



Intelligence Information Report

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DIRECTORATE OF PLANS

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THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

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Communist Party

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DATE DISTR. 8 JUNE 1972

COUNTRY EL SALVADOR

DO [Redacted]

• PRIORITY

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SUBJECT COMMUNIST PARTY OF EL SALVADOR (PCES)
INVOLVEMENT IN DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN THE
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF EL SALVADOR

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SUMMARY: DURING MAY 1972 STUDENT POWER ASSERTED ITSELF AGGRESSIVELY WITHIN THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF EL SALVADOR (UES) AND RESULTED IN STUDENT SEIZURE OF MOST OF THE UES FACULTIES AND SCHOOLS. AT ISSUE IN THE UNIVERSITY STRIKE WERE STUDENT DEMANDS FOR AN "OPEN ADMISSIONS" POLICY AND FOR STUDENT EVALUATION OF UES PROFESSORS AND ADMINISTRATORS WITH ULTIMATE REMOVAL FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF THOSE WHO RECEIVE LOW EVALUATIONS. THE CAUSES FOR STUDENT SEIZURE VARIED SOMEWHAT FROM ONE FACULTY TO ANOTHER, BUT ALL DERIVED CLEARLY FROM THE ABOVE STUDENT DEMANDS, AND POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS DID NOT PLAY A TRULY SIGNIFICANT ROLE. THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF EL SALVADOR (PCES), AS SUCH, HAS NOT BECOME DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN RECENT UES DEVELOPMENTS, AND JORGE SHAPIRO H A N D A L , SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PCES, HAS MADE IT CLEAR TO THE PCES YOUTH MOVEMENT (JCS) THAT HE

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DOES NOT WISH TO BECOME INVOLVED. ALL PCES ACTIVITY WITHIN THE UES HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT BY THE JCS WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THOSE COMMITTEES WHICH NORMALLY GUIDE AND COORDINATE PCES ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE UES. WHILE THE JCS HAS AGREED WITH THE STUDENT DEMANDS FOR "OPEN ADMISSIONS" AND EVALUATION, IT HAS FELT THAT EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO ACCOMPLISH THESE DEMANDS IN AN ORDERLY AND PEACEFUL FASHION. IMPATIENT EXTREME LEFTISTS SEIZED CONTROL OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE PREMATURELY FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE JCS WHICH HAS GONE ALONG WITH THIS ACTION AND SUBSEQUENTLY ARRANGED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMISSION FOR THE NORMALIZATION OF FACULTY ACTIVITIES. THE JCS AGREED TO STUDENT "SEIZURE" OF THE FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE AND SUBSEQUENTLY PARTICIPATED IN A RESOLUTION OF THE FACULTY'S PROBLEMS. THE JCS HAS OPPOSED ALL STUDENT SEIZURES IN THE FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SCIENCES WHERE BOTH TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFFS ARE CONSIDERED TO BE WELL DISPOSED TOWARDS A RESTRUCTURING OF THE UES. A CONFRONTATION BETWEEN THE JCS AND THE GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF SALVADORAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS (AGEUS) IS CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS, AND THE OUTCOME HAS NOT YET BEEN DECIDED. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF EL SALVADOR WILL NOT INTERVENE IN A SITUATION WHICH IS INTERNAL TO THE UES, KEEPS THE STUDENTS PREOCCUPIED IN MATTERS OTHER THAN NATIONAL POLITICS, AND DISCREDITS THE DOMINANT EXTREME LEFTIST FORCES WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY. END SUMMARY.

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1. [] COMMENT: DURING MAY 1972, STUDENT POWER ASSERTED ITSELF AGGRESSIVELY WITHIN THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF EL SALVADOR (UES) AND RESULTED IN STUDENT SEIZURE OF MOST OF THE UES FACULTIES AND SCHOOLS. THE MOST IMPORTANT BASES FOR THIS STUDENT ACTION WERE:

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- A. STUDENT DEMAND THAT THE UES FOLLOW AN "OPEN ADMISSIONS" POLICY.
- B. STUDENT DEMAND THAT UES PROFESSORS AND ADMINISTRATORS BE EVALUATED BY THE STUDENTS, AND THAT THOSE WHO RECEIVE LOW

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EVALUATIONS BE REMOVED FROM THEIR POSITIONS. POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS, ALTHOUGH PROMINENT IN ISOLATED SITUATIONS, HAVE NOT PLAYED A TRULY SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN UES STUDENT FERMENT..)

