

SECRET

25X1

OCI No. 1958/65

099

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Office of Current Intelligence  
22 June 1965

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Situation in the Dominican Republic  
(Report #284 - As of 7:00 am EDT)

Dominican workers failed to respond in significant numbers on the first day of what was to be a three-day general strike in support of the rebel cause.

Reports from all major population centers indicate that support for the strike call was limited yesterday to the employees of six or seven of the 40-odd industrial firms in the northern portion of Santo Domingo and the workers of the big sugar complex at La Romana, which is owned by US interests. There was apparently no response at all in the important cities of the north central valley area where extremists had been reported planning to escalate the strike into a general uprising.

It is still possible that strike momentum may pick up today and tomorrow, but the US Embassy felt last night that the indications did not appear to be pointing in that direction. The embassy ascribed the limited worker response to a general weariness with the continued crisis, the workers' need for cash, and the precautionary countermeasures carried out by the Imbert government.

The country's largest labor federation made it clear from the beginning that it would not support the strike and the strike call was issued over the names of two small labor groups: the one controlled by the radical faction of the Revolutionary Social Christian Party and another nominally controlled by Bosch's Dominican Revolutionary Party but actually led by radical leftists. The actual backers of the strike movement were revealed in the inflammatory broadcasts yesterday over the extremist-controlled rebel radio.

State Dept. review completed

SECRET

25X1

**SECRET**

25X1

Some of the more blatant statements carried by the rebel radio yesterday were outright calls for revolutionary uprisings: "The workers are called on to lead the direct revolutionary struggle of the masses," "immediate delivery of land to the peasants," and the strike is against "brutal military intervention (of US troops) who murdered more than 5,000...."

Failure of the strike effort to pick up significant support would be a serious blow to the rebel cause. Virgilio Mainardi, prominent member of Bosch's party, is quoted in the press as declaring early yesterday that "we interpret this strike as a demonstration of support of the constitution." Juan Bosch himself is reliably reported to have been angered by the decision to make the strike effort, which he apparently foresaw would fail and in so doing further weaken the rebel cause.

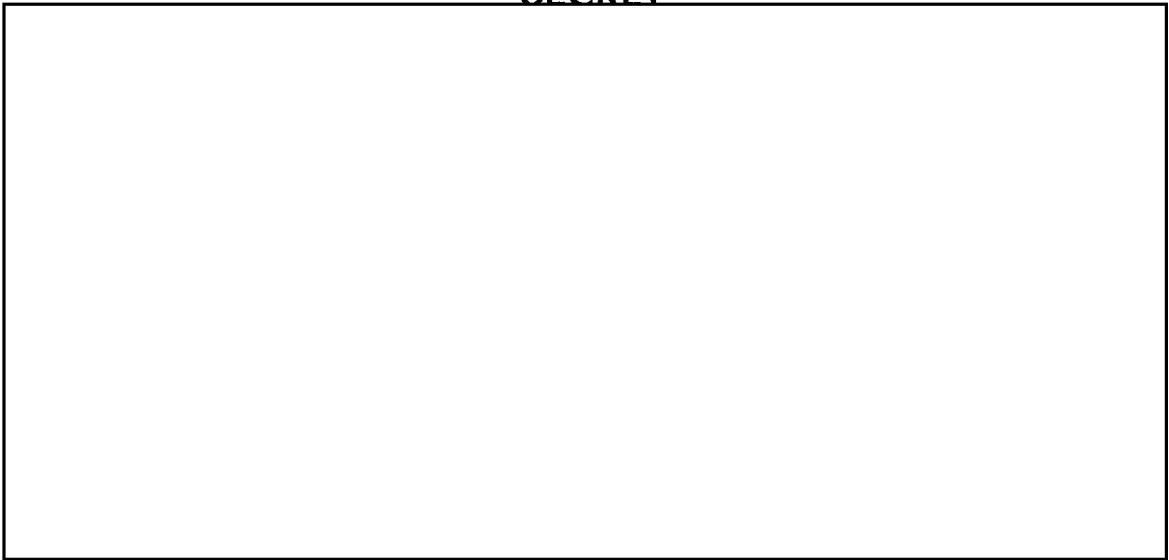
25X1

**SECRET**

25X1

SECRET

25X1



Meanwhile, the Caamano government is expected today to transmit to the special OAS committee its formal "answer" to the OAS proposals of last Friday. A Caamano spokesman is reported by the press to have revealed that the Caamano regime has drafted its counter-proposals with the intention of presenting these to the committee later today.

SECRET

25X1