CLASSIFICATION COTETORION 25X1A2g INFORM CD NO. COUNTRY Colombia DATE DISTR. 8 Mar 1949 SUBJECT Carlos H. Pareja's Attempt to Win Leadership of NO. OF PAGES 1 Liberal Party PLACE NO. OF ENCLS. ACQUIRED DATE OF INFO. January-February 1949 **SUPPLEMENT TO** 25X1A2g 25X1X6 REPORT NO. 25X1X6

- 1. In connection with his political compaign to win the leadership of the Liberal Party of Colombia, Carlos II. Pareja, leftist Liberal who was released from prison on 16 January 1949, made a tour of the central section of Colombia. The trip, which was preceded by considerable fanfare and propaganda, was meant to have been a triumphal tour, but was a complete failure. He was accompanied by ex-Captain José Phil ips Rincon, who is known to be engaged in illegal arms traffic.
- 2. During the tour Pareja was accused by Liberal leaders of attempting to divide the Liberal Party, a statement which he categorically denied in a telegram to Jorge Uribe Marquez. He then issued statements that he was a sincere supporter of the Party and recommended that the Party unite behind one leader. In a press interview he denied any aspirations for the presidency in 1950.
- 3. Among the places visited by Pareja were the oil fields of Bucaramanga and Barrancabermeja, Department of Santander (Sur), where he was reported to have made overtures to labor leaders in hopes of obtaining the position of Legal Advisor of the Federacion Nacional de Petroleros (Fedepetrol), recently vacated by Diego Montana Guellar.\*\* It is said that he failed in this attempt as well as in his bid for the political support of the petroleum workers.
- In discussing Pareja's ambitions to become the Legal Advisor of the Federetrol, Filiberto Barrero, Secretary of Finance of the Partido Commista de Colombia (PCC), warned other FCC leaders that Pareja is their worst enemy. He reminded them that Pareja had requested admission into the PCC in 1944 solely for personal gain and because he desired to control the printing presses owned by the Party. When he was refused the use of the presses, he lost all interest in the Party. Barrero pointed out further that Pareja, when arrested as a result of his participation in the uprising of 9 April 1948, had requested that the PCC make no attempt to defend him as such a defense would be prejudicial to his interests. Upon his release from prison, according to Barrero, Pareja made a second attempt, along with Augusto Duran Ospino, Secretary General of the Partido Commista Obrero, to secure control of the presses.



