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11 April 1958

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TO:

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SUBJECT: General: Hemispheric Coordination of the Communist Movement.

Specific: Communist Party Action Program developed at Moscow Celebration of November 1957.

REFERENCE:

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Summary: At the Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution in Moscow in November 1957, an action program for the Latin American CP's was planned under Soviet Communist Party direction. Stress was placed on improving regional coordination and fraternal support among the CP's; strengthening the Peace Movement; and planning anti-imperialist cultural and economic campaigns. For this purpose, several conferences were planned. This memorandum serves to alert

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1. In November 1957, Latin American Communist Party delegates to the 40th Anniversary Celebration of the Bolshevik Revolution in Moscow participated in two well-organized secret meetings: (1) a plenary session of representatives of 65 Communist parties throughout the world, at which SUSLOV of the CPSU emphasized the dangers of war, the importance of the Peace Movement, and the need to aid CP's in the colonial and semi-colonial countries in their struggle against United States economic interests; (2) a regional session, presided over by the CPSU's Latin American specialist ("SIVOLOV") and attended by Chinese and all Latin American delegates. This session approved an action program calling for increased coordination

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and fraternal support among the Latin American CP's, as indicated in the following paragraphs. (NOTE: It is believed probable that the "SIVOLOV" who presided over the regional meeting is one SIVOLOBOV. Clarification of the identity is desired. Information on SIVOLOBOV is given below in paragraph 9 c.)

2. At the regional session, Communists from Guatemala, Cuba, Chile, Uruguay, Argentina, and Brazil reported on the situation in their respective areas, the Guatemalan reporting for the Central American, the Caribbean, and the Mexican CP's. "SIVOLOV" then spoke, criticizing the Latin American parties for their lack of solidarity, stating that the last week of January should be declared a "week of solidarity with the Cuban people," and that efforts should be made to liberate Jesus FARIA (then imprisoned in Venezuela). "SIVOLOV" declared that the CP's should work to increase anti-American sentiment, that the Peace Movement should be revived and a Peace Conference held in Argentina in mid-1958, that a "Conference of the North" should be held to include parties from Panama to Canada, that a "conference in defense of culture" should be held to coincide with the next OAS Conference, and that an economic conference of "all forces capable of opposing imperialism" should be held. The status of the CTAL was also discussed and its possible replacement by two organizations -- one in the north and one in the south -- was proposed.

3. The presence of the Chinese delegate(s) (whose identities are unknown) at the regional session was undoubtedly associated with the increased responsibility assumed by CP China for aiding the Latin American CP's. At some time during the Moscow meetings, plans were made for the training of Latin American Communists in the USSR and China. The Panamanian CP was allotted two training slots (one in the USSR and one in China) and some ten or more training slots in China for Central Americans were apparently approved. Contradictory reports have been received concerning which parties will send trainees to China, and all of the Central American countries have been mentioned as having been allocated training slots. One usually reliable source reports that only four countries (Costa Rica, Panama, El Salvador, and Ecuador) are involved, each of which will

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send three trainees to China for a session beginning in April; a second session later in the year for other countries is possible. It is known, however, that Panama is sending only one trainee. Travel arrangements apparently have been made through Mexico, although it has been reported that the trainees were to travel separately from each country.

4. Preparations for the "Conference of the North" which "SIVOLOV" declared was absolutely necessary, were initiated immediately upon the return to Mexico of top Cuban and Mexican Communist leaders. The conference was held clandestinely in Mexico on 26 and 27 March 1958, and was attended by the following delegates: Mexico: Dionisio ENCINA, Juan Pablo SAINZ, J. Encarnacion VALDEZ; Guatemala: Hugo BARRIOS Klee, Victor Manuel GUTIERREZ, Carlos ALVARADO Jerez; Costa Rica: Rodolfo GUZMAN; El Salvador: Jorge ARIAS Gomez; Panama: Jose Rafael HILL; Venezuela: Eduardo MACHADO; Cuba: Joaquin ORDOQUI and two others ("Francisco" Inu, and "Chicho" Inu). The Nicaraguan and Honduras parties sent written statements concerning the situation and views of their parties. Although it was indicated that the participation of the CPUSA and CP Canada (Labor Progressive Party) at this conference was approved in Moscow, ENCINA and ORDOQUI, the conference organizers, wanted to limit participation to Latin American parties only. It is probable, however, that representatives of these parties may meet separately in Mexico with the top conference organizers and such a meeting with CPUSA representatives has in fact been planned.

