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FORM NO. 51-61
MAY 1949

CLASSIFICATION **CONFIDENTIAL**

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY **Panama**

DATE DISTR. **24 August 1950**

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SUBJECT **Student Opposition to Dismissal of Communist Professors**

NO. OF PAGES **2**

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PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. **25X1A**
(LISTED BELOW)

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. A new group is reportedly being formed among certain labor syndicates and in the National University, to fight the removal of professors or teachers because of their political ideology, and to oppose any change in the autonomous status of the University. The students of the National Institute and the University have been organized and are in a state of alert to enforce these aims. The instigators of this movement are the Communist professors, the leaders of the Frente Patriotico, and various political leaders now in disfavor, according to source. Members of this group are to have special cedulae which are being prepared by Carlos Cajal, Partido del Pueblo (PdP) member and lawyer, who has been handling many of the legal problems for the Federacion Sindical de Trabajadores de la Republica de Panama (FSTRP) and the PdP.
2. Many Communist youths have infiltrated the University and are members of this group, including Carlos Rodriguez, who has replaced Xenia Monino as PdP treasurer. This group is to dedicate itself to working on behalf of the "people", to attracting followers to the Communist doctrine, to opposing government action under the anti-Communist decree against the masses, and in general to create problems for the present government. Carlos Cajal allegedly stated that if the leaders in this movement worked fast enough and supported the cause of the workers, they would attract the intellectuals and students necessary to form a real Communist party, and not a small ineffectual half-hearted one like the PdP. Cajal added that a night school to teach Marxist principles would soon be inaugurated.
3. On 26 July 1950 it was reported that the student group in the University had not yet been able to come to any real agreement concerning its status and the actual aims to be accomplished. Because of the current international and local situation and the public attitude toward Communism, many of the individuals involved in this movement fear that a firm ideological stand at this time and a dedication to such a campaign will have dangerous consequences for themselves.
4. Source believes that the moment the government begins to dismiss the professors accused of being involved in Communist activities, a series of strikes and riots headed by the students and the government opposition will be set off. Among the teachers detained or scheduled to be detained for questioning are Felicia Santizo de Garcia, PdP leader in Colon and a teacher at Abel Bravo School; Natividad Carceno, PdP member and teacher at Liceo

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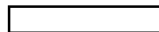
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de Senoritas; Columbia Villarreal de Mendoza, PdP member; Hugo Victor, PdP Secretary of Propaganda and professor at the National Institute; Cesar de Leon, PdP member and professor at the National University; and Vicente Bayard, Director of the Santiago Normal School.