

Intelligence Information Cable

ROUTINE

IN 410481

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GROUP 1
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DIST 26 AUGUST 1971

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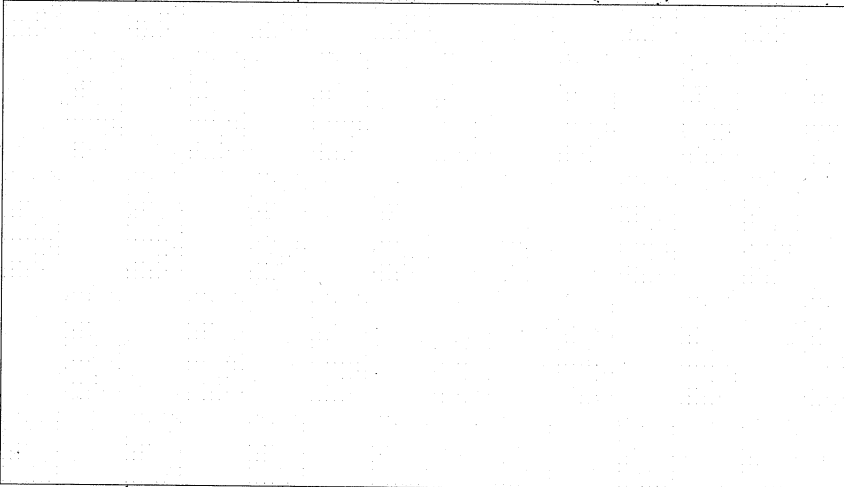
COUNTRY: EL SALVADOR

DOI: [Redacted]

SUBJECT: POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS HELD BY REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND THE
COMMUNIST PARTY OF EL SALVADOR

ACQ:

SOURCE:



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ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-12776-127

1. [Redacted] JORGE SHAFICK H A N D A L,
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF EL

SALVADOR (PCES), ROBERT CASTELLANO CALVO,

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Handwritten: 01/01/1971

A LEADER OF THE PCES, AND MARIO ORLANDO A G U I N A D A
 CARRANZA, A LEADER OF THE PCES, AT HANDAL'S REQUEST
 MET WITH PABLO MAURICIO A L V E R G U E, SECRETARY
 GENERAL OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDC) AND JUAN
 RICARDO R A M I R E Z RAUDA, SECRETARY OF IDEOLOGY OF
 THE PDC, AT THE LATTER'S HOME. AT THE OUTSET OF THE
 MEETING, HANDAL POINTED OUT THAT, IN THE PAST, LEADERS
 OF THE PCES AND PDC HAD BEEN ACCUSTOMED TO MEET FROM TIME
 TO TIME IN ORDER TO EXCHANGE POLITICAL VIEWS, AND THAT
 THESE MEETINGS HAD BEEN DISCONTINUED IN MARCH 1971 AT
 THE INITIATIVE OF THE PDC. HANDAL SAID THAT HE WISHED
 TO RENEW THE PRACTICE OF HOLDING THESE DISCUSSIONS AND
 EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE 21 AUGUST MEETING WOULD MARK
 A RETURN TO THE FORMER PRACTICE. HE THEN STATED THAT HE
 HAD PARTICIPATED IN A SIMILAR MEETING WITH LEADERS OF THE
 NATIONAL REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT (MNR) ON 19 AUGUST 1971.
 EXCEPT AS INDICATED, THE PDC REPRESENTATIVES REMAINED
 NON-COMMITTAL THROUGHOUT THIS MEETING.

2. HANDAL SAID THAT THE PCES TAKES A FAVORABLE

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VIEW OF THIS FORMATION OF A COALITION OF OPPOSITION PARTIES AND BELIEVES THAT POLITICAL CONDITIONS ARE FAVORABLE FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF SUCH A COALITION IN THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 1972. HE SAID THAT THE PCES WOULD BE GLAD TO ASSIST THE COALITION EITHER FROM WITHIN THE COALITION OR FROM WITHOUT.

3. TAKING NOTE OF HANDAL'S FAVORABLE ATTITUDE BOTH TOWARDS AN OPPOSITION COALITION AND TOWARDS PARTICIPATION IN THE UPCOMING ELECTIONS, THE PDC REPRESENTATIVES ASKED HANDAL WHY THE UNIVERSITY OF EL SALVADOR STUDENT PUBLICATION "OPINION ESTUDIANTIL", WHICH THEY ASSUMED WAS CONTROLLED BY THE PCES, CONSTANTLY ATTACKED THE OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTIES AND DENIGRATED PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL ELECTIONS. HANDAL REPLIED THAT THERE IS A DIVISION ON THE LEFT AND STATED THAT, IF ALVERGUE AND RAMIREZ WANTED TO OBTAIN AN ACCURATE PICTURE OF THE POLITICAL ATTITUDES OF THE PCES, THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY (PR), AND THE UNIFYING FEDERATION OF SALVADORAN TRADE UNIONS (FUSS), THEY SHOULD READ THE PCES

