

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE IN FULL

~~Secret~~

23 Nov 53

2003

From: Guatemala City, Guatemala Report No: HGG-387 Local File No:

No. of Pages: No. of Enclosures: 0

Report Made By: Clara M. Haggay/omb Approved By: George L. Tranger

Distribution:
By copy to: 2-Wash Orally to: Copy shown Embassy
1-Files

Source Cryptonym: Escrow References:

Source, Operational Data, and Comments:

Source: Escrow from Alfonso SOLORZANO.

17-1

PH

3)

[Handwritten signature]

Classification

Subject: Government Subsidies to
Official Political Parties

Report No: HGG-387

Date of Information: Current

Place Acquired: Guatemala City

Date Acquired: 20 November 1953

Evaluation: B-3

Date of Report: 23 November 1953

Source: Individual with contacts in Communist circles.

1. During a conversation on 14 November 1953 concerning the official government political parties in Guatemala, Alfonso SOLORZANO, Communist manager of the Instituto Guatemalteco de Seguridad Social (IGSS), stated that such parties receive an official subsidy granted by the government. According to SOLORZANO, the following sums are received each month:

Partido Acción Revolucionaria (PAR)	Q9,000	(\$9,000)
Partido de la Revolución Guatemalteca (PRG)	Q7,000	(\$7,000)
Partido Renovación Nacional	Q4,000	(\$4,000)

2. SOLORZANO stated that the amount of the subsidy theoretically depends on the political influence and number of members of each party and that following the results of the municipal elections the PRG will receive Q9,000 and the PAR Q7,000 since the PRG expects to carry more towns than any other party.
3. When asked whether the Partido Guatemalteco del Trabajo (PGT- Communist) receives similar financial aid, SOLORZANO smiled slyly and said: "Of course, but don't ask me the amount because that is known only to President ARBENZ and José Manuel FORTUNY (Secretary General of the PGT) and perhaps to some other members of the Central Committee if FORTUNY has told them." When it was suggested that the PGT may receive more money than the other parties, SOLORZANO said that both he and others believe that it does. He added that President ARBENZ believes it wise to keep the exact amount a secret so that it cannot be said that the Guatemalan government aids the Communists.
1. Field Comment: Alfonso SOLORZANO is a member of the Political Commission of the PRG and was named director of Diario del Pueblo, the daily organ of the party.

Classification