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DATE MICROFILMED

SECRET 602a USE PREVIOUS 10OON005
On 15 October 1961 AMUPAS-1 provided reports about Guatemalans whom she met during her recent trip to Guatemala. Copies of these reports are attached for your information.

31 October 1961

Attachment:
As stated above.

Distribution:
3 - WHD (with attachment)
2 - Guatemala (with attachment)
2 - Files (with attachment)
Ramiro Urdaneta Panigra

Arevalista of the old school.
Aida Martinez introduced me to him in quest of anecdotes about Arevalo.

Colorless, Nacionalista. Anti-Communist, although not the hate-sheet type. Told me that both he and Acevedo were listed as Communista by the Castillo Armistaz and were persecuted as such.

He told me with great resentment that the Communista were the ones who came around stories to discredit Arevalo.

Gay

Rev. Guillermo Dobret

Presbyterian minister.
Marc Antonio took me to meet him. I spoke only very briefly with him, missed our appointment for an interview.
He worked with the Fidelista movement while Fidel was in Sierra Maestra,
Is a cousin of Augusta de Mellinedo.
Rev. Dobret told me he is still in touch with the Presbyterian Fidelista in Cuba, Rev. Fernandez Ceballos. Ceballos is in Russia just now, so Dobret told me.
Carlos Leonidas Acevedo

Like Ordonez, Acevedo told me he had been persecuted by the Castillo Armistiz who called him a Communist.
Like Ordonez, too, he told me the Communists are trying to discredit Arevalo by inventing stories of his being bought by the Americans. U.S.

However, the other revolutionaries all told me Acevedo was a man who made his money without stealing but they do not consider him a revolutionary.

Many of the revolutionaries think Acevedo himself has ambitions to become president and they literally scoff at the idea.
Francisco
Diputado Villagran Kramer

He just returned from Soviet Union and China on same trip as Leoncito Paz y Paz. Is under attack by the hate-sheet anti-communists.

Villagran Kramer is his own man. Obviously he is a Socialist (Norman Thomas type) certainly not a Communist nor a fellow traveller.

He once spoke with me on three different occasions. Twice in his home, and once at a dinner party Isabel arranged for me.

He has a great sense of the ridiculous, applies it to the Communists, to Arbenz, even to Arevalo when the occasion arises. However, he is not frivolous, but rather takes the future of Guatemala very seriously.

He did not hesitate to contradict certain information Jaime Darias told me and Edelberto Torres hijo had given me.

Although he took a bit of fun at Arevalo and sometimes referred to him as Don Jancho or the Kihz Tikronazo, he repeatedly assured me that he was Arevalista.

He said Arevalo, if he returns, can either be--without a doubt--ministro el elegido or el gran elector.

He lent me a copy of Schneider's *Communism in Guatemala.* Playfully. However, it is very clear that Villagran Kramer is entirely independent of, and quite critical of, the Communists.

On the other hand he is not an anti-Communist, since he is just not so simple-minded as to imagine that is the one perfect or best way to separate the good people from the bad ones.

Villagran Kramer and Marc Antonio Villamar Contreras were the two...
Marcel Antonio Villamar Contreras

Started political career in 1911, when 16. Active in various post political parties. Congressman during Arbenz government.

He introduced me to him. Took me to his house, showed me his country's leading defender of Cuban Revolution, and is also considered an outstanding young man and best spokesman for the struggle of revolutionaries. He talked with me at length, took me to lunch, introduced me to Carlos Fierro and Rev. Guillermo Hrob. Besides he came to visit me at hotel, and also met me a couple of times at tita's store -- was, in short, one of my most gracious collaborators.

Marcel Antonio is quiet, well mannered, well spoken, well organized, very self-confident. He is critical of errors and evil that crept into the Guatemalan Revolution before. He considers himself one of those who should set an example -- honesty, frugality, etc.

He criticized Arbenz and spoke frankly about corruption among figures in Arbenz government, but he told me that he felt Arbenz could redeem himself if he were interested in doing so.

He is not Arevalista, as such. However, he spoke with great respect for Arevalo and recognized that Arevalo could overwhelmingly defeat any other candidate. He also assured me that the progressive groups would not fight Arevalo unless they should get the idea he is committed to the U.N. State Dept. He says they don't expect him to be an advanced socialist but they would not tolerate another Betancourt.

Marcel Antonio told me he is Marxista but he insisted -- and various of his attitudes would seem to bear it out -- that he is quite independent from the Communists.

He met Fidel here in Mexico, was greatly impressed by him then and at present says "Fidel is the only myth I respect."
Marc Antonio Villamar Contreras

Marc Antonio is not at all oriented toward the Soviet Bloc. He is very much interested in my putting him in touch with Americans like C. Wright Mills -- even with Hubert Humphreys. He said at one point: "The best teachers for Latin American and our problems is much more likely to come from progressive elements in the U.S. than from the Soviet."

He is very highly regarded by all other revolutionaries whom I met. They described him as courageous, a man of superior principles, etc., and definitely one of their men of the future. Everybody told me he had been a brilliant student and then had given up his career to devote himself full time to the revolution.