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5. The agenda of the Northern CP Conference concerned the various points of the action program discussed in Moscow. Nicanor ALVAREZ Rodriguez, a Cuban Communist, traveled to various countries in February to brief the CP's on plans for the Conference. Assignments were made to various parties for preparation of reports on various points on the agenda, which were mimeographed for use at the conference, then subsequently all destroyed with the exception of the single copies to be forwarded to the USSR. The significant recommendations made at the conference included:

- a. That the CTAL be continued, with headquarters in Mexico, as a means of offsetting the ORIT unless and until a single hemispheric labor organization can be established, but that a complete interparty discussion on strengthening the CTAL should be held at the next CTAL anniversary celebration, in preparation for which each party should prepare a detailed written report.
- b. That the peace struggle is the most important single effort of international Communism, and that its main purpose is to weaken the United States economy, allegedly based fundamentally on war production. That the previous emphasis on national peace committees should be dropped in favor of working through all available media and fronts subject to party influence or direction, and that each party should send one delegate, empowered to make commitments, to the Argentine Peace Congress (to be held during the first two weeks of May 1958) where the initial steps in hemispheric coordination of the propaganda campaign will take place. If this should prove impractical, the coordination of the campaign will be discussed at the World Peace Congress in Stockholm in July.
- c. That expanded trade with the Soviet bloc should be advocated on the basis that a greater and more competitive market provides a higher return, lessens dependence on the US economy, and reduces need for artificial limitation of production.

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- d. That an office be established in Mexico City to receive and disseminate comments and reports of the CP's of the Northern Zone of Latin America, and that it is desirable to exchange party directors occasionally. (The Cuban delegates claimed that they had a full-time party leadership school in operation and offered to take students from other parties.)

6. The status of the CP's of Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru with respect to regional coordination has been somewhat ambiguous, and the possibility of a third regional grouping in Latin America must be considered in view of a report that Pedro SAAD of CP Ecuador was given "international responsibilities" while attending the 40th Anniversary Celebration, and that he may begin to direct the Communist movement in these countries. As indicated above, Venezuela was represented at the Northern CP Conference of March 1958 in Mexico, but the CP Colombia reportedly preferred to remain linked to the southern Latin American CP's. Unfortunately, there is no information concerning the parties attending the most recent Conference of the Southern CP's held in Argentina (see paragraph 7).

7. The holding of a Peace Conference in Argentina was decided upon at the regional session in Moscow, after "SIVOLOV" stated that it was absolutely necessary to reaffirm and revive Peace Movement. Originally set for "mid-1958", and more recently planned for July 1958, the discussion at the Northern CP Conference mentioned above indicated that it will now be held during the first two weeks of May. At Moscow, the preparations for the Conference were assigned to the CP Argentina, although it appears that in the north arrangements are being coordinated by CP Mexico. It is of interest that the Cuban delegates to the Northern CP Conference, who led the discussion of the Peace Movement, mentioned that they had recently attended a "Congress of Communist Parties of South America" held in Argentina. It may be assumed that the time of the Peace Conference was probably decided at this meeting. It is probable, moreover, that the resolutions of the Northern CP Conference concerning the Peace Movement (see paragraph 5) represent concurrence with plans already agreed upon by the Southern Latin American CP's.

