

JUL 1971  
B-2712

CIA VIA COURIER

SUBJECT: CPUSTAL Interest in the Chicano Movement  
in the United States (NL)

*Handwritten initials/signature*

1. A sensitive source has reported that Juan PONCE, a member of the Permanent Congress of Trade Union Unity of the Latin American Workers (CPUSTAL), was in Mexico in April 1971 for talks with the leaders of the General Union of Mexican Peasants and Workers (UGOCM). The Chicano movement in the United States was discussed during these talks.

2. PONCE stated that the CPUSTAL is interested in the Chicano movement and regards it as important because a better organized method of struggle would bring the movement right to the "bosom" of the United States. PONCE pointed out that there has been a change already in the Negro movement; for example, the Black Panther Party has abandoned its essentially racial base and race struggle in order to turn to the class struggle and the achievement of Socialism, as a replacement of the Capitalist system.

3. PONCE thinks there is a possibility of maintaining relations with the "Chicano workers group", which would serve the ends of the UGOCM, since he is friendly with Cesar CHAVEZ and his United Farm Workers (UFW). PONCE was given CHAVEZ's address and stated he believes that he should indicate to CHAVEZ that the union struggle and the political struggle are one and that these two areas of action should be combined in the ideological struggle; that is, in the training of cadres under Marxist-Leninist discipline. PONCE believes this will be difficult but not impossible. He stated that the Chicano youths display a definite leaning toward political struggle with an anti-Imperialist slant that could readily be turned into a Marxist one.

4. PONCE asked if it would be correct to invite the UFW to attend CPUSTAL meetings or if the CPUSTAL should maintain relations with the UFW through the UGOCM, letting them know about the outcome of resolutions in order to win their support for the platform of CPUSTAL and the World Federation of Trade Unions. No decision was made on this matter and it will be studied further.

5. This information is forwarded to you with the understanding that it will receive no further dissemination without the prior approval of this office.

Please transmit reply via CACTUS channel

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