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3. SHORTLY AFTER THE SUPERIOR UNIVERSITY COUNCIL (CSU), THE SUPREME AUTHORITY WITHIN THE UES, DECIDED ON 10 MAY 1972 TO IMPLEMENT THE "OPEN ADMISSIONS" POLICY IMMEDIATELY, THE TEACHING STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE DECLARED THAT THEY DID NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT PERSONNEL, FUNDS, AND EQUIPMENT TO HANDLE ADEQUATELY THE EXPECTED INFLUX OF STUDENTS AND WENT ON STRIKE. ON 25 MAY 1972 STUDENTS TOOK OVER THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF SALVADORAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS (AGEUS), THE UES ADMINISTRATION AND CSU, THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF EL SALVADOR (PCES), AND YOUNGER MEDICAL STUDENTS IN PRE-MEDICAL THROUGH THE THIRD YEAR OF STUDY. THE SEIZURE WAS OPPOSED BY THE FACULTY'S TEACHING STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION, AND BY OLDER MEDICAL STUDENTS IN THE FOURTH THROUGH SIXTH YEARS OF STUDY. FIGHTS BROKE OUT ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS BETWEEN OLDER AND YOUNGER MEDICAL STUDENTS. ON 29 MAY 1972 A COMMISSION FOR THE NORMALIZATION OF THE SITUATION WITHIN THE FACULTY WAS FORMED WITH FULL AUTHORITY TO ARRIVE AT AN EQUITABLE AND ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION OF THAT FACULTY'S PROBLEMS.

4. STUDENTS TOOK OVER CONTROL OF THE FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE ON 9 MAY 1972 LARGELY AS A RESULT OF A STRUGGLE WHICH HAD BROKEN OUT IN THE SCHOOL OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING OVER THE QUESTION OF EVALUATION. THIS MATTER HAS BEEN SOLVED, AND THE FACULTY HAS RETURNED TO NORMAL ACTIVITY. VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE VARIOUS SCHOOLS COMPRISING THE FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SCIENCES HAVE BEEN TAKEN OVER BY THE STUDENTS. IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS, STUDENTS DISSATISFIED

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WITH THE SLOW PROGRESS OF EVALUATION OF THE TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFFS ORGANIZED A "COMMUNE" AND TOOK OVER THE DEPARTMENT ON 18 MAY 1972 IN A RELATIVELY ORDERLY FASHION.

5. IN THE SCHOOL OF SOCIOLOGY, THE STRUGGLE HAS BEEN HIGHLY POLITICAL AND HAS CENTERED ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES OF JACOBO WEISELFISCH, AN ARGENTINE CITIZEN OF EXTREME LEFTIST PERSUASION WHO HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE UES FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS. WEISELFISCH HAS LONG BEEN VIEWED AS A MACHIAVELLIAN "GREY EMINENCE" OF EXTREME LEFTIST ACTIVITY WITHIN THE UES AND IS ALLEGED TO HEAD UP "ACTION GROUPS" WHICH ARE MADE UP OF STUDENTS ACTIVE WITHIN AGEUS. HE HAS ON OCCASION BEEN ACCUSED OF BEING AN AGENT OF AN AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE AND OF THE GOVERNMENT OF EL SALVADOR (GOES). SINCE HE HAS FOR SOME TIME BEEN A DIVISIVE FORCE WITHIN THE UES AND A SEVERE CRITIC OF THE PCES, WHICH HE ACCUSES OF LACKING REVOLUTIONARY COMMITMENT, THE PCES HAS BEEN ANXIOUS TO BRING ABOUT HIS REMOVAL FROM BOTH THE UES AND EL SALVADOR. WEISELFISCH ON 19 MAY 1972 WAS FORCED TO RESIGN AS HEAD OF THE SCHOOL OF SOCIOLOGY BECAUSE OF STUDENT DEMANDS WITH REGARD TO AN EVALUATION OF HIS PERFORMANCE, AND SUBSEQUENTLY HE WAS SUPPOSEDLY EXPELLED FROM THE UES. WITH AGEUS SUPPORT, HOWEVER, WEISELFISCH HAS APPARENTLY NOT TERMINATED HIS ASSOCIATION WITH THE UES, IS APPARENTLY STILL PAID BY THE UES, AND IS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN STRUGGLES IN

PROGRESS IN VARIOUS AREAS OF THE UES. ON OR ABOUT 31 MAY 1972 ALEJANDRO ^{Chile} S A A V E D R A, A CHILEAN NATIONAL, ARRIVED IN SAN SALVADOR ALLEGEDLY TO FUNCTION AS AN "ASSISTANT" TO WEISELFISCH.

