

Intelligence Information Report



WARNING NOTICE
SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

Classified by Recorded Reporting Officer, Exempt from General Declassification Schedule of E.O. 11652 Exemption Category 5B (a) (2).
Impossible to determine date of automatic declassification.

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~~NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

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Communist Party

DATE DISTR. 13 NOVEMBER 1974

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COUNTRY EL SALVADOR

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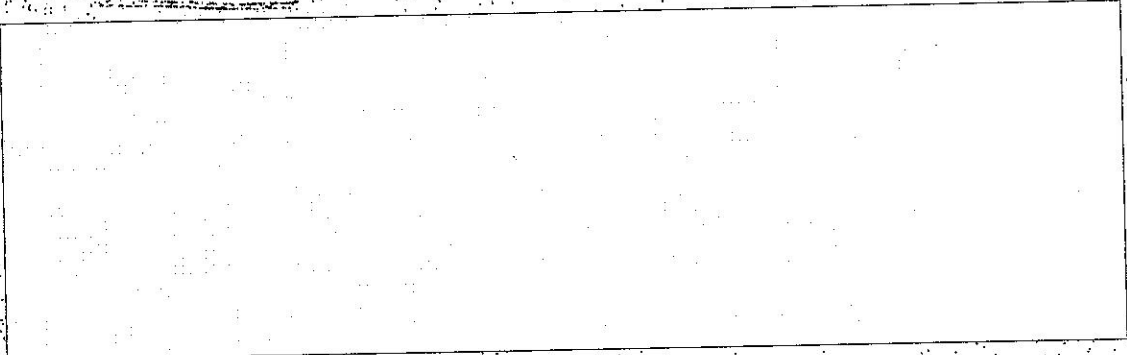
SUBJECT

ACCOMMODATION PACT BETWEEN PRESIDENT
ARTURO MARMANDO MOLINA AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY
OF EL SALVADOR (PCES)

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SOURCE



SUMMARY: SINCE AUGUST 1973 THE GOVERNMENT OF EL SALVADOR AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF EL SALVADOR (PCES) HAVE HAD A PACT WHEREBY THE PCES AGREED TO REFRAIN FROM HOSTILE ACTIONS AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT AND IN TURN THE GOVERNMENT AGREED TO GUARANTEE THE SAFETY AND FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT OF PCES LEADERS. SINCE AUGUST 1973, THE PCES SECRETARY GENERAL AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE HAD TWO MEETINGS. THE SECRETARY GENERAL ASSURED THE GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES THAT THE PCES WAS KEEPING ITS PART OF THE BARGAIN. END SUMMARY.

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COMMENT:

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1. IN AUGUST 1973 JORGE X SCHAFIK X H A N D A L , SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF EL SALVADOR (PCES), WAS ARRESTED AT THE TROPANGO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT UPON HIS RETURN TO EL SALVADOR FROM A TRIP TO CUBA. AFTER INTERROGATION BY SECURITY OFFICIALS HE WAS TAKEN TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT ARTURO ARMANDO M O L I N A ;

[Redacted]

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FOLLOWING A DISCUSSION ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN EL SALVADOR, THE PRESIDENT AND HANDAL ENTERED INTO A POLITICAL PACT ON BEHALF OF THE SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT AND THE PCES.

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2. SINCE THE AUGUST 1973 MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MOLINA, HANDAL HAS HAD TWO MEETINGS WITH EMISSARIES OF THE PRESIDENT TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN EL SALVADOR AND TO REINFORCE THEIR AGREEMENT. AT THE MOST RECENT MEETING IN EARLY NOVEMBER 1974, HANDAL REVIEWED THE TERMS OF THE PACT AND ASSURED THE GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES THAT THE PCES WAS KEEPING ITS END OF THE BARGAIN.

