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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Guatemala
SUBJECT Communist activities in Guatemala

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- In spite of the order given by the Minister of Government on 13 September 1950 to the Director of the Guardia Civil to stop the circulation of Octubre, the newspaper is still being distributed. The latest issue, No. 7, is dated 13 September 1950, and source was able to obtain a copy at the headquarters of Octubre on 20 September 1950.
- The Marxist Jacobo Sanchez School, which began operating on 11 September 1950, is still holding classes, according to source. He noted twenty persons leaving the class that was held on the evening of 19 September at Octubre headquarters. Cesar Godoy Urrutia, Chilean Communist, attended the opening of the school and made a speech for the benefit of the new students.
- During the three days during which the Rio Pact was discussed in the Guatemalan Congress, from 13 through 19 September 1950, the Communists managed to have a delegation of about a hundred-and-fifty to two hundred persons in the gallery. It was noted that the following organizations had representation:

- Alianza Feminina Guatemalteca (AFG)
- Federacion Sindical de Guatemala (FSG)
- Confederacion de Trabajadores de Guatemala (CTG)
- Sindicato de Trabajadores de Educacion de Guatemala (STEG)
- Alianza de la Juventud Democractica Guatemalteca (AJDG)
- The Octubre Group
- A group from the Central Normal School for Boys

Source estimated that more than half of these persons scarcely knew what was being discussed, and had obviously been brought along by their leaders. Also, in spite of the efforts of the Communist elements, the Rio Pact was ratified on 19 September by a vote of fifty-six to two.

- It was noted that although Partido Accion Revolucionaria deputy, Francisco Silva Falla, had favored the motion that a committee of Congress consider the order from the Minister of Government closing Octubre,* he redeemed

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himself somewhat at the closing session of Congress. According to source, Silva made a good speech favoring the ratification of the Rio Pact and severely criticized the Communists for opposing it.

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Comment: The Congressional Committee has not yet reported on Octubre.

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