6. STUDENTS TOOK OVER CONTROL OF THE SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM ON 26 MAY 1972 AS A RESULT OF PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THE EVALUATION OF THE TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFFS. THE SCHOOL AND ITS PUBLICATION, "PRIMERA PLANA," ARE ACCUSED OF HAVING BECOME UNREPRESENTATIVE OF THE UES STUDENT BODY AND AGENTS OF REACTION AND IMPERIALISM. PARTICULAR OBJECTS OF STUDENT WRATH ARE FRANCISCO X G U Z M A N X ARGUETA, DIRECTOR OF THE SCHOOL OF

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San. Korea Salvados

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JOURNALISM; SOON J ~~K~~ I M, A SOUTH KOREAN NATIONAL ON LOAN TO THE UES SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM FROM THE SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS WHO HAS BEEN ACCUSED BY STUDENTS OF BEING AN AGENT OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT; AND GERARDO ~~G~~ A L L E G O S, EDITOR OF "PRIMERA PLANA."

(HEADQUARTERS COMMENT: THE PREFERRED SPELLING OF THE KOREAN'S NAME IS K I M SOON-CHAE.)

7. ON THE NIGHT OF 30 MAY 1972 IT BECAME EVIDENT DURING AN ASSEMBLY OF THE STUDENT ASSOCIATION OF HUMANITIES (AEH) THAT THE MASS OF UES STUDENTS WAS TIRED OF THE CHAOS WHICH HAS REIGNED IN THE UNIVERSITY DURING RECENT WEEKS. PARTICULAR OBJECTS OF CRITICISM AT THE ASSEMBLY WERE MANUEL ASCENCION ~~R~~ I V E R A ~~V~~ ALDEZ, SECRETARY GENERAL OF AGEUS AND THE AEH REPRESENTATIVE WITH AGEUS, AND SALVADOR ~~B~~ O N I L L A, PRESIDENT OF AEH. CONTRARY TO REPORTS IN THE SAN SALVADOR PRESS ON THE MORNING OF 31 MAY 1972, NEITHER RIVERA NOR BONILLA HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM HIS POSITION AS A STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE DURING THE 30 MAY 1972 AEH ASSEMBLY.

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9. JORGE SHAFICK HANDAL, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PCES, HAS SHOWN A NOTABLE RELUCTANCE TO BECOME INVOLVED IN THE UES PROBLEMS DESCRIBED ABOVE. IN EARLY MAY 1972 THE PCES-CONTROLLED UNIVERSITY ACTION FRONT (FAU) URGED HANDAL TO DEFINE THE PCES POSITION WITH RESPECT TO THE PROBLEMS OF "OPEN ADMISSIONS" AND EVALUATION WHICH WERE BECOMING INCREASINGLY PROMINENT AT THE UES. HANDAL HAS YET TO GIVE FAU A REPLY. THE PCES, AS SUCH, WAS NOT

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INVOLVED IN THE UES EVENTS OF MAY 1972; ALL PCES ACTIVITY WITHIN THE UES HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT BY THE PCES YOUTH MOVEMENT (JCS) AND FAU WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THOSE COMMITTEES WHICH NORMALLY GUIDE AND COORDINATE PCES ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE UES.

10. WITH RESPECT TO THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE, IT HAD BEEN HOPED THAT A PEACEFUL SOLUTION COULD BE FOUND TO THE PROBLEMS WHICH HAD ARISEN, AND A COMMITTEE HAD BEEN FORMED TO WORK THESE OUT. IT WAS RECOGNIZED, HOWEVER, THAT THE STUDENTS WOULD HAVE TO TAKE OVER CONTROL OF THE FACULTY IF THE TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFFS BECAME INTRANSIGENT. EXTREME LEFTIST ELEMENTS WITHIN THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE "JUMPED THE GUN" AND SEIZED CONTROL OF THE FACULTY AT A TIME WHEN THE JCS AND FAU FELT THAT SUCH ACTION WAS NOT YET NECESSARY. FACED WITH A "FAIT ACCOMPLI," THE JCS AND FAU RELUCTANTLY WENT ALONG WITH THE SITUATION AND SOUGHT TO BRING ORDER OUT OF DEVELOPING CHAOS. REPORTS IN THE SAN SALVADOR PRESS TO THE EFFECT THAT MIGUEL ANGEL ^{See [unclear]} X S A E N Z S VARELA, MEMBER OF THE PCES CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UES, LED STUDENTS IN THE SEIZURE OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE ARE NOT TRUE. FORMATION OF THE CURRENT COMMISSION FOR THE NORMALIZATION OF FACULTY OF MEDICINE ACTIVITIES WAS ACCOMPLISHED LARGELY THROUGH JCS AND FAU PRESSURE.

