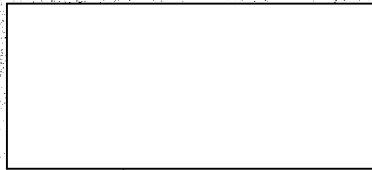


APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: JAN 2006



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

~~SECRET~~

COUNTRY	Costa Rica	REPORT NO.	
SUBJECT	Political Situation in Costa Rica	DATE DISTR.	24 January 1955
		NO. OF PAGES	2
DATE OF INFO.	3-9 January 1955	REQUIREMENT NO.	RD (b) (1) (b) (3)
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	(S)

BY CABLE

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

SOURCE:



1. Costa Rican businessmen continue to complain that the political unrest in the country is paralyzing trade. Costa Rican officials are now assuming that Mario Tulio NARANJO, the Costa Rican Calderonista pilot who disappeared from San Jose in his private plane, has joined the revolutionaries. Mario FACIO, Director of Civil Aviation, stated that the government continues to receive numerous fragmentary reports that revolutionary plans are under way, with a possible outbreak to occur shortly. ¹
2. One company of the Resguardo Fiscal (Customs Police) was moved to Guanacaste Province on January for a check on organization equipment, and released immediately after the check was completed. Internal air flights that were suspended on January were resumed on January 1955. ²
- (C-3) 3. Costa Rican officials continue to express concern over the possibility that the REMON assassination may be attributed to Costa Rica. Colonel Guillermo SALAZAR, Chief of Detectives, travelled to Panama on January with lists of suspected individuals who had travelled recently between Panama and Costa Rica, for use in the REMON murder investigation. Cuban and Venezuelan investigators in Panama attempted to have him ignored. ³
4. Communist activity appeared to be at a minimum during the first week in January. Arnaldo FERRETO Segura, Secretary of Organization of the Partido Vanguardia Popular (PVP-Costa Rican Communist Party), was scheduled to leave San Jose for the Pacific banana zone to get in touch with Communists in that area, and assist in organization work and prepare for a regional conference. ⁴

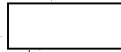
~~SECRET~~

STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI	X	AEC				
-------	---	------	---	------	---	-----	---	-----	---	-----	--	--	--	--

(NOTE: Washington distribution indicated by "X", Field distribution by "#".)

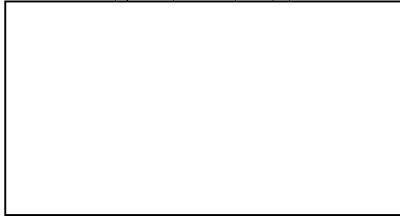
~~SECRET~~

- 2 -



Comments:

1. Most of these reports are apparently based on hearsay, or even on street rumors. Despite the reports, government officials appeared calm.
2. Public reaction to the published 8 January revolutionary activity after a period of comparative calm was one of mingled alarm and a general attitude of anxiety to restore normality without violence as soon as possible.
3. The cold reception accorded SALAZAR appears to be indicative of Cuban and Venezuelan distrust of FIGUERES, and might indicate that the Panamanian Government shares the feeling.
4. FERRETO returned recently from a trip to the USSR.



~~SECRET~~