

3022824

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY	Guatemala/USSR	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]	25X1A
SUBJECT	Soviet Propaganda Films Shown in Guatemala	DATE DISTR.	25 February 1954	
	25X1A	NO. OF PAGES	1	
DATE OF INFO.	[REDACTED]	REQUIREMENT NO.	RD	
PLACE ACQUIRED	[REDACTED]	REFERENCES	[REDACTED]	25X1A

25X1X

SOURCE:

1. There was a private showing of the Soviet film, "The Great Concert", at the Lux Theatre on 22 December 1953. Some Communists were heard discussing the fact that the owner of the theatre, Ricardo COFINO, had accepted "The Great Concert" for production but refused another Soviet picture, believed to be named "The New Man," because he considered it to be Soviet propaganda. The most rabid Communists, such as Roberto BLASCO Alava and Luis CARDOZA y Aragon, stated that if COFINO refused pictures of great political significance, he should not accept those of less political value, such as "The Great Concert." Jose FERNANDEZ Doris Perez, Huberto ALVARADO, and other Communists rejected the opinion of the first two, stating that it is necessary to break down Guatemalan resistance to Communism gradually. They added that even "The Great Concert," because of certain scenes and its conclusion, contained even an excessive amount of Communist propaganda, considering the political atmosphere in Guatemala. BLASCO Alava said that this picture had been strongly criticized by the Soviet Communist Party as having too little political significance.
2. Another Soviet picture, entitled "The Stone Flower," will soon be shown in Guatemala, and BLASCO Alava and CARDOZA y Aragon remarked that they considered it to be without political implications. BLASCO Alava stated privately that discussions were being carried on in the inner circles of the Partido Guatemalteco del Trabajo (PGT-Guatemalan Communist Party) with regard to Soviet films and that a future policy with regard to them had not yet been decided upon.

25X1A

[REDACTED] Comment. Roberto BLASCO Alava and Jose FERNANDEZ Doris Perez are exiled Spanish Communists residing in Guatemala; Huberto ALVARADO and Luis CARDOZA y Aragon are Guatemalan Communists who have been active in the Alianza de la Juventud Democratica Guatemalteca (AJDG), and the peace movement, respectively.

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1A