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1. On 3 March 1958 Guatemalan troops captured the following persons near the city of Retalhuleu, Department of Retalhuleu, Guatemala:

   a. Leonardo Castillo Flores, a top leader of the Partido Comunista del Trabajo (PST - Guatemalan Communist Party) and a member of the three-man Directorate of the Forces Armadas Rebeldes (FAR - Rebel Armed Forces), revolutionary fighting arm of the PST.

   b. Carlos Barreras.

   c. Enrique Cisneros.

   d. Mauricio Garvis.

   These four, together with a fifth unidentified person had entered Guatemala illegally from Mexico and were on their way to Guatemala City when they were apprehended by Guatemalan military.

2. The group was submitted to initial interrogation by Guatemalan Army personnel on 3 March. On 4 March the prisoners were reinterviewed by Guatemalan security officers who were sent to Retalhuleu from Guatemala City specifically for this assignment. After the completion of the interrogation the prisoners were securely executed. Although the prisoners refused to cooperate and were evasive and/or made many false statements, the following information which may be at least partially factual was obtained from them by Guatemalan security officers on 4 March:
Subject said he had lived in Mexico City since 1934 and had come to Guatemala to aid his son, Ernest Castillo Johnson, who was recently arrested. He said that he and the rest of the group had entered Guatemala by way of Tepoztlan, Chiapas, Mexico, and Milagro, Department of San Marcos, Guatemala. Castillo said he was in charge of the group of travellers and they had instructions to go to Guatemala City where they were to make contact with Bernardo Alvarado Monroy, Secretary General of the POE. He said they were to meet with an emissary of the POE at the Campo de las Palmas, in Petén, but that the emissary of the POE failed to put in an appearance. Castillo and the group decided to remain in Petén until the contact had been made. Castillo said he had lived in Mexico City for a year and a half. He said that his principal contact in Mexico City was "the famous Lazart (Cen)". Castillo said he had received instructions and money from Lazart for the trip to Guatemala. The instructions included the exact spot on the Río Suchiate where he and his group would enter Guatemala without running the risk of capture. He said the border crossing point was between the town of Suchiate (Mexico town of Fruteros, also known as Suchiate) and the Guatemalan town of Atoyac. Castillo said that this crossing point is used by "all of the comrades who travel between Guatemala and Mexico", and is approximately 200 meters from Suchiate. At this point on the Guatemalan side there are pastures.

b. Carlos Barrios.

Subject said he was 35 years of age and a native of Amatitlán, Department of Guatemala. He said he had left Guatemala about two years ago for Mexico City where he worked as a magazine salesman. He gave his address in Mexico City as "Mexico Dulce, Mexico, D.F." He gave the name of Manuel Grajales as a contact.

c. Enrique Chavez.

Subject gave his address as Calle Montejo No. 150, Mexico, D.F. He said he was a member of the "Communist Youth", but did not specify what this referred to. He was a member of the "Jovenes Patriotas del Trabajo" (JPT - youth wing of the POE) or the "Jovenes Comunistas" (JCM - youth wing of the Partido Comunista Mexicano (PCM - Mexican Communist Party). He identified Carlos Paz Tejada, Luis Tejada, Francisco Villaseñor Reyes, Jr., Mijangos (From), 11 and Colón Arriaga (From) as other Guatemalan exiles in Mexico City who also belonged to the "Communist Youth". Chavez said that the arms which he said the rest of the group were carrying at the time of their captivity, had been supplied by a member of the POE in Mexico City. He said that one of the weapons, a carbine, had been given to the group by Carlos Paz Tejada as a sample of the type being manufactured in Mexico, and was to be given to the POE in Guatemala. Chavez said that Tejada had arrived in Mexico City about a year and a half ago, and has been living on funds sent to him from Guatemala by his father. He said that Chavez has been using the pseudonym "Tito". Chavez claimed that he and the rest of the captured group came to Guatemala as representatives of the POE in order to attend a high-level party meeting. He said that the same arms list of the POE was to support the candidacy of Julio César Bæz De Benavides and Clemente Herrera Bajo, presidential and vice presidential candidates respectively of the Partido Revolucionario (PR - moderately left party). Chavez said he had joined the "Communist youth" because Guatemala was in a state of turmoil, and because he wanted to see Communist triumph in Guatemala. When questioned about a European subscription gift magazine which the group was carrying when apprehended, Chavez said that the POE had asked them to bring the magazine for their party.
Mauricio García.