3. IN AN OCTOBER 1974 MEETING HANDAL SAID THAT IN AUGUST 1973 HE AND THE PRESIDENT AGREED THAT THE MOLINA ADMINISTRATION AND THE PCES HAD COMMON GOALS FOR SOCIAL-ECONOMIC REFORM. THEY ALSO AGREED THAT THEY HAD COMMON ENEMIES INCLUDING, ON THE ONE HAND, THE SALVADORAN OLIGARCHY AND, ON THE OTHER, THE "ULTRA LEFT," AS HANDAL REFERS TO EXTREME LEFTIST PROMOTERS OF VIOLENT SUBVERSION.

4. REFERRING SPECIFICALLY TO THE TERMS OF THE PACT WITH PRESIDENT MOLINA, HANDAL SAID THE PRESIDENT PROMISED TO GUARANTEE THE SAFETY AND FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT OF PCES LEADERS IN EL SALVADOR UNDER THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS: THAT THE PCES REFRAIN FROM

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ANY HOSTILE OR CONSPIRATORIAL POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES TOWARD THE SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT AND LIMIT ITSELF TO A LINE OF MODERATE OPPOSITION; AND THAT THE PCES REFRAIN FROM ANY ATTACKS ON THE PRESIDENT HIMSELF OR ANYTHING THAT MIGHT INTERFERE WITH THE PRESIDENT'S FINISHING HIS TERM OF OFFICE. THE PRESIDENT ALSO ASKED HANDAL TO PROVIDE THE GOVERNMENT WITH ANY INFORMATION THE PCES MIGHT LEARN ABOUT THE IDENTITY AND ACTIVITY OF EXTREME LEFTIST TERRORISTS OF THE "PEKING LINE," DISSIDENT MEMBERS OF THE PCES WHO ESPOUSE VIOLENCE, AND ANY OTHER CONSPIRATORS AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT, AND, FINALLY, THE PRESIDENT ASKED HANDAL FOR PCES SUPPORT IN CRITICIZING THE SALVADORAN OLIGARCHY, THUS PAVING THE WAY FOR ANY GOVERNMENT REFORMS IN FAVOR OF THE MASSES. HANDAL AGREED TO COMPLY WITH THE PRESIDENT'S CONDITIONS.

5. IN A SUBSEQUENT MEETING WITH PRESIDENTIAL ADVISERS, HANDAL AGREED TO BLAME THE "ULTRA LEFT" FOR ANY ACTS OF TERRORISM AND VIOLENCE THAT OCCUR IN EL SALVADOR. THIS WAS VIEWED AS MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL TO BOTH THE PCES AND THE GOVERNMENT.

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6. [REDACTED] COMMENT: WITH THE EXCEPTION OF HANDAL'S AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE NAMES OF EXTREME LEFTIST TERRORISTS, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] HAVE TENDED TO VERIFY THE EXISTENCE OF THE ABOVE PACT BETWEEN THE PCES AND THE SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT. IN MEETINGS WITH LEADERS OF OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES IN THE NATIONAL OPPOSITION UNION (UNO), HANDAL HAS HELD TO A LINE OF MODERATE OPPOSITION. FOR EXAMPLE, HE CONSISTENTLY REFUSED TO ACCEPT PROPOSALS THAT THE UNO ATTACK THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON THE BORDER DISPUTE OR THAT THE UNO ENGAGE IN PRESSURE TACTICS OR MORE AGGRESSIVE MEASURES TO OBTAIN THE GOVERNMENT'S GUARANTEE FOR FREE ELECTIONS. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] HANDAL AND THE
GOVERNMENT HAD REACHED AN AGREEMENT.

[REDACTED] IN MEETINGS IN WHICH

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UNO LEADERS DISCUSSED THE SCATTERED ACTS OF VIOLENCE DURING
THE PAST MONTHS IN EL SALVADOR, HANDAL ALWAYS BLAMED THE
"ULTRA LEFT" FOR THESE INCIDENTS.

7. [REDACTED] DISSEM: EMBASSY, DEFATT AT SAN SALVADOR.

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