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8. The conference "in defense of culture" and the economic conference "of all forces capable of opposing imperialism", both discussed at the Moscow session, are still in the early planning stages. At the recent Northern CP Conference, the possibility of a "People's Conference", similar to those held in Bandung and Cairo, was discussed. The Cuban delegates stated that the CP's of Brazil, Argentina, and Chile were responsible for organizing it, but that nothing concrete had yet been accomplished. In general, Communist efforts to attract non-Communist liberals and nationalists to broad new fronts or conferences in defense of peace, national independence, democratic liberties, and other such slogans have all been very unsuccessful in recent years.* However, it is evident from the criticisms leveled at the Latin American Communists by "SIVOLOV" that they are now under greater pressure from Moscow to accomplish something in this field, and the deteriorating economic situation in many countries combined with changes in the political picture (e. g., Argentina, Venezuela, Colombia) may encourage them and improve their chances for holding hemispheric or regional front conferences, or for infiltrating and influencing non-Communist conferences such as the International Congress of Americanists, scheduled for Costa Rica in July 1958. In view of the Soviet plans to intensify the Peace Movement and of the increased activity of Latin American Peace Movement leaders in peripheral activities and new fronts (e. g., the Instituto Colombiano de Cooperacion Internacional), it is probable that the scheduled Peace Congress in Argentina, apart from its overt propaganda accomplishments, will be the occasion for further high-level planning with respect to the development of the cultural and economic offensive.

* For example, the "Conference of Latin American Countries in Defense of Freedom" held in Chile in August 1955 was a failure; the formation of the "Alianza de Patriotas de America Latina contra el Colonialismo e Imperialismo" announced in January 1957 in Mexico has not yet materialized, as is also the case with the "Frente Latinoamericano por la Soberania y la Autodeterminacion de los Pueblos", which was proposed in Argentina in early 1957.

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9. In addition to the action program approved at the regional session in Moscow, there are concomitant developments in the field of regional coordination of Communist activities in which Headquarters is also vitally interested. Among the most important are those relating to the coordination of the labor movement, the youth movement, and the coordination of Communist press and information activities.

- a. The labor movement: The possible reorganization of the CTAL has been the subject of a previous [REDACTED] 25X1A2g
- 25X1A2g [REDACTED] Since the date of that memorandum, there has been no definitive reorganization or resolution of the conflicts within the organization. Strengthening the CTAL was discussed at the regional session in Moscow, the Cuban delegate favoring such a course, while the Argentine delegate suggested it be abolished. Its replacement by two organizations (one in the north and one in the south) was also discussed. The session did approve a Chilean proposal to attempt to have CUTCH (Confederacion Unica de Trabajadores Chilenos) invite representatives from all national and international labor organizations (e.g., WFTU, ICFTU, CTAL, ORIT, CIO-AFL) to its next national congress. The CUTCH is not affiliated with any international labor organization.
- b. The youth movement: In January 1958, Otto Cesar VARGAS Giretti, an Argentine representative of the World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY) traveled to various Latin American countries to discuss plans for a Latin American youth congress to be held possibly in Mexico or Brazil. In Costa Rica, VARGAS also reportedly discussed the infiltration and influencing of the International Congress of Americanists, to be held there in July. Raul E. FERNANDEZ, a Cuban WFDY secretary, also traveled extensively in Latin America in December, contacting youth groups. Currently, plans for the VII World Youth Festival have already been initiated by a planning commission which includes Clementino N. do CARVALHO of Brazil, Ignacio MENA Duque of Mexico, and Nelson YEPEZ M. of

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Ecuador. Orlando GOMEZ, a Brazilian who is head of the Latin American Commission of the WFDY planned an organizational trip through South America in late January or February 1958.