He lives modestly in an old fashioned rambling house in the middle of town. I believe he said it belongs to his wife. He has several children.

At the moment he is quite short of funds, he told me. Doesn't have a secretary because "for the first time in all these years" he can't afford one.

He urged me to come back and to let him take me around the country to make a full study of the situation of the country. He suggested I could live in the homes of the various revolutionaries and would not have expenses.

He gave me a note for a dirigible ride in Aytla, but I took the wrong microphone didn't go through Aytla.

I promised to send him materials on Cuban revolution.

To give you an idea of extent of arevalismo: Marc Antonio, in discussing the possibility of taking me around the country to meet revolutionaries, said that many of them are the men who were executed terribly during Castillo Armismio and are very wary.
Carlos Bianchi

Pass. Grand Water

told me he was never active in politics until Castille Armas jailed him for having sent appeals to Masonry around the world, to try to prevent overthrow of gov't in 1954 — that is, for denouncing the imminent invasion when it was still in preparatory stages. So, in jail, among the revolutionaries, he became aware of and interested in the political struggle.

At present he works with Marc Antonio Villanar in the organizing of the P.U.R. and he is His wife is cousin of Augusta Mollinedo and related to Rev. Guillermo Debrot.

I was introduced to him by Hespi Hespi.

Bianchi is Arevalista. He spoke with admiration of Arevalo. He went so far as to say that not only could Arevalo win election hands down, but also anybody he openly supported would win hands down.

I visited him at his house. Later he called on me at Augusta's apt.
Edelberto Torres, Jr.

He came to see me at the hotel, had lunch with me. He had only learned the day before, that I was in town. And that day (Saturday) I thought I would be leaving the following morning. So we did not get back together.

Later he sent me five little booklets and a letter for his mother. In the letter he proposed she get in touch with paco pelo or dentedo and make arrangements for Chichi to be taken to the Patria mayor to be treated medically.

He looked very well, was well dressed. He told me he was very busy, averaging three meetings a day. That particular day, as we parted, he was expected at Jaime Díaz's place.

Aida Martínez is the one who put me in touch with Edelberto.
Don Rodrigo Asturias (don is not title, is part of given name)
22 years old, son of Miguel Angel Asturias, the poet-novelist-pref.
Slightly heavy, tall, good looking, black hair, fair complexion.
Married to Maria del Rosario, Bolivian girl, whom he met in Argentina. She is three years older than he, very striking, brunette, tall, high cheek bones but light complexion.

Rodrigo is studying law at the University in Guatemala.
Is a leader of the group supporting Fidel and Cuban Revolution.
Was the principal instigator (as he told me) of the manifestaciones
the week of the invasion, and in one of which three boys of his group were killed by the police.

He is also active in national politics. The Sunday I was there
he went with Marcial Antonio Villamar Contreras to a village and held
a meeting of 500 farmers. He was one of the speakers.

He and his wife (whom he and other friends call "Charro") belonged
to the pro-Fidel group in Buenos Aires, too. They spoke of having
been invited to reception for Cortes, Pedro Miret, Almeida, etc.

They showed me pictures of some of their group of close friends
in Buenos Aires, one of which has been killed by Paraguayan
government, they told me. Julio Kayanga was also in the group.
They had not heard of his arrest etc., of about three weeks ago.
Jaime Díaz Hoyos

Augusta Mallimado (Fellerer's sister) took me to see him at a
pre-arranged meeting at the home of his father, Don Jaime.
At one point our talk was interrupted by the arrival of his
son and one by one, a number of other young students from
Humanidades. He consulted with them briefly; later I learned
they had been deciding, for sure, to nominate him for Rector of
the University.

He had a bandage on his face. He said it was from an accident.
Augusta told me, however, that he was really assaulted by Batistas
or other enemies. He had had a few stitches, but was not seriously
hurt.

He was the one Guatemalan who spoke with frank coldness toward
Arevalo.

Don Jaime gave me his daughter's address here in Mexico
(Ave Sats, Pennsylvania 222-4, Colonia Nepeles) and suggested
I get in touch with her here.

Jaime Díaz was cordial, obliging. But not downright friendly,
so all my other contacts were. He also was the only one who
asked me, toward the end of our conversation: "I would like to
hear your curriculum"—referring to my political background.
Leonora Paz y Paz

I visited her at her house. She had just returned from the Soviet Union and China.

She lives confined to a wheelchair. She made the trip in it, and has been making speeches in Guatemala. She is under attack by the hate-sheet group of counter-revolutionaries.

My own opinion of this poor girl is that she is so breathless in her adulation for the Soviet Union and for the Cuban revolution that she is not likely to see sense any longer. She was writing for a newspaper, recently lost the job.

Her father is a lawyer. Apparently he was connected by his family to Castillo Armijos, too.
SCHOOL TEACHER. Has son, Ariel, who belongs to Communist Party. Augusto told me.

I was told she used to be a very popular orator during Arevalo and Arbenz governments. Now she is very fat and it is hard to picture her inspiring crowds.

She had been told Arevalo had sold Tiburan and the Sardines to the State Dept. (U.S.) for a fortune and that he was going to come back to Guatemala as the President of Guatemala. However, when I protested, she was very much relieved and grateful to hear that the story was not true.

