

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Ecuador

SUBJECT Roberto Morena's Activities in Guayaquil

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1. Roberto Morena, Brazilian Communist leader and CTAL official, was in Guayaquil, Ecuador, from 28 to 29 November 1949 during which time he conferred with top leaders of the Partido Comunista del Ecuador (PCE).
2. One of the principal purposes of Morena's visit was to study the background of the apparent potential disintegration and recent loss of prestige of the PCE which resulted from ineffective Party leadership and the Saad-Arenas schism* following the municipal elections of 6 November. He reprimanded the Ecuadoran Communists and stated that it was absurd that the PCE should be losing ground in a country which favors the Party with constitutional recognition while the social, economic, and geographical conditions lend themselves very well to the spread of Communism.
3. Morena is expected to send a complete report on his findings to Mexico where it will be assessed and forwarded with recommendations to Moscow. Until further instructions are received from international headquarters, Pedro Saad, who is actually the number two man according to Party hierarchy, will act as nominal head of the Party, according to Morena's orders. As a temporary measure, Morena ordered that the Alianza Popular, the Communist political machine of Guayaquil, be under the leadership of Alfredo Vera and Carlos Feraud Blum. Morena strongly condemned Manuel Arenas Coello, former President of the Alianza, for selling out to the opposition after the mayoralty elections in Guayaquil.
4. Among the persons with whom Morena conferred were the following:

Pedro Saad	Franklin Perez Castro
Ana Moreno	Carlos Feraud Blum
Elias Munoz	Dr. Alfonso Guijano
Enrique Gil Gilbert	

5. Morena informed the Ecuadorans that the Communist Parties in Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, and Chile must lend its support to governments, factions, or parties which are fundamentally in opposition to the United States. He stated that further and more specific orders will be forthcoming in the near future, which [REDACTED] that another high level party will soon make the South American circuit.

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6. Pedro Saad composed a series of five memoranda on the orders received during the official and informal discussions held with Morena. Attached to this report is a direct translation of the first memorandum.
7. Morena offered Ana Moreno a trip to Czechoslovakia, but she declined temporarily on the grounds that it would be difficult to leave her small child at this time.

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Encl:

Translation of memorandum by Pedro Saad.

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