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1. On 3 March 1966 Guatemalan troops captured the following persons near the city of Retalhuleu, Department of Retalhuleu, Guatemala:
  - a. Leonardo Castillo Flores,<sup>1</sup> a top leader of the Partido Guatemalteco del Trabajo (PGT - Guatemalan Communist Party) and a member of the three-man Directorate of the Fuerzas Armadas Rebeldes (FAR - Rebel Armed Forces), revolutionary fighting arm of the PGT.
  - b. Carlos Barrios<sup>2</sup>
  - c. Enrique Cobos.<sup>2</sup>
  - d. Mauricio Garcia.<sup>2</sup>

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 secretly 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:

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a. Leonardo Castillo Flores.

Subject said he had lived in Mexico City since 1954 and had come to Guatemala to aid his son, Rafael Castillo Johnson, who was recently arrested.<sup>3</sup> He said that he and the rest of the group had entered Guatemala by way of Tapachula, Chiapas, Mexico and Milacatan, 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 Monzon, Secretary General of the PGT. He said they were to meet with an emissary of the PGT at the Campo de la Feria in Retalhuleu, but that the emissary of the PGT failed to put in an appearance so Castillo and the group decided to remain in Retalhuleu until the contact had been made. Castillo said he had lived in Mexico City for a year and a half.<sup>4</sup> He said that his principal contact in Mexico City was "the famous Lapata (fsm)".<sup>5</sup> Castillo said he had received instructions and money from Lapata for the trip to Guatemala. The instructions included the exact spot on the Rio Suchiate where he and his group could enter Guatemala without running the risk of capture. He said the border crossing point was between the town of Suchiate (Mexican town of Frontera Diaz also known as Suchiate) and the Guatemalan town of Ayutla. Castillo said that this crossing point is used by "all of the comrades who travel between Guatemala and Mexico", and is approximately 500 meters from Suchiate.<sup>6</sup> 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 Acutilan, 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 Feige, Mexico D.F." He gave the name of Manuel Grajales as a contact.

c. Enrique Chacon.

Subject gave his address as Calle Mercedes No. 180, Mexico 7, D.F. He said he was a member of the "Communist Youth", but did not specify whether this referred to the Juventud Patriotica del Trabajo (JPT - youth wing of the PGT), or the Juventud Comunista Mexicana (JCM - youth wing of the Partido Comunista Mexicano (PCM - Mexican Communist Party)). He identified Carlos Paz Fajada,<sup>8</sup> Luis Traje,<sup>9</sup> Francisco Villagran Kruger,<sup>10</sup> Dr. Milangue (fsm),<sup>11</sup> and Colan Argenta (fsm)<sup>12</sup> as other Guatemalan exiles in Mexico City who also belonged to the "Communist Youth". Chacon said that the arms which he and the rest of the group were carrying at the time of their capture, had been supplied by a member of the PGT in Mexico City. He said that one of the weapons, a carbine, had been given to the group by Carlos Paz Fajada as a sample of the type being manufactured in Mexico, and was to be given to the PGT in Guatemala. Chacon said that Traje 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 Traje has been using the pseudonym "Trio". Chacon claimed that he and the rest of the captured group came to Guatemala as representatives of the PGT in exile to attend a high-level Party meeting. He said that the immediate line of the PGT was to support the candidacy of Julio Cesar Mendez Montenegro and Clemente Marroquin Rojas, presidential and vice presidential candidate respectively of the Partido Revolucionario (PR - moderately leftist party). Chacon 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 Thompson submachine gun magazine which the group was carrying when apprehended, Chacon said that the PGT had asked them to bring the magazine for the Party.

d. Mauricio Garcia.

