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Intelligence Information Report

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~~SECRET~~

~~COMMUNIST PARTY~~

DATE DISTR. 24 November 1972

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COUNTRY El Salvador

DOI

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SUBJECT Failure of Efforts by the Communist Party of El Salvador (PCES) to Achieve Greater Control of the Union of Railroad Workers

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SOURCE

Summary: The Communist Party of El Salvador (PCES) failed in its effort to achieve greater control over the Union of Railway Workers (UTF) at that trade union's national assembly which took place on 21 October and 4 November 1972. In elections for the new UTF National Directorate, the PCES failed to oust Hipolito Calles, outgoing Secretary General and hitherto a prominent PCES trade union leader, from the Directorate and was forced to accept the victory of the Calles slate of candidates over a slate of candidates backed by the PCES. The Calles victory in the UTF elections represents a serious setback for the PCES labor program, and it would appear that the PCES will have to come to terms with Calles and his supporters. End Summary.

1. As a part of its program to oust from the Communist-dominated labor movement leaders whom it accuses of failure to display sufficient "revolutionary dynamism," the PCES made a determined effort to achieve a change in the leadership and policies of the UTF, the most powerful member union of the PCES-dominated Unifying Federation of Salvadoran Trade Unions (FUSS). The principal target of the PCES attack was Hipolito Calles, until recently Secretary General of the UTF and Secretary of Finance of FUSS. At the UTF national assembly which took place in two sessions on 21 October 1972 and 4 November 1972, the PCES sought to oust Calles not only from his position as Secretary General of the UTF but also from membership in the UTF National Directorate.

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CP - El Salvador

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2. Calles decided not to run for re-election as Secretary General of the UTF, since he felt that his position was not sufficiently strong, and opted to frustrate PCES efforts to eliminate him completely from the UTF National Directorate. During the UTF national assembly session on 21 October 1972, two slates of candidates for election to the UTF National Directorate were approved: one drawn up by Calles, the other drawn up by PCES. Calles managed to have his name included on both slates of candidates. The PCES slate of candidates included six PCES members backed by that party and proposed Calles for UTF Secretary of Finance. The Calles slate of candidates included three PCES members in good standing and proposed for Secretary General a man loyal to and controlled by Calles. At this assembly session, PCES supporters were surprised first by the extent of support for Calles and second by Calles' very effective speech to the delegates.

3. At the 4 November 1972 session of the UTF national assembly, the Calles slate of candidates won in the voting by a paper-thin margin. Thus, the new National Directorate of the UTF consists of the following persons:

- a. Secretary General - ~~Jose Henriquez Herrera~~, Secretary General of FUSS and of the UTF in 1966, member of the PCES.
- b. Secretary for Organization - ~~Carlos Quijano Ortiz~~, candidate for Secretary of Conflicts on the PCES slate of candidates.
- c. Secretary for Propaganda - ~~Ricardo Aguilar Guatemala~~.
- d. Secretary for Finance - ~~Jose Jimas Arevalo~~.
- e. Recording Secretary - ~~Jorge Alberto Juarez~~, candidate for Secretary General on the PCES slate of candidates, PCES member.
- f. Secretary for Public Relations - ~~Rodolfo Inocente Tello~~, PCES member.
- g. Secretary for Social Security - ~~Hipolito Calles~~.
- h. First Secretary of Conflicts - ~~Manuel de Jesus Marinero~~.
- i. Second Secretary of Conflicts - ~~Pedro Perez Cruz~~, PCES member, candidate for Secretary for Social Security on the PCES slate of candidates.
- j. Third Secretary of Conflicts - ~~Miguel de Jesus Majano~~, candidate for this position on the PCES slate of candidates.
- k. Fourth Secretary of Conflicts - ~~Eduardo Coto Wolasco~~, candidate for Recording Secretary on the PCES slate of candidates, PCES member.
- l. ~~Jose Adalberto Rodriguez Ch.~~
- m. ~~Salvador Lopez Santamaria.~~

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4. In view of his electoral victory, Calles has arranged to continue to employ Carlos Alberto ~~Hidalgo~~, recently ousted Secretary General of FUSC and Secretary General of the Union of Workers in the Graphics and Related Industries of El Salvador (STIGCES), and Jorge Alberto ~~Quijano~~ "de facto" leader of the Federation of Unions of Workers in the Food, Clothing, Textile and Similar Industries of El Salvador (FESTIAVSCES), as UTF "advisers." Both Hidalgo and Quijano are strongly opposed to the current trade union policies of Jorge Shafick ~~Handal~~, Secretary General of the PCES, and both have been the objects of Handal's recent ire.

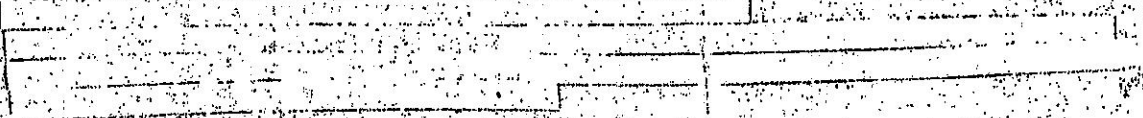
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5. Comment: The Calles victory within the UTF represents a serious setback for the PCES labor program. It would appear that the PCES is faced with the alternatives of coming to terms with Calles or engaging in even more aggressive and tougher actions against rebellious Communist labor leaders. The PCES will have difficulty in carrying out a policy based upon the latter alternative. At the present time, Calles, Hidalgo, and Quijano are suspended from membership in the PCES, but they have not been expelled from the PCES.)

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

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