

## **TRINIDAD**

#### TRINIDAD

### Oilfield Workers Trade Union (OWTU)

Address: No. 4a, Lower Hillside Street,

San Fernando

Affiliation: Trinidad & Tobago Trade Union

Council (TTTUC)

Membership: Not known

Officers:

Pres. General: \*John F. F. ROJAS

Sec. General: Joseph C. HOULDER

Assistant Sec.: Cyril GONZALEZ

Second Vice-presi-

dent:

the demands were not met. 31/

Fred O. BRANKER

Treasurer: John E. COMMISSIONG

Trustees: Ramrattan MADOO

Leslie NELSON Nazario CARMINE

Founded: 1937

Political Orientation: The political orientation of the OWTU is somewhat indeterminate. It was formerly affiliated with the WFTU through the TTTUC, but reportedly officers of the OWTU forced President General ROJAS to disaffiliate in 1953. 30/ A rift in the executive was reported in 1954, over contract negotiations with the petroleum companies. President ROJAS was willing to settle for a small increase, to establish himself as a responsible trade unionist. He was opposed by Fitzroy McCOLLINS, president of the Fyzabad Branch, John HACKSHAW and Fabien S. LESALDO, who called for strikes and violent action if

Importance of the Union: The OWTU is the largest union in Trinidad. At present it includes the marine oil workers, who wish to withdraw because they say that the OWTU is not sufficiently concerned with their grievances. As the two principal industries in Trinidad are oil and sugar, the union plays a vital role in the economy of the island.

In 1954 the Oilfield Employers Association of Trinidad (OEAT) informed the OWTU that when negotiations for a new contract began the OEAT would consider no rise in basic wage rates, claiming that Trinidad's oil industry cannot afford an increase and that in any case oil industry wages remain out of line with general wage rates in the colony. Nevertheless, negotiations began in February 1955 with presentation by the OWTU of a list of demands that included a 25 per cent general wage increase. In April the OEAT and OWTU formally notified the acting governor of Trinidad of their inability to settle their dispute, and the acting governor informed them he would appoint a board of inquiry. board had not yet reached a decision at last report. The influence of extremists on the labor side, both among local leaders and among the OWTU's advisers from the United Kingdom, has been reported. 32/

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**VENEZUELA** 

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Additional information, as of August 1955

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#### V E N E Z U E L A

There is no active, effective organization of all the Venezuelan petroleum workers. The Confederacion Nacional de Trabajadores (CNT), which has taken over most of the active unions, is organized along geographic rather than industrial lines. Government attempts to create a petroleum federation within the CNT have failed. While it claims to represent 90 per cent of the Venezuelan workers, CNT's voluntary following is presumed to be very small. Nevertheless, it is the only government-approved, functioning organization. The remnants of previous petroleum federations appear to remain in existence, but they are actually repressed and ineffective.

Opposition to the CNT has been reduced to token proportions as a result of the mergers and reorganizations accomplished by the government in the confederation's behalf. Those rival unions which survive hope to maintain their independence and have been assured that their identity will be preserved, but they fear that they will be absorbed. A few known survivors among opposition petroleum unions are listed in this section.

1. Confederacion Nacional de Trabajadores (CNT -- National Confederation of Workers)

Address:

Caracas

Affiliation:

none; government-sponsored

Membership:

Claims 90% of all organized workers; voluntary following

is probably small

Officers:

Sec. General:

Pedro Jose ROJAS

Sec. for Petro-

leum workers:

\*Julio Guerra ROSALES Teran

Organization: 33/ The CNT was constituted in November 1954 at the Fourth National Convention of the Movimiento Sindical Independiente (MOSIT),

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as the organization had been called until that time. MOSIT was made up principally of the so-called "Independiente" unions, which form the core of the new CNT. At the time of its constitution, CNT claimed to represent nearly 300,000 workers in 256 unions affiliated with 15 state federations. These figures are obviously exaggerated and are broad estimates of industry groups rather than the result of computing dues payments. Nevertheless, the CNT, for all practical purposes, must be considered the legitimate and logical representative of Venezuelan labor. The CNT was formed with outward regard for the conventions required of a bona fide labor organization, although its close government sponsorship and strong-arm tactics prevent it from achieving this end. The government made use of Communists in setting up the CNT, most of whom are still "playing ball" with the government.

Political Orientation: 34/ Because of its close ties with the government, the CNT is bound to follow the lead of government officials in its policies and orientation. Although the MOSIT 1953 convention passed a resolution favoring affiliation with ORIT or the ICFTU, the CNT convention voted not to affiliate with any international body. A representative of ATLAS (Agrupacion de Trabagadores Latino Americanos Sindicalistas) who went to Caracas with a proposal that the CNT join the Argentine-sponsored Latin American association was unsuccessful in lining up the CNT. Because of the similarities in their regimes, the intense wooing on the part of the Argentines and continued attacks by the free organizations, it is understood that some top ministry officials favor affiliation with ATLAS, but they reportedly were overruled by the president. His motive, in keeping with previously declared Venezuelan policy against regional blocs, is said to be a desire to avoid offending the United States and to keep the door open to affiliation with ORIT.

