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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Costa Rica	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	Communist Activities among the Banana Workers	DATE DISTR.	5 November 1953
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- 25X1X 1: The Sindicato de Trabajadores de la Industria del Banano y Similares (STIBS), the Communist-dominated banana workers' labor union at Quepos, Costa Rica, is still disorganized, although informal meetings of its leaders have occasionally taken place at the union hall. The reorganization of the directorate is expected to be effected soon. Antonio ZARATE, a full-time labor organizer, has taken over the tasks formerly handled by Isaias MARCHENA since the latter went to Puerto Cortes, Costa Rica. These tasks usually include complaints and other labor matters presented before the local council.
2. Meetings limited to active members of the Communist Party have been taking place at various times in the home of Victor MORA Calderon. MORA recently sold his business in Quepos and now travels about the banana plantations doing organizing work. MORA's wife, Margarita Blak de MORA, described as an enthusiastic Party adherent, makes bi-weekly trips to San Jose, alternately with her husband, presumably on Party business.
3. The Costa Rican Communists have taken encouragement from the anti-United Fruit Company attitude on the incoming FIGUERES administration and feel that this will definitely aid them in their efforts to organize labor in the banana zones. Company officials are alleged to have dismissed workers whose STIBS or FETRABA (Banana Workers' Federation) affiliation had come to their attention and whose jobs were vulnerable. It was explained that such known labor leaders as Humberto RODRIQUEZ, an office-worker, and Domingo ROJAS, a plantation laborer, have been able to hold their jobs thus far either because of their nature or because they have been careful to avoid infractions of company rules.

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