Subject identified himself as a Guatemalan who had gone to Mexico in 1958, and was employed as a reporter for Siempre, Mexican leftist magazine. García said that in Mexico he had met Víctor Manuel Gutierrez Cardín and Carlos Paz Tejeda. He said Paz Tejeda had made frequent trips to Cuba. García did not give his address in Mexico, but said that his mother, Patricia Vidal de García, lived in the Hotel Maria, Mexico City. He said he had come to Guatemala in his capacity as a newspaperman under the auspices of Siempre to cover the national elections in Guatemala. García said that Paz Tejeda had supplied the group with pistols they carried, and said that the carbines were a simple set for the ELF. García said that Paz Tejeda had suggested that he travel with the rest of the group so that he would have no difficulty in entering the country. García said that Paz Tejeda sometimes used the alias Antonio Motul. He said that Señorita Lancha, Paz Tejeda’s secretary, who lives at Avenida Insurgentes No. 67 “or something like that”, had supplied the group with money for the trip. García said that he had been an observer at meetings in Mexico between Paz Tejeda, Rodrigo Asturias Amado, and on occasion, with Manuel Portas Arana. García said that in Guatemala the group was supposed to make contact with Gerardo Ricardo Mireles at the Panama River. He did not specify whether this was in Chimaltenango or Guatemala City.

When questioned about Luis Augusto Pareja Linares, head of the ELF, García said that the latter had been in Mexico about three weeks ago, and was apparently suffering from tuberculosis. He said he was under the impression that Pareja was now either in Cuba or the Soviet Union as his health would make it impossible for him to continue with the guerrillas. He said that Luis Tejeda was supposed to return the guerrillas in Guatemala because he had killed a student at the Hipodromo in Mexico City, and had to leave Mexico.

Comments.

1. Reported the capture and execution of Castillo Flores. This report said that five other Communists and guerrillas, whose names were not given, had been seized with Castillo Flores, and had also been executed after interrogation.

2. There is no background information available on subjects.

3. Leonardo Castillo Johnson, son of subject, and Maria Castillo Johnson, presumed to be the former’s sister, were both arrested on 19 December 1965 in connection with kidnapping activities of the ELF. On 10 January 1966 Leonardo Castillo Johnson was reported to have fled across the Guatemalan border into Mexico and to be hiding in Tecpán. The report that Leonardo Castillo Flores was to participate in the promotion of a campaign of violence in Guatemala following the national elections.

4. This does not agree with Castillo’s earlier statement to the effect that he had lived in Mexico City since 1954. (See first sentence in paragraph 2a.)

5. It is not known positively who Zepeta may be. However, this is possibly a reference to Virgilio Zepeta Nozal, a Guatemalan lawyer who, according to available references, was an associate justice of the Supreme Court in Guatemala in 1954, a leader of a popular brigade during the revolution in Guatemala in 1954, and an officer of the Anjelo de Mexico (Peasant of Mexico), an organ of the PRT, founded in Guatemala on 27 March 1954. Subject’s name appeared on a list of Guatemalan Communist leaders or suspected Communist leaders, dated 3 July 1954. He left Guatemala for asylum in Mexico on 8 September 1954. Subject has been reported to be of interest to the Cuban government by whom he has been assigned the cryptonym "Leonor".

6. According to arresting officers, the group had crossed into Guatemala in a Land Rover.
7. There is no information available on Manuel Orjales.

