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SOURCE Official of a US company with extensive interests in Latin America.

This official compiles at frequent intervals a letter addressed to a chief executive of his company. These letters contain brief news items compiled from the press of the country upon which he is reporting:

- "Any connection between the Communist movement in Honduras announced 24 Oct [1953] by General Lino Zufiga, the Comandante in Tegucigalpa, and the Communists of Guatemala has yet to be disclosed by the Honduran government. The disclosure of the Communist movement came a week after Zufiga had suppressed publication of the weekly 'Vanguardia Revolucionaria' and the weekly 'Voz Obrera' and was designed to explain the government's action in shutting down these two left-wing publications which have been actively pursuing the Communist line within Honduras. 'Voz Obrera' especially has been active in attacking the United Fruit Company and praising the agrarian movement in Guatemala. 'Voz Obrera' calls itself the organ of the Workers Coordinating Committee and has as its director Rodolfo Lopez D. and administrator Carlos Bernhard, both of whom were identified by documents distributed by the government as being founders of the Communist Party in Honduras. Also so identified was Oscar Moncado, Director of 'El Universitario'. 'El Universitario' proclaims itself to be the voice of the Federation of University Students of Honduras.
- "The government's action had been protested by the Honduras Press Association which was to have met two days after the government's revelation of the Communist movement. This is the first time the Honduras government has officially and publicly recognized the existence of Communist organizations within the country although various organs of the press for many months have been denouncing the infiltration of Communists.
- "The 'Washington Evening Star' of 26 Oct 53 said the US is seeking proof that Guatemalan Communists are linked to Communists operating in Honduras and El Salvador, saying that 'such proof is needed to arouse the American Republics to cooperative action against the Red menace in Guatemala... There is ground for belief that Guatemalan Communists are operating under Kremlin orders and attempting to spread the Red influence in El Salvador and Honduras by sending agents and money for agitation among radical groups. Also there is some suspicion of arms smuggling across the borders. The US has both arms tied so far as direct action is concerned, and there

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seems little chance of prodding other hemisphere countries to joint action without proof that the threat extends beyond Guatemala.'

4. "'US News & World Report' for 6 Nov 53 reports 'Communist influence from Guatemala is spreading into neighboring El Salvador and Honduras. In El Salvador and Guatemala Communists have made many converts among student groups. Communists are working to get control of labor organizations. The government of El Salvador, strongly anti-Communist, charges that Guatemalans tried a few months ago to assassinate the Salvadorean Foreign Minister. In Honduras the Communists are boring into the government Liberal Party, hoping to swing next year's presidential election. With several Communist exiles holding public offices in Guatemala the links between pro-Soviet groups in the two countries are strong.'
5. "Simultaneously with the government's admission of a Communist movement, the police conducted raids in Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula. In Tegucigalpa five were arrested, including Oscar Moncada, who is in his last year of the law school, and Gustavo Andara Bulnes, a student of economic sciences. A public subscription was undertaken by the University Students Federation to raise funds to provide bail for both students. Another arrested was Rodolfo López, who upon hearing he was to be detained had taken asylum in the Guatemalan embassy, but later voluntarily surrendered.
6. "One press dispatch said that action had been started against Hondurans and foreigners involved in the establishment of Communist cells in Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula, but there were no names nor nationalities mentioned.
7. "'El Dia', which devoted a good deal of its front page for 25 Oct [1953] to the anti-Communist movement under the headline, 'Communism in Our Country', said, 'From the beginning of 1951 our government had knowledge that various individuals, Hondurans as well as other nationalities, were working to establish organizations of Communist tendencies. With this objective they were infiltrating into associations of different kinds, controlling the directive posts and utilizing not only the student movement but also those who form a strong sector of the laboring classes. These agitators took advantage, upon the start of the current government of President Juan Manuel Gálvez, of the ample liberties which he granted in his democratic administration in compliance with a solemn promise made to the Honduran people to respect their rights as citizens. . . (the) government has secured abundant evidence--such as the photostatic acts which we publish today [25 Oct 53]--that justifies the various security measures that have been taken against these subversive activities which tend to undermine the security of the institutions of the State. For various reasons the officials have refused to give the press the respective information in order not to obstruct the good results obtained in the present circumstances.'
8. "Two photostated documents were published by 'El Dia'. One was a resolution signed in Tegucigalpa that says, 'Acta Especial. We met in the house of Carlos Bernahard with the purpose of discussing the establishment of cells to prepare the elements which will form the future Communist Party, the only party capable of carrying out the total liberation of the Honduran people; in virtue of which we sign this, full of faith in the future. Tegucigalpa, 21 Oct 1952, Oscar Moncada -- J A Munguia -- Carlos Bernahard -- Carlos H. Avila -- Andres Pineda G -- Mario Martinez S -- Rodolfo López D -- Emilio Guevara -- Gustavo A. Bulnes.'

9. "The second photostatic document signed in San Pedro Sula, reads, 'Acta Especial. Sunday, 23 Sep/53/, we met in the house of C Marco A Coto, a group of Communists with the end of establishing the principles for the creation of a Communist Party, only party capable of carrying the Honduran people to total liberation. Those here present promise to fight with bravery for the cause of the people and without weakness of any kind, in virtue of which we sign, full of faith in the future. Marco A Coto -- J M Villalta -- E H Suazo -- Maria Lidia Villegas -- Oscar Moncada -- Hector Sevilla Chirinos -- Humberto Linares -- F Funes -- Juan R Coto.'
10. "The police of San Pedro Sula released a list of various documents seized there and these consisted of various works by Marx, Engels, Lenin, Gorky, Communist Party reports and other Russian literature including the following from Guatemala: 'El Hombre y la Encrucijada' by the fellow traveling, now deceased foreign minister Enrique Munoz Meany, 'The Contracts of the United Fruit Company and the Dock Companies in Guatemala' by Oscar de León, 'Revistas de Economía', Guatemala, 1946, copies of the Guatemalan Labor Code of 1947, one pamphlet of the Guatemalan Social Security Institute, the Guatemalan Constitution of 1945, the charter of the Guatemalan Social Security Institute of 1946, a copy of the Communist newspaper 'Octubre' of Guatemala, a small book containing the Guatemalan agrarian reform law of 1952.
11. "Additional revelations of Communism in Honduras may be forthcoming in connection with the major party's efforts at the municipal elections, 29 November [1953]."
12. "In the report on the 'Strength of the International Communist Movement' prepared by Senator Wiley's special subcommittee on security affairs of the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee it is interesting to note in view of the above the following listing of Communism in Honduras: 'Communist Party illegal; Popular Socialist Party, illegal; Communist Party membership is negligible (estimate). There is no active Communist Party as such in Honduras. The number of pro-Communists is small and is centered on the north coast. What Communist activity there is seems to stem from Guatemala and to be aimed at the workers employed by the United States-owned corporations along the coast.'"

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