Subject identified himself as a Guatemalan who had gone to Mexico in 1962, and was employed as a reporter for Sigra, Mexican leftist magazine. Garcia said that in Mexico he had met Victor Manuel Outierres Garbin<sup>13</sup> and Carlos Paz Tejada. He said Paz Tejada had made frequent trips to Cuba. Garcia did not give his address in Mexico, but said that his mother, Petrona viuda de Garcia, lived in the Hotel Marin, Mexico City. He said he had come to Guatemala in his capacity as a newspaperman under the auspices of Sigra to cover the national elections in Guatemala. Garcia said that Paz Tejada had supplied the group with the pistols they carried, and said that the carbine was a simple one for the FRT. Garcia said that Paz Tejada had suggested that he travel with the rest of the group so that he would have no difficulty in entering the country. Garcia said that Paz Tejada sometimes used the alias Antonio Nafal.<sup>14</sup> He said that Soforita Lanchita, Paz Tejada's secretary, who lives at Avenida Insurgentes No. 87 "or something like that", had supplied the group with money for the trip. Garcia said that he had been an observer at meetings in Mexico between Paz Tejada, Rodrigo Asturias Amado,<sup>15</sup> and on occasion, with Manuel Fortuny Arana.<sup>16</sup> Garcia said that in Guatemala the group was supposed to make contact with Gerardo Ricardo Ramirez<sup>17</sup> at the Finca Boliver. He did not specify whether this was in Retalhuleu or Guatemala City. When questioned about Luis Augusto Turcios Lima, head of the FAR, Garcia said that the latter had been in Mexico about three months ago, and was apparently suffering from tuberculosis. He said he was under the impression that Turcios was now either in Cuba or the Soviet Union as his health would make it impossible for him to continue with the guerrilla.<sup>18</sup> He said that Luis trajo was supposed to rejoin the guerrillas in Guatemala because he had killed a student at the Hipodromo in Mexico City, and had to leave Mexico.

Comments.

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1.            reported the capture and execution of Castillo Flores. This report said that five other Communists and guerrillas, whose names were not known, 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 Efraim Castillo Johnson, presumed to be the former's brother, were both arrested on 19 December 1965 in connection with kidnapping activities of the FAR. On 10 January 1966 Leonardo Castillo Johnson was reported to have fled across the Guatemalan border into Mexico and to be in hiding in Tapachula.            reported 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 Zapata may be. However, this is possibly a reference to Virgilio Zapata Medina, a Guatemalan lawyer who, according to available references, was an associate justice of the Supreme Court in Guatemala in 1963, a leader of a popular brigade during the revolution in Guatemala in 1954, and an officer of the Amigos de Mexico (Friends of Mexico), an organ of the FRT, 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 Lead Rover.

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7. There is no information available on Manuel Grajales.
  8. Carlos Paz Tejada, a former colonel in the Guatemalan Army, and Chief of the Guatemalan Armed Forces during the administration of Jacobo Arbenz Guzman in Guatemala, is a member of the FOT and the FAR. He has been living in exile in Mexico for a number of years.
  9. This is Luis Trejo Equivel, 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 condemned 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 [redacted] who has excellent contacts within Guatemalan Communist and leftist exile circles, Trejo returned to Guatemala in late 1965. This report was confirmed [redacted] that Trejo was now working with Luis Augusto Turcios Lima, head of the FAR.
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10. Francisco Villagran Kreuzer, leader of the Union Revolucionaria Democratica (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 Colon Argueta.
  11. This is a reference to Dr. Adolfo Mijangos Lopez, a national leader of the URD and a member of the group arrested with Villagran Kreuzer 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 on 2 March 1965 and has lived 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 Victor Manuel Outierres, deceased leader of the FOT group living in exile in Mexico, to plan ways and means of purposely bringing about the defeat of Julio Cesar Mendez Montenegro, presidential candidate of the PR, so that leftists and Communists would be able to justify the initiation of a campaign of violence in Guatemala. (b)(3)
  12. This is Manuel Colon Argueta, a national leader of URD, a member of the group arrested on 24 February 1965 in Guatemala City on the charge of involvement in subversive activity. Colon has been living in exile in El Salvador since March 1965.
  13. Outierres, who had been living in exile in Mexico City since 1954, was the leader of the FOT group exiled in Mexico. Outierres came to Guatemala in late February 1966 to attend the FOT National Conference held from 24 - 27 February [redacted]. His arrest and execution in Guatemala were reported in [redacted]. (b)(3)
  14. We have no previous reference to this name.
  15. Rodrigo Asturias Amado, a former student in the School of Economy, 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.

16. Jose Manuel Fortuny Arana, a former member of the Central Committee of the FOT, has been living in exile in Cuba. [REDACTED] reported that Fortuny was expected to attend the National Conference of the FOT held in late February 1966 in Guatemala City. However, [REDACTED] reported that Fortuny did not attend. (S) (S)

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

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