Petroleum Workers: The CNT is organized along geographical lines rather than on an industrial basis. This organization was probably determined to prevent any bloc of industrial workers, particularly the oil workers, from dominating the confederation. Three "secretariats" within the CNT executive board were set up, however: one for petroleum workers, one for workers in commerce and industry and one for agricultural workers, thus recognizing the importance of petroleum workers in the national labor scene. 35/

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During the latter part of 1954 and early in 1955, the CNT was engaged in a series of "mergers", which actually were a wrecking of existing unions and a rebuilding, masterminded principally by Pedro ROJAS, of existing petro-leum unions into a singe "Sindicato Independiente de Obreros y Empleados Petroleros" in each area. In many instances these mergers have been accomplished by manipulation of boards of directors and presentation of claims to gain adherents. A few dissident unions have held out against all government pressure, and some workers have dropped their membership in the joint unions. However, the mergers have been so effective that in the Bolivar District of the State of Zulia, for example, the CNT reportedly has gained effective control over 90 per cent of the organized petroleum workers. 36/ However, the oil companies claim that less than half their workers are organized. The Union Sindical Independiente de Zulia is reported to be the strongest of all the state unions. 37/

Among the many reported leftists in the CNT are two men connected with the marine petroleum union; which is heavily Communist infiltrated: Ramon BARRIOS and Ramon DELGADO. DELGADO made a speech at the CNT founding convention presenting a resolution for nationalization of the petroleum tanker fleet. It was described as the convention's most important resolution 38/ Another resolution attacked US restrictions on oil imports, and the Falcon delegation charged the Shell Company with imposing after-hours outpatient attention in the hospital at the Cardon refinery. Lack of sufficient public services at the time the hospital was created made it necessary for Shell to permit service during working hours. 39/

2. Comite pro-Federacion de Trabajadores Organizados de Venezuela (COFETROV -- Committee for Federation of the Organized Workers of Venezuela)

Address:

Salasa Balconcito 37, Caracas

Affiliation:

COPEI (Social Christian)

Membership:

4,000 (1954)

Officers:

Sec. General:

Elio APONTE Gonzalez

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Affiliates:

The federation was reported to

be strong in Caracas and the

oil fields in 1955. 40/

3. Comite Independiente, Sindicato Petrolero Nacional (CISPEN -- Independent Committee, National Petroleum Workers Union)

Address:

Not known

Affiliation:

URD (Union Republicana Demo-

cratica)

Membership:

2,000 (1954)

Officers:

President:

Roberto VILORIA

Affiliates:

16

CISPEN appears to have gone out of existence. Most URD leaders have been forced out. 41/

4. Sindicato de Marinos Petroleros (SMP -- Union of Marine Petroleum Workers)

Address:

Not known .

Affiliation:

Probably CNT; considered Communist controlled (1954)

Officers:

Sec. General:

Ramon A. NAVA

Corresponding

Secretary:

Anable LINARES

Sec. of Organization & Propa-

ganda:

David GONZALEZ

Treasurer:

Roque GARCIA Avila

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Claims Officers:

Ramon DELGADO

Agustin A. ZINUGA

The SMP was reorganized by Pedro ROJAS in the summer of 1954. The officers who had been elected, including Pedro BARRIOS, president, were all arrested on charges of being responsible for the dissemination of Communist propaganda. They were released after six or seven days, but allegedly were not allowed to resume their activities in the SMP. Subsequently ROJAS selected and placed in office, without elections, a completely new Board of Directors acceptable to the government (as listed above). 42/

#### 5. Sindicatos Libres de Venezuela

Address:

Not known

Affiliation:

Independent Socialist Party, a moderate group headed by ex-Labor Minister ROJAS Con-

treras

Membership:

3,000 (1953)

Officers:

President:

Jose Vicente ALFONSO (1953)

May be virtually extinct following CNT's 1954 putsch.

# 6. Federacion de Trabajadores del Distrito Federal Estado Miranda (Eastern oilfields)

Address:

Not known

Affiliation:

"Black" Communist

Membership:

7,000 (est.)

Officers:

Rafael BRACCIA

No information is available on a number of petroleum workers affiliated with this union.

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References for additional information of August 1955

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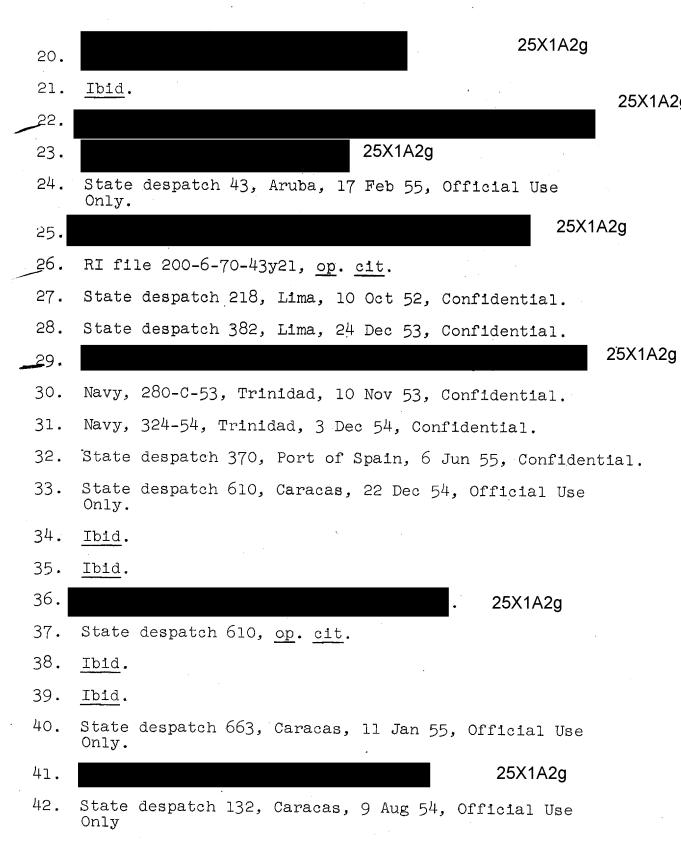
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