11. STUDENT SEIZURE OF THE FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE WAS ACCOMPLISHED WITH THE SUPPORT AND AGREEMENT OF JCS AND FAU BECAUSE IT WAS BELIEVED THAT THE TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFFS OF THAT FACULTY HAD BECOME TOO INTRANSIGENT.

12. THE JCS AND FAU HAVE AT NO TIME BELIEVED THAT STUDENT SEIZURE OF ANY SECTION OF THE UES FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SCIENCES WAS NECESSARY OR JUSTIFIED MAINLY BECAUSE IT WAS FELT THAT THE TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFFS OF THIS FACULTY HAVE ALWAYS BEEN WELL DISPOSED TOWARDS A RESTRUCTURING OF THE UES. THUS, THE JCS AND FAU ARE OPPOSED TO ALL STUDENT SEIZURES WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THAT FACULTY. THE JCS AND FAU VIEW WEISELFISCH AS A PARTICULARLY NEFARIOUS ELEMENT WITHIN THE UES.

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AND WOULD BE MOST HAPPY TO SEE HIM PERMANENTLY EXPELLED FROM THE UNIVERSITY.

13. DURING THE WEEK OF 22 MAY 1972 JCS AND FAU, TOGETHER WITH OTHERS INVOLVED, FORMED A "BROAD FRONT" ("FRENTE AMPLIO") AS A PART OF THE JOINT EFFORT TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE. THE FRONT WAS GIVEN NO PUBLICITY AT THE TIME BECAUSE IT WAS FELT THAT PUBLICITY WOULD ONLY DEFEAT THE FRONT'S PURPOSES. DURING THE WEEK OF 22 MAY 1972, WEISELFISCH, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF HIS AGEUS ALLIES, SEIZED CONTROL OF THE SCHOOL OF SOCIOLOGY AND SET UP A SECOND "BROAD FRONT" ON 29 MAY 1972 WHICH PROMPTLY PRESUMED TO SPEAK FOR ALL STUDENT INSURGENTS. THIS ACTION ON THE PART OF WEISELFISCH HAS GREATLY ANNOYED THE JCS AND FAU, AND IT WAS DECIDED THAT A CONFRONTATION SHOULD BE FORCED BETWEEN JCS-FAU AND WEISELFISCH-AGEUS WITHIN THE AEH. THIS CONFRONTATION TOOK PLACE ON THE NIGHT OF 30 MAY 1972.

14. [REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] THERE IS MUCH CONFUSION AT THE UES, AND THAT THE CURRENT POSITION OF WEISELFISCH IS NOT CLEAR. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WEISELFISCH IS STILL ACTIVE WITHIN THE UES AND IS STILL BEING PAID BY THE SCHOOL OF SOCIOLOGY. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WEISELFISCH HAS BEEN EXPELLED FROM THE SCHOOL OF SOCIOLOGY BUT HAS MANAGED TO OBTAIN AN UNIDENTIFIED, UNPAID TEMPORARY POSITION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS. [REDACTED]

PROBLEMS WITHIN THE UES ARE ESSENTIALLY INTERNAL TO THE UNIVERSITY AND HAVE LITTLE DIRECT INFLUENCE UPON THE NATIONAL POLITICAL SCENE BEYOND THE FACT THAT THE UES IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY DISCREDITED WITH THE GENERAL SALVADORAN PUBLIC. IT IS GENERALLY BELIEVED THAT THE CURRENT TURMOIL WITHIN THE UES SUITS THE PURPOSES OF THE GOES WHICH IS GLAD TO SEE THE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS DEVOTING THEIR ENERGIES TO PROBLEMS WITHIN THE UES RATHER THAN TO PROBLEMS OF A NATIONAL POLITICAL NATURE. THE GOES IS ALSO BELIEVED TO BE SATISFIED TO STAND BY AND ALLOW THE UES TO

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DISCREDIT ITSELF FURTHER.)

15. [Redacted] DISSEM: EMBASSY, DEFATT AT SAN SALVADOR:

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