8. Carlos Paz Tejaña, a former colonel in the Guatemalan Army, and Chief of the Guatemalan Armed Forces during the administration of Jacobo Árbenz Guzmán in Guatemala, is a member of the FNT and the FAR. He has been living in exile in Mexico for a number of years.

9. This is Luis Trejo Espinosa, formerly a top leader of the Movimiento Revolucionario 13 de Noviembre (MR-13 - 13 November Revolutionary Movement), Guatemalan guerrilla organization headed by Marco Antonio Yon Sosa. In March 1964 Trejo was convicted to death by the guerrillas for the murder of a member of their movement. He fled to Mexico where he has been living in exile. According to sources, who has excellent contacts within Guatemalan Communist and leftist exile circles, Trejo returned to Guatemala in late 1965. This report was confirmed.

10. Francisco Villagran Krewer, leader of the Union Revolucionaria Democracia (URD - far-leftist party). Villagran was arrested by Guatemalan authorities on 24 February 1965 with other leftists and Communists on the charge of being involved in subversive Communist activities. Immediately following his release, Villagran left for El Salvador where he was given asylum by the Salvadoran Government. In late April 1965 Villagran arrived in Mexico where he has been living in exile since. In late February 1966 Villagran was reported to have travelled by air from Mexico City to San Salvador to organize Guatemalans exiled in El Salvador for the armed struggle which was to take place in Guatemala after the national elections. On 3 March 1966 Villagran again travelled by air from Mexico to San Salvador, remaining in El Salvador until 16 March 1966, on which date he returned to Mexico City. The purpose of his trip on the latter occasion was said to be to lecture in the School of Law at the University of El Salvador at the invitation of the university. On both trips to El Salvador Villagran stayed at the home of Manuel Colom Argüeta.

11. This is a reference to Dr. Adolfo Mijangos López, a national leader of the UD and a member of the group arrested with Villagran Krewer on 24 February 1965 by Guatemalan police for suspected involvement in subversive activity. Subject, a doctor of international law and a paraplegic, was exiled from Guatemala in late February, was granted asylum by the Mexican Government in March 1965 and arrived in Mexico since that time. He has been in constant and close contact with other leading Guatemalan Communists and leftists living in exile in Mexico. In February 1966 Mijangos met with various prominent Guatemalan Communist and leftist exiles, among them Víctor Manuel Otierras, deceased leader of the FNT group living in exile in Mexico, to plan ways and means of purposefully bringing about the defeat of Julio César Meneses Montenegro, presidential candidate of the PM, so that leftists and Communists would be able to justify the initiation of a campaign of violence in Guatemala.

12. This is Manuel Colom Argüeta, a national leader of UD, a member of the group arrested on 24 February 1965 in Guatemala City on the charge of involvement in subversive activity. Colom has been living in exile in El Salvador since March 1965.

13. Otierras, who had been living in exile in Mexico City since 1954, was the leader of the FNT group exiled in Mexico. Otierras came to Guatemala in late February 1966 to attend the FNT National Conference held from 24 - 27 February. His arrest and execution in Guatemala were reported in

14. We have no previous reference to this name.

15. Rodrigo Asturias Ameo, a former student in the School of Economics, San Carlos University, Guatemala City, was arrested on 10 December 1963 for agitating among the students. He was expelled from Guatemala in early January 1964 and went to Mexico where he had been living since. He is a fanatical admirer and defender of the Cuban Revolution and Fidel Castro Rus.
15. Jose Manuel Fortuny Arana, a former member of the Central Committee of the FDN, has been living in exile in Cuba. It was reported that Fortuny was expected to attend the National Conference of the FDN held in late February 1966 in Guatemala City. However, he reported that Fortuny did not attend.

17. There is no information available on Gerardo Ricardo Garcia.

18. This information regarding Turcio's state of health and whereabouts is believed to be pure fabrication. Judging from information furnished by a number of reliable sources Turcio is in Guatemala at the present time.