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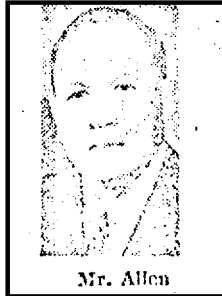
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Allen-Scott Report

Panama
May Go Red

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WASHINGTON — Some two-score Communist snipers and agitators, in the forefront of the destructive rioting and slaying of four soldiers in Panama, have been quietly allowed to leave that country.

They include eight professional Red killers who were seized and jailed by Panama National Guardsmen during the costly violence.

The Communist guerrillas — Panamanians, Cubans, Mexicans and other Latins, some of them veterans of the recent Red terrorist operations in Venezuela—were flown to Mexico. From there, a number have gone to Cuba.

Directly involved in this secret exodus are two top Panamanian officials — Education Minister Solis Palma and Eloy Benedetti, legal adviser to the Foreign Minister.

A detailed intelligence report charges that the two leftist Panamanian officials not only cleared the way for the surreptitious departure of the trained Red guerrillas and snipers, but arranged for their coming to Panama and were in constant touch with them during the murderous demonstrations.

Benedetti particularly is credited with being in close contact with the imported Communist goons. He was especially active in getting those jailed released.

These sensational disclosures are being withheld from the U.S. public at the insistence of the State Department — on the ground that their publication might further complicate the tortuous and uncertain deliberations with the leftist-tinged regime of President Roberto Chiari.

Intelligence and military authorities vigorously dispute this view. They are urging President Johnson to make these facts known to prepare the American people for a possible Communist take-over in Panama.

It is contended there is grave danger of that.

Chiari's government is said to be so extensively infiltrated with Reds and fellow travelers that in order to stay in office, he will have to submit to the extremist demands of Palma and Benedetti.

It is asserted the two leftist leaders are claiming that only direct U.S. armed intervention can block Communist seizure of Panama.

The Red Set-up

Communist forces in Panama are operating both underground and in the open.

The underground is financed and supplied chiefly by Cuba via Mexico. The visible apparatus holds key places in government and the university and controls the leftist wing of the Socialist Party, with more than 10,000 members.

Avowed aim of all the left-wing elements is to create the utmost dissension with the U.S. over the Canal and the Panama Zone issues.

The Departments of Education and Agriculture are heavily Communist infiltrated, as are the schools of law, journalism and education of the University of Panama. The university is the headquarters of the Communist "permanent students," actually paid Red agitators, who hold key places on the campus.

Thelma King, a pro-Castroite leader in the Socialist Party and member of the Panamanian Congress, is a forefront figure of the above-ground apparatus. Significantly, she returned from a visit to Cuba just before the rioting and killings. She made the trip by way of Mexico—as virtually all the leftists do. King's principal propaganda organ is radio station Tribuna.

New Otepka Showdown

Senate investigators of the scandal - smeared ouster of Otepka, State Department security official, are on a new collision course with Secretary Dean Rusk.

The Senate Internal Security Subcommittee is threatening to summon Rusk for public grilling unless he complies with demands for a detailed accounting of the State Department's handling of security problems.

In a bluntly-worded memorandum unanimously approved by the committee, Senator James Eastland, has asked Rusk for the following:

A copy of a secret list of 800 State Department employees reputed to have derogatory information in their security files.

A full report on whether the State Department uses government agencies, such as the Central Intelligence Agency, or private organizations for wiretapping and investigative work in Washington.

In seeking the list of State Department employees whose personnel files reputedly contain derogatory information, Senator Eastland asked Secretary Rusk to report (1) when the list was prepared and by whom; what, if anything, has been done about these employees, and (3) how many are still working for the department, how many have been dismissed, and the reasons.

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