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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Mexico/Guatemala	REPORT NO.	CS -57725
SUBJECT	Formation of New Party by Guatemalan Exiles	DATE DISTR.	11 March 1955
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

SOURCE: Individual well acquainted with Guatemalan exiles in Mexico (B).
Appraisal of Content: 2.

1. The Guatemalan exiles in Mexico have united to form a new party, which has taken the name of the existing Partido de Accion Revolucionaria (PAR) and has adopted the same political program as that of the Partido de la Revolucion Guatemalteca (PRG). The Communists and the wing of the Partido de Renovacion Nacional (PRN) headed by Jaime DIAZ Rozzotto, former secretary-general to the Presidency, abstained from joining the new party. The National Executive Committee of the PAR is composed of the following:

Secretary-general	Augusto CHARNAUD MacDonald
Directors of the committee	Alfonso SOLORZANO Marco Antonio VILLAMAR Hector FION Garma Guillermo OVANDO Arriola

2. The abstention of the Communists from unification is no surprise. When the PRG was formed by a coalition of the revolutionary parties during the regime of former President Jacobo ARBENZ Guzman, the Communists were the only ones who did not join. In addition, they did all they possibly could, with success, to disrupt the unity of the other parties which collaborated with the government.

3. The Communists refrained from joining the new PAR in Mexico, as they had refused to unite with other groups in Guatemala previously, because of the instructions they receive from their superiors in the Cominform and the Soviet Union and also because they consider political unity prejudicial to themselves, since they owe a good deal of their strength to the factionalism of the other political groups.

4. The PRN wing headed by DIAZ refused to join the newly-organized PAR because DIAZ, as in the past, continues to follow the orders of the Communists, even though he is not a Communist. However, some of those who favored unification, especially Alfonso SOLORZANO, a former leader in the PRG, told DIAZ very plainly that, among other things, he, DIAZ, did not represent anyone. Hence, the argument DIAZ employed against

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unification--that is, that it was rejected by the PRN membership--was not valid. On the other hand, the PRN wing headed by Hector FION Garza decided to join the PAR.¹

5. Many difficulties had to be overcome to achieve this coalition. Because, in addition to the desire of some leaders to continue the political divisions, the animosities and ill feelings created by defeat have aggravated a problem which had its roots in Guatemala. This problem is the anti-Communism of some revolutionary factions. Another source of disagreement has been ARBENZ himself. He has been generally criticized by most of the exiles, and many have accused him of cowardice. SOLORZANO, who was one of those who struggled hardest for unity, fought against the anti-Communists, as well as against the accusers of ARBENZ, because he considers that ARBENZ, with all his faults, is still the banner and symbol of the revolutionaries-in-exile.
6. While the unification was being studied, serious problems were encountered because of the different viewpoints of the participating leaders regarding the course of action to be followed and the political program to be adopted. It would appear that "touchismo" (criminal attacks on persons and armed revolts) was strongly favored, but SOLORZANO, CHARNAUD, and other leaders condemned these procedures. Finally it was agreed that the new party would adopt the name of the already-existing PAR, and that the political program would be that which had been the program of the PRG.
7. The Guatemalan exiles in Mexico are making every effort to organize, although they are having enormous financial difficulties. They are awaiting the return of ARBENZ to present their financial problem to him. They urgently need 100,000 pesos (8,000 U.S. dollars).
8. The Communists are now operating in Guatemala and, therefore, do not want political unity, since this would cost them the leadership of the opposition activities in Guatemala. The Guatemalan exiles believe that the Communists in Guatemala have increased their numbers considerably since the other revolutionary parties left the country.
1. Source Comment. SOLORZANO and FION are former Communists who were expelled from the Communist Party. Nevertheless, SOLORZANO continues to be a Communist ideologically. On the other hand, FION looks upon the Communists with distrust, since they have always supported DIAZ against FION in their disputes within the PRN.

Washington Comment. The new PAR appears to be a successor to the former coalition of revolutionary parties in the PRG, in which CHARNAUD and SOLORZANO were leaders. Their choice of the name "PAR" may indicate that the old PAR has disbanded, and the exiles, for purposes of prestige, wish to use the name of the party which has been the most powerful of all the revolutionary factions since the 1944 revolution.

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