



# Intelligence Information Report

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DIRECTORATE OF PLANS

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**S E C R E T**

[Redacted]

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(b)(3)

DATE DISTR. 24 January 1973

COUNTRY El Salvador/Guatemala

DOI

[Redacted]

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SUBJECT Problems and Activities of the Militant Left in El Salvador

ACQ

[Redacted]

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SOURCE

1. [Redacted] Comment: The Subject of this report refers to those Marxist groups which are generally considered to be more to the left than the Communist Party of El Salvador (PCES). This report does not deal primarily with the PCES.)

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2. The Salvadoran militant left has derived its membership primarily from the following three sources: former members of the PCES who have felt that the policies of that party are not sufficiently aggressive; former members of the Christian Socialist movement and dissidents from the youth movement of the Christian Democratic Party (JDC); and followers of Jacobo Weiselfisch (also frequently referred to as Weiselfiz or Weiselfelz), an Argentine citizen who was Director of the Department of Sociology at the National University of El Salvador (UES) until about mid-1972. There is no formal connection between the Salvadoran militant left and the PCES.

3. Weiselfisch is looked upon by adherents of the militant left as their spiritual mentor and leader, and the absence of Weiselfisch from El Salvador since approximately mid-September 1972 after the UES was closed by the Government of El Salvador, (GOES) has brought about considerable disorientation among Salvadoran militant leftists. The present whereabouts [Redacted]

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of Weiselfisch is not known.

Comment:

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Weiselfisch formerly directed the militant left in tandem with Salvador ~~Cayetano~~ ~~Carpio~~, a former high-level leader of the PCES. This source believes that Weiselfisch was the theoretician and ideologue of the militant left and Cayetano Carpio was the practical man of action. Other important leaders of the Salvadoran militant left are the following:

*ELSA*

5. ~~Manuel "Meme" Ascencio Rivera Valdez~~, until recently a student at the UES and Secretary General of the General Association of Salvadoran University Students (AGEUS).

b. ~~Humberto Antonio Mendoza~~, a former AGEUS leader.

c. ~~Guido Vejar~~, a former leader of the PCES.

d. ~~Salvador Bonilla~~, a former leader of the JDC.

e. ~~Felipe Pena~~, a former AGEUS leader and son of Lieutenant (retired.) ~~Jose Belisario Pena~~ who was recently acquitted by a court martial of charges concerning involvement in the abortive 25 March 1972 coup d'etat.

4. The Salvadoran militant left, which consists only of the movement headed up by Weiselfisch and Cayetano Carpio but frequently presents itself to the public under such names as the Salvadoran Revolutionary Action (ARS) and the People's Revolutionary Army (ERP), has been considerably disoriented since the occupation of the UES by the GOES - and, as indicated above, especially since the departure of Weiselfisch from El Salvador. Various efforts have been made to re-group, and small nuclei of militant leftists have met sporadically in an attempt to formulate a program of action for the future. It is believed that AGEUS, which provides some organizational backbone of the militant left, has at its disposal funds amounting to about \$120,000 which can be made available for the purchase of arms and explosives or for any other purpose agreed upon. At the present time, the militant left is making a strong effort to wrest control of the Association of Secondary Students (AES) from the PCES.

5. Comment:

the Salvadoran militant left is in touch with Guatemalan guerrillas.)

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6. Dissem: Embassy, Defense Attache at San Salvador. Sent to CINCOS.

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