

DO 16-2 J. Lewis
America?

Have We Failed Latin

By FULTON LEWIS, JR.



CASTILLO ARMAS
They smiled . . .



ANASTASIO SOMOZA
... while death . . .



JOSE REMON
... was waiting.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21. — Such information as this seldom sifts up through the bureaucracy of Mr. Allen Dulles' CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) to any policy making levels where it would be useful, but there were ominous rumblings among Latin American bigwigs at a recent ten-day get-together down Caribbean Way.

The occasion was the 450th anniversary of the accession of the idolized Charles V as King of Spain and Holy Roman Emperor, coupled with the 475th anniversary of the discovery of America by Columbus, all of which adds up to a tremendous spectacular in Latin American standards.

The place was Ciudad Trujillo, in the Dominican Republic, and the top intellectual and religious leaders of Central and South America hob-nobbed with plenty of leisure.

The key topic was United States policy regarding the philosophic complexion of Latin American governments, and no answer was ever arrived at.

State Department lip service to the established Latin American governments to the contrary, United States performance, it seems, is taking quite the opposite tack.

In Puerto Rico, for example, we are permitting the operations of the prime anathema to all current southerly neighbors, Romulo Betancourt, former Venezuelan dictator, who is banned from virtually every country south of the border.

THE PUERTO RICAN gov-

ernment accords him free range and the information at Ciudad Trujillo was that he operates a private radio transmitter, by which he keeps in constant touch with incendiary operatives in Cuba, Haiti, and a dozen other republics on the Central and South American continents. The stories have it that Betancourt even sports an official governmental license plate on his private automobile.

True, Puerto Rico is a self-governing commonwealth and Washington does not run the show, but this is not an adequate answer to the friendly governments in whose hair he is a constant cocklebur.

Meanwhile, even more important, some of the do-gooder American foundations are conducting an increasing series of projects.

IT IS REPORTED that one Foundation either has made a large grant or will do so in the near future, for a "study project" in Puerto Rico, the political and material benefits of which will accrue in large measure to Betancourt.

Puerto Rico is a remote area from the continental United States, and everything considered, a foundation-supported project with a high-flown name could get away with almost anything.

All this time, the promoters and financiers of the anti-Batista movement in Cuba are being permitted to enjoy complete sanctuary in southern Florida, and are even floating Cuban revolution bond issues, for sale to anyone who will buy.

Batista has his dictatorial

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CAPITAL REPORT

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SENORA Anastasio Somoza is comforted by Dona Cecilia Remon at President Somoza's funeral. Both women were widowed by assassins' bullets. Latin-Americans ask, "Who will be next?"

facets, to be sure. But he subscribes to free elections when the political situation is stable enough to permit it, and there is a clear taint of Communism that attaches at least to one element among the opposition.

THE 64 THOUSAND dollar question at Ciudad Trujillo was why does the United States indulge in such official hand-wringing as it did about the Communist government of Jacobo Arbenz Guzman in Guatemala, even to the extent of help-

ing Carlos Castillo Armas to overthrow that government, the while permitting revolutionary instigators to operate on American soil.

Three, deeply loyal American friends, at the head of Latin American governments, have already fallen under the bullets of the assassins spawned by these elements: Castillo Armas of Guatemala, Anastasio Somoza of Nicaragua, and Jose Remon of Panama.

The question on Columbus Day was, "who's next?"

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