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PUBLICATION "TRIBUNA POPULAR". HANDAL SAID THAT "OPINION ESTUDIANTIL" IS MANAGED BY THE GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF SALVADORAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS (AGEUS) AND REPRESENTS AN ORIENTATION TOWARDS ANARCHISTIC GUERRILLA TACTICS WHICH IS NOT SHARED BY THE PCES. HE THEN ADDED THAT PERSONS SUCH AS MARIO S A L A Z A R VALIENTE AND GABRIEL G A L L E G O S VALDEZ, BOTH PROFESSORS IN THE FACULTY OF LAW OF THE UNIVERSITY OF EL SALVADOR (UES), AND JOSE NAPOLEON R O D R I G U E Z RUIZ, VICE RECTOR OF UES, WHOSE VIEWS ARE REFLECTED IN THE PUBLICATION "EL TIEMPO", ARE CONSIDERED BY THE PCES TO BE

"REVISIONISTS". [Redacted] COMMENT: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted] THIS MEETING OF PCES AND PDC LEADERS TOOK PLACE. [Redacted] "TRIBUNA POPULAR" REFLECTS THE OFFICIAL VIEW OF THE PCES AND IS THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE PCES. [Redacted]

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED ABOVE ARE ACTUALLY HANDAL'S VIEWS.)

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4. HANDAL SAID THAT THE UNITED POPULAR FRONT (FUP) IS COOPERATING LOCALLY WITH THE OPPOSITION PARTIES IN ALMOST ALL OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF EL SALVADOR. HE SAID THAT ONLY IN SALVADOR, ITSELF, IS THERE NO COOPERATION BETWEEN FUP AND THE OPPOSITION PARTIES. THE PDC REPRESENTATIVES REPLIED THAT THEY WERE AWARE OF FUP COOPERATION WITH THE OPPOSITION PARTIES IN THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS, AND THEY FURTHER SAID THAT THEY WERE AWARE OF FUP EFFORTS TO INFILTRATE THE OPPOSITION PARTIES. THE PDC REPRESENTATIVES TOLD HANDAL CATEGORICALLY THAT THEY WOULD NOT TOLERATE FUP INFILTRATION OF THE OPPOSITION PARTIES. HANDAL ADMITTED THAT FUP MIGHT HAVE ATTEMPTED TO INFILTRATE THESE PARTIES IN CERTAIN AREAS, AND HE ASSURED ALVERGUE AND RAMIREZ THAT HE WOULD PASS THE WORD ON TO FUP THAT IT SHOULD CEASE THIS SORT OF ACTIVITY. HANDAL THEN EXPLAINED THAT FUP DECISIONS ARE CONTROLLED BY AGEUS AND THE SALVADORAN COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONS (CONSISAL). HANDAL SAID THAT THE PCES DOES NOT EXERCISE A CONTROLLING INFLUENCE WITHIN FUP COUNCILS. HANDAL THEN

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WENT ON TO OBSERVE THAT MARIO L O P E Z, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE SALVADORAN NATIONAL TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION (ANDES) AND RENE B A R R I O S AMAYA, SECRETARY GENERAL OF CONSISAL, HAVE CAUSED HIM A LOT OF TROUBLE. HE SAID THAT LOPEZ HAS TRAVELLED THROUGHOUT EL SALVADOR DENOUNCING HANDAL FOR SABOTAGING THE ANDES STRIKE.

([Redacted] COMMENT: WHILE IT IS KNOWN THAT LOPEZ HAS BEEN DENOUNCING HANDAL FOR HIS LACK OF SUPPORT TO THE ANDES STRIKE, IT IS BELIEVED THAT HANDAL WAS BEING LESS THAN TRUTHFUL WHEN HE STATED THAT THE PCES DOES NOT EXERCISE A CONTROLLING INFLUENCE WITHIN FUP COUNCILS.)

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5. FINALLY, HANDAL TOLD THE PDC REPRESENTATIVES THAT PEDRO B A R R E R A, A LEADER OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT YOUTH (JDC), HAD REQUESTED SUPPORT FROM THE PR FOR HIS CAMPAIGN FOR ELECTION AS DEPUTY IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF SONSONATE. [Redacted] COMMENT: IT HAS BEEN REPORTED IN THE PAST THAT JDC LEADERS HAVE TENDED TO MAINTAIN RATHER CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THE PCES AND PCES-CONTROLLED MOVEMENTS.)

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DISSEM: STATE, DEFENSE ATTACHE, CINCSO,

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