Noted by Hak

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SECRET/SENSITIVE

INFORMATION

March 29, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: DR. KISSINGER

FROM: Arnold Nachmanoff

SUBJECT: COSTA RICA -- Figueres Agreement with Costa Rican
                                  Communist Party Chief

Attached for your information at Tab A is a brief appraisal of the Costa Rican
situation[   ] In essence, he con-   25X1
cludes that President Figueres and Manuel Mora, the Secretary General of
the Costa Rican Communist Party (PVP), are both having difficulties in im-
plementing their secret agreement.   You will recall the agreement provided
for PVP support of Figueres in the 1970 elections in return for establishment
of diplomatic and trade understandings with the USSR, legalization of the PVP,
and placement of PVP members in Government positions.

Figueres is meeting stiff opposition in his attempts to live up to the agreement
in both the Legislature and in his own party.   Although Figueres' position is
threatened, he is being constrained by Costa Rican political institutions. (The
Mexican expulsion of five Soviet diplomats also seems to have forced Figueres'
hand -- Costa Rica has suspended its discussions with the Soviets regarding the
establishment of a diplomatic mission in San Jose.)

Mora's position similarly is not threatened, but the rank and file of the PVP,
who are not aware of his agreement with Figueres, are becoming increasingly
restive about Mora's support for the Figueres Administration.   Mora has
opposed their desire for a harder line against Figueres.   However, unless
he can demonstrate that his support of Figueres has paid off for the PVP,
Mora's power may erode.

The report notes that Figueres cannot succeed himself, and there is time
pressure on Mora to produce results.   However, if Figueres accelerates his
attempt to be responsive to Mora, he may well strengthen the hand of his
opposition.   Thus, both Figueres and Mora seem to have worked themselves
into something of a box.

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS
APPLY

Attachment:
25X1   3/25/71 memo to HAK [   ]

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