



Intelligence Information Report

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~~SECRET~~

Communist Party

[Redacted]

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DATE DISTR. 1 December 1971

COUNTRY El Salvador

DOI

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SUBJECT

~~Policy of the Communist Party of El Salvador Concerning the University of El Salvador~~

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SOURCE

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Summary The Communist Party of El Salvador (PCES) has organized the ~~University Coordinating Committee (CCU)~~ which will direct PCES youth activities within the National University of El Salvador (UES) and will advise the PCES on youth activities outside the UES. [Redacted] the CCU organized a discussion session which was attended by a large number of PCES youth leaders in the course of which PCES policy with respect to the UES was analyzed in detail. The basic conclusions arrived at during the discussion, which have been set forth in a PCES document, were that the principal task of the PCES within the UES is to recruit cadres for use outside the UES, that the UES must not be allowed to develop into a purely political force, and that the PCES must seek to restore general public faith in the UES which the PCES believes has been badly shaken as a result of extremist student policies. End of Summary.

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1. The PCES, which has for some time been much preoccupied with its vain efforts to establish a power base within the UES, has organized the CCU which will direct PCES youth activities within the UES and will advise the PCES on youth activities outside the UES. The following persons, all members of the PCES, are members of the CCU:

a. Miguel Angel S. a e n z V a r e l a, member of the PCES Central Committee.

C. P. [Redacted]

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b. Antonio Abdala H and a l, brother of the PCES Secretary General, Jorge Sharick H a n d a l.

c. Armando H e r r e r a, Secretary for Organization of the Front for University Action (FAU).

d. Rolando O r e l l a n a

e. Manuel M a m i r e a Franco, general coordinator for FAU.

f. Santiago R u i z Hernandez, professor of economics at the UES.

2. [redacted] the CCU organized at the UES a discussion session which was devoted to the subject of PCES policy toward the UES. The conclusions arrived at during the discussion session, which was attended by a large number of PCES youth leaders, were set forth in a document now considered to be a basic guideline to any further discussion on PCES policy toward the UES. The following are the main points contained in the document:

a. The UES has its limitations as an instrument of revolution and provides its students with only a small measure of political preparation for participation in revolutionary activity.

b. The UES will be useful for revolutionary purposes only to the extent that it can participate in a national plan to confront the "exploiting classes."

c. PCES assets within the UES must not devote themselves entirely to the accomplishment of the legitimate goals of the university since, even under the most favorable circumstances, the net result of such efforts would be of little benefit to the revolutionary cause.

d. Nevertheless, the UES is a community of more than ten thousand persons concentrated in the city of San Salvador and is an important center for recruitment and for the organization of masses of people who have considerable spirit and courage.

e. The basic task of the PCES within the UES is to recruit cadres for use outside of the UES.

f. Within the UES the PCES must seek to exercise influence over the student masses, rather than to occupy positions of importance in student government.

g. The PCES must pick out for exploitation those UES programs which create among the students a greater awareness of the problems of the country.

h. Every effort must be made to prevent the UES from becoming an almost purely political force and thus a target for legal action by the government. The UES must remain a center for the study of national realities and their solutions.

i. The policies followed by UES student leaders in recent years have brought about a political degeneration

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of the general student body, a willingness to engage in agitation without clear purpose, and the conversion of the General Association of Salvadoran University Students (AGEUS) into a political organism which expresses the views of the extreme left without going through any ideological debate. Thus, those who are not a part of the UES community view all UES students as guerrillas who are manipulated by the PCES, and UES students merely confirm the worst fears of the reactionaries.

j. Student leaders, particularly during the strike of the Salvadoran National Teachers' Association (ANDES), followed policies with which the PCES was not in agreement and, as a result of conflicts among revolutionaries, reduced PCES influence within the UES to a point of virtual non-existence.

El Sal
k. Groups in which the PCES has influence, such as the FAU, the Association of University Students (AEU), and the Salvadoran Revolutionary Front for Engineering and Architecture (FRIAS), must not be converted into electoral organizations. They must concentrate on study, on recruiting with a view to the ultimate strengthening of the Salvadoran Communist Youth (JCS), on the broadening of contacts with the working people, and on the development of a capability for maintaining the revolutionary struggle in the streets. The FAU must extend its organization with the UES.

l. The development of "student power" has brought about anarchy within the UES, terror among the professors, lack of support for student leaders among the general mass of students, and a strengthening of reactionary forces. The PCES must face this situation calmly and with objectivity and must seek through discussion with all concerned to restore general public faith in the UES.

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m. The main thrust of work to be carried on by the Union of Salvadoran University Workers (STUS) must be toward the outside, not within the UES.

n. The University Revolutionary Movement (MUR) was conceived as a means for unifying the left through the UES and was a failure from the beginning. It acquired a reputation for having been set up by the Government of El Salvador and was even shunned by PCES members. MUR must now be brought to an honorable end.

o. The PCES must give much more attention to coordinated work in the UES regional centers, particularly in the west.

p. The following steps must be taken immediately:

1) The above views must be communicated to the PCES membership at the cell level, and ways and means must be discussed for integrating the UES into the overall PCES effort.

2) The FAU must assume increased importance.

3) A round-table discussion on the problem of the elections must be organized, and representatives

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of the AGEUS, UES publications, and the PCES should participate.

4) PCES policy with respect to the UES must be made clear to all, and the ideological struggle with the UES must be raised to a higher level.

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