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SUBJECT Underground Plans of the PSP

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The Partico Socialista Popular (Cuban Communist Party) has made plans to return to the cell system if the Party is declared illegal. However, there will be a few changes in the old cell system. The former five-man cell committee will be replaced by a three-man Executive Committee which will consist of a Secretary General, a Secretary of Organization and Propaganda, and a Financial Secretary who will also function as Recording Secretary. The Executive Committee of the cells will deal only with the higher echelons of the Party, through the district Committees. The cells had previously conducted their business through sectional convittees since some of the districts were not sufficiently populated to warrant a district committee.

- 2. According to the new plan, cells will be organized on a street and factory basis in the more heavily populated Communist districts. In cases where the population is not so heavy wore than one block will comprise a cell. Cells will be named after a street where the rajority of cell rembers live or where the executive compittee of the cell is concentrated. Efforts will be made to keep the cell membership as small as possible for better security and control. Flans provide for eight or ten rembers in a cell, although sore may have as many as twenty membors and, in some cases, more than fifty,
- 3. When the PSF returns to the cell system, the district cormittees will exclude from the cells any PSP member who has not been active in the Farty or who has failed to demonstrate his loyalty to the Party. Fowever, district committees will continue to maintain contact with the unproven PSP morbers in order to serven new militants and foster their continued support.
- 4. Plans have also been made for weekly meetings of the Eccyctary General of each coll with the Secretary General of his district committee. The latter will be known only to the Secretary General of the cell and will not be identified to other call members.
- 5. The present directors of the district committees will be replaced by less wall known leaders, many of whom are now in obscure jobs. The direction of the clandestine organization will be placed in the hands of the young militants who have proved themselves to be both capable and loyal. Tany of the new leaders will be taken from the ranks of the Juventud Socialista.

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- 6. The PSP expects a series of mass desertions within the Party if government persecution of the PSP begins. In anticipation of this, the Party has started a careful screening of its members and has already decided upon those who mill be selected for cell membership.
- 7. The FCP hierarchy has agreed upon which leaders will leave Cuba, which will remain to fight for the Communist cause underground, and which will be sacrificed to the local authorities. Those leaders who are old militants and are so well known that they will be of more value outside Cuba if the Party is outlawed include Blas Roca, Fabio Grobart, Joaquin Ordoqui, Anibal Escalante, Vicente Partinez, and Cesar Vilar.
- 3. The following have been selected to direct the activities of the clandestine organization:
 - a. Dr. Arnaldo Escalona Almeida, who was reported to be head of the "secret police" of the PSP and a member of the teaching staff of the Carlos Balino Academy, the Communist training school.
 - b. Dr. Jose Miguel Perez Lamy, who was listed as a deputy of the Colegio de Abogados of the Habana Municipal Committee of the FSP. In November 1949, he was listed as a delegate to the FSP Municipal Assembly from the San Lazaro District, Habana. He was also Secretary of Correspondence for the Communist-front organization, La Defensa de los Derechos Democraticos and also figured prominently in the defense of the Ducoudray brothers and Pericles Franco, Dominican Communists who recently went to Cuba.
 - c. Dr. Julio Girona Fernandez, father—in-law of Jose Luis Perez and one of the founders of the Partido Comunista de Cuba, along with Carlos Balino, Joaquin Ordoqui, and Cesar Vilar. He was most active during the clandestine period of the Party and stated that he profers the clandestine struggle to the open and more "political" logal battles of the Party, which bore him. Although highly respected in FSP circles, he has not occupied any rositions of importance. He believes that the FSP is converting itself into a caricature of what a Communist Farty should be. He has never departed from the Communist line despite the many changes the FSP has experienced during the past twenty-five years.
 - d. Carlos Font Pupo, a doctor, who ran on the PSP ticket for representative in the 1948 elections. He was listed in August 1948 as Director of the Juventud Socialista, and in Hovember 1949 was a delegate from the Fedena District, Habana, to the Hunicipal Committee of the PSP. He was also head of the Section of Fedicine and Connected Subjects of the Instituto de Intercambio Cultural Cubano-Sevietico.
 - e. Jose Luis Perez, who is one of the most important figures in the plans for the FSP underground fight. He is President of the Provincial Executive Committee of Finar del Rio and Secretary General of the Pederacion Provincial de Trabajadores de Finar del Rio, which is affiliated with the Communist CTC. He replaced Juan Vila Carvajal, former Director of the FSF in Pinar del Rio. Perez was appointed to this position by Blas Roca. Perez is a native of the Province of Pinar del Rio and was instrumental in building up the PSP in that province after the failure of Vila Carvajal to rake good. He was also instrumental in arranging political pacts with the opposition parties and the FSP prior to the last municipal elections. Perez, a young, active, intelligent, and courageous Communist, is a graduate of the Carlos Balino Academy and a former leader of the old Juventud Comunista (now the Juventud Socialista).

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- f. Juan Fresneda, who has been reported as a director of the Casa de la Cultura y Asistencia Social. In January 1948 he was reported as having a small position in the Communist-front organization Asociacion Cubana de las Maciones Unidas.
- g. Assisting these men will be the Communist labor leaders, who will attempt to remain at liberty in Cuba and make every effort to prevent the Communist labor movement from being destroyed. The most important of these leaders are Lazaro Pena and Jose Luis Perez, in Finar del Rio; Manuel Suarez in Matanza; Faustino Calcines in Las Villas; Justo Lopez Tomayo in Camaguey; and Juan Taquechel in Oriente.
- 9. A small group of well-known Communist intellectuals has been selected to remain in Cuba, but they will not be given jobs of responsibility in the Party underground. It is felt by Communist leaders that they will be principally useful to the Party through their prestige and contacts with other Cuban intellectuals. They will include Juan Marinello, Salvador Carcia Aguero, Nicolas Guillen, and Aggeo Suarez.
- 10. It is not known what plans have been made for Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and Carlos Fernandez R. However, it is probable that Rodriguez will remain in Cuba under the protection of his intellectual prestige and influential friends.

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