

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
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2003

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DISPATCH NO. HGG-A-430

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Security Information
CLASSIFICATION

OCT 17 1953

TO : Chief, WHD
FROM : Chief of Station, Guatemala
SUBJECT: GENERAL- Labor Matters
SPECIFIC- Report Prepared by subject of HGG-A-430

DATE:

1. Enclosed is a developed roll of 35 mm. microfilm film which contains the first four parts of a comprehensive report regarding the labor movement in Guatemala prepared by the subject of HGG-A-330. At least one more part relating to subject's conclusions and his recommendations for dislodging the Communists from control of the labor movement in Guatemala will be forthcoming.

2. The report consists of 167 pages which have been consecutively numbered in the upper right hand corner. The first page is not numbered. It is merely a cover sheet marked "Part I." The original typewritten page number assigned by the translator should be disregarded.

Pages 56, 130 and 147 are also blank cover sheets for parts 2, 3 and 4.

A blank frame which may appear between pages 161 and 162 represents a cover sheet for pages 162 through 167.

Pages 20 through 29, the first half of page 30, and pages 51 through 92 are part of the original Spanish text. They were not translated since they only contain lists of syndicates by name and/or statistics.

The original Spanish text and the English translation are retained in the files of this station for further study.

3. This report has not received a final evaluation for the purpose cited in HGG-A-330, but on the basis of a preliminary study summary critique has been prepared and a few pertinent comments therefrom are submitted to Headquarters as a matter of possible interest:

a) There is a marked lack of continuity in the report which

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ENCLOSURE

suggests that the work was hurriedly and/or carelessly written. This conclusion is based in part on the fact that there are no corrections on the Spanish copy in spite of errors which would (should) have been detected if the writer had checked his work. On page 45 the writer states that the teachers' syndicate (STEG) has 4,000 affiliates, yet he only shows 2,250—in a breakdown by departments. On page 145 he refers to a following list of the unemployed by profession but the list is not included. Although the writer is obviously well-informed and has access to sources of information on this subject, his reporting is often incomplete or inaccurate (e.g., his reference to propagand which "originates" in Soviet Russia. Actually, most Soviet propaganda in Guatemala comes from the Russian and Czech Embassies in Mexico or the Mexican headquarters of the CTAL). It appears that he definitely needs guidance on the "who, what, when, where," etc. of information reporting.

b) The writer refers to individuals and organizations in a manner that takes for granted that everyone who reads the report is conversant with the identities of the persons and entities concerned (e.g., M.C. for MORALES Cubas).

c) The writer deviates unnecessarily from the subject (e.g., while discussing the Confederación General de Trabajadores de Guatemala he introduces an unrelated study of the Departamento Agrario Nacional; he discusses the National Youth Conference in the middle of his report on the SAMT, the railroad union; while discussing organizational matters he inserts biographic data, etc.).

d) The writer includes a great deal of material which is not within the scope of the assigned study on labor matters.

4. The pertinent parts of our critique will be transmitted by HEDIGER to the writer along with a detailed questionnaire designed to clarify the many points raised in our preliminary study of the report. Despite the criticisms cited above, we feel that this initial effort might be rated "good." With proper guidance it is believed he can be developed into a valuable source of information regarding labor matters.

5. It will be noted that the report contains a considerable amount of information regarding internal jealousies and conflicts in the Communist movement, some useful biographic data of a derogatory nature, old and new scandals, etc., which may prove useful for RUCOWA purposes.

6. We will appreciate Headquarters comments and evaluation of this initial report.

14 October 1953

[Kenneth S. Givloch]

GLT/cmh

Distribution:

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