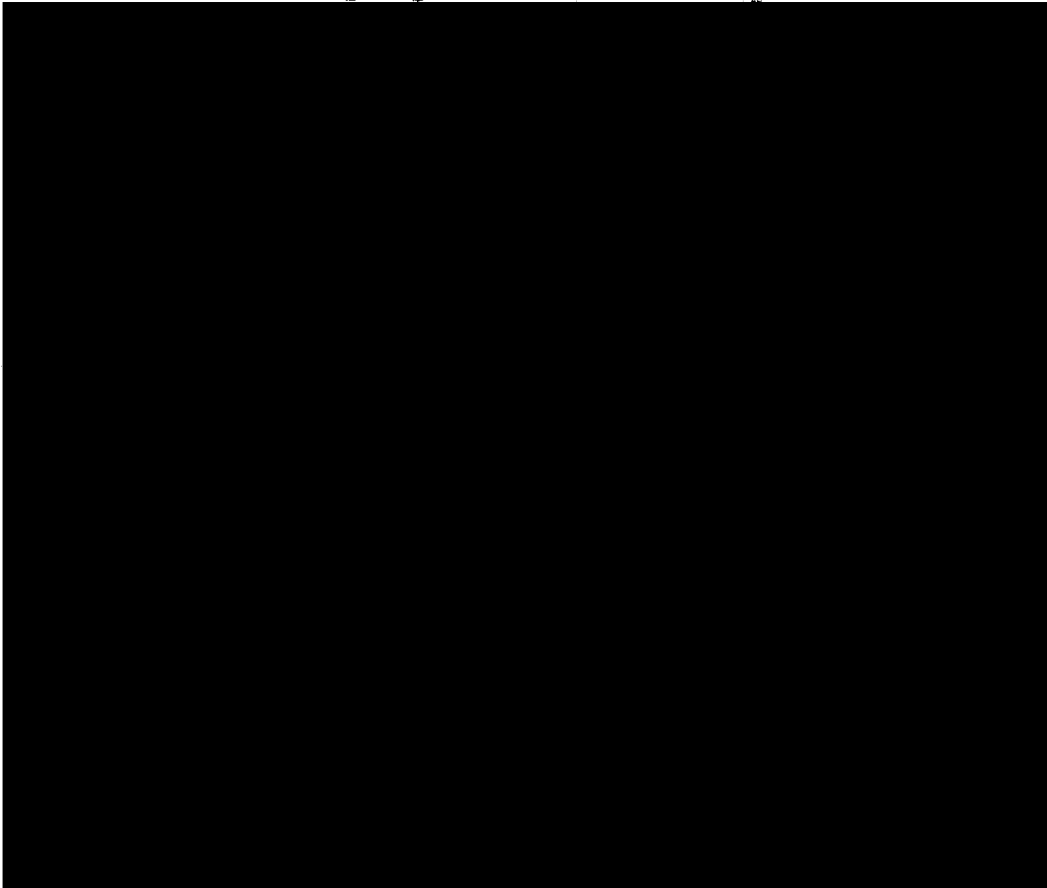
- c. The stimulation of Communist and pro-Communist press activities has been particularly apparent since the International Meeting of Journalists in Helsinki in June 1956, sponsored by the International Organization of Journalists (IOJ). This was attended by some thirty-eight Brazilians, nine Mexicans, three Chileans, two Peruvians, one Uruguayan, and possibly other Latin American journalists. The IOJ is a Communist front. A number of the Latin American delegates made extended trips through Communist China after the Congress, and some (such as Genaro CARNERO Checa of Peru) have returned to their native countries to become increasingly active in the press field. A meeting of Latin American journalists linked with the IOJ may have been balked by Peruvian government action in May 1957, but it is possible that international meetings have been held by Communists attending other press congresses. For example, in September 1957, the President of the IOJ (Jean-Maurice HERMANN) attended the 7th National Conference of Brazilian Journalists, according to the official IOJ organ, and in the course of this conference a meeting was sponsored by those delegates who had attended the Helsinki conference (HERMANN, Luis SUAREZ, Luis FERRERA Guimerais, Luis BELTRAO). Certain pro-Communist objectives were achieved. Another example concerns the non-Communist congress of the Mexican Sindicato Nacional de Periodistas in January 1958, which served as the occasion for a meeting of a pro-Communist group seeking to develop greater regional coordination. This congress was preceded by the arrival in Mexico in late 1957 of Vasily Mikhailovich CHICHKOV, a Pravda representative and reportedly a Latin American expert. CHICHKOV conferred with Gerardo UNZUETA and Manuel TERRAZAS of the CP Mexico as well as non-Communist journalists and visited

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institutions regarding Mexican economic, social, and cultural problems. After his stay in Mexico he reportedly was to make a tour through some of the Latin American countries. Concurrently, another Soviet writer, Konstantin SIMONOV, a former vice president of the IOJ, arrived in Montevideo at the head of a delegation which intended to study cultural activities and establish friendly relations with youth and intellectuals. SIMONOV's delegation included K. CHUGUNOV, chief of the American section of VOKS. More recently, a group of twelve Soviets (ten journalists, two interpreters) have sought to obtain visas to enter Argentina (and presumably other Latin American countries). Of this group, a number are suspected of

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