... an Arevalista at heart.

She took me to meet Arevalo's sisters and brother.

She told me she has had several invitations to visit the Soviet Union but that her husband who is a doctor will not agree to her going.
Humberto González Juárez

Fancies himself the number one Arevalista. Also told me he can call upon political support all over Guatemala.

None of the other revolutionaryistas with whom I spoke have a high opinion of González Juárez. The general attitude is that he is an honest businessman-politician and by no means does he belong in the revolutionary movement. He was even accused by several of having become guilty of money-making from the Arévalo regime as Martínez of the PAN was.

My own judgment would be that he is a bit of a braggard. One evening when he was quite well along in his cups, his conversation gave me the picture of a man who could do Arevalo more harm than good by his connection with him; even if he is not dishonest, he is definitely not an idealist.

He is extremely anti-communist. Also he attacks Arévalo severely. He is perfectly flabbergasted because he was recently denied a visa to go to the U.S. He has two illegitimate children from whom he registered at the U.S. Embassy, he told me. He has about a half dozen children by his marriage to a very honest wife from one of the provinces of Guatemala. From some of his remarks when he was drinking, I got the impression that he makes no pretense of fidelity to her.
Guillermo Paglieri

All the Communists repeat the story Pellecer told me. However, Marc Antonio speaks fondly of impresarios and scoffs at the idea he might be disloyal, although Marc Antonio too criticizes him for being vain, etc.

Guillermo is working as director of a radio program on Humberto Gonzalez Juarez's station.

Guillermo assured me he is Arevalista.

He seems to have made public explanations of his trip to Europe with his brother. He is also Arevalista now.

He offered to send me a copy.
Sister of Carlos Manuel Pellecer. Alma de Dios. Kind, considerate, gentle-mannered, soft-hearted, hard-working, understanding human. Also good-looking. Seems to be very much in love with her husband. Very good relations with son. Excellent relations with revolutionaries, all of whom she seems to have befriended quite personally in some dark hour.

She is an immaculate housekeeper, has no maid. Her son, whose nickname is Colorado, is a student at university. Her husband, Jorge Molinado, has a little factory that produces tin cans. He is handsome, very friendly, outgoing, home-loving type. Worked in Arbenz government.

Both Augusta and Jorge speak with great respect of Arcevada, but they are clearly closer identified with Arbenz, whom they -- like most other revolutionaries -- call "Jaque".

Jorge is so good-hearted that he befriended Col. Monzón when Monzón turned up in exile in Costa Rica during Jorge's own exile there. Monzón was the No. 1 traitor to Arbenz, Jorge told me, but he felt sorry for him when all the other exiles treated him with contempt in Costa Rica. (One night I was with Jorge when we ran into Monzón by accident in a gasoline station. Monzón's attitude with Jorge bared out the story.)

Spontaneously, Augusta prepared me a lunch for the bus, lent me a sweater, got up at five in the morning to hustle about preparing breakfast for me, made me a present of a little silver-pearl brooch to hold down a scarf, dug through her possessions in order to locate an old Arcevada memento to give me -- in short, went far out of her way to treat me well.

She took me to Antigua to meet Carlos Manuel's father and the rest of the family -- including the most reactionary sister who is married to a man named Ayac Telleria, who collaborated with Cortés Trías.
Aida Martinez

She had been expecting me for a month, was very solicitous. She introduced me to revolutionaries as well as to a few of Arevalo's old less-revolutionary friends.

She is very devoted to Don Edelberto.

She is definitely an Arvaista.

She speaks of the Communists as though she were quite not one herself. However, she is apparently liked and trusted by them.

She has a very warm friendship with Marco Antonio and Isabel. She has known Isabel since Isabel was 14 years old and Aida was her teacher -- same time that Isabel met Don Edelberto.
Isabel Espinosa de Sebebe

Isabel is very enthusiastic Iquieandiata. She is invited to the Movis Union (was invited for October) and intends to go in May with her husband. However, she speaks of Communists as though she were not affiliated with them.

She adores Don Edelberto Torres.
She admires and supports Arevalo.
She defends the Cuban Revolution, but is willing to hear criticism and from time to time criticizes something herself.
She has recently been elected as the one student on the Junta Directiva of the Facultad de Humanidades. She was the candidate of the Iqquierdistas but says she received many votes from the conservatives. She takes this very seriously.

Her husband is not opposed to socialism (Norman Thomas type) as such but takes the attitude that certainly necessary changes could be made within the capitalist system. What most disturbs him is loss of social freedom and recourse to courts, etc. This he argues openly with her.

Significant about Isabel is her warm friendship with Guillermo Paglieri. When she heard the same changes Pellecer repeated to me, with regard to Guillermo, she defended him at the University and has maintained very warm relations with him. It was she who called him and put him in touch with me.

She is quite close with Diputado Villagran Kramer and his wife Ruth. She told me she was a good friend of Nunez Angel Boan and that they hid under the same table when the planes came over during the invasion. She expects to drive up to Mexico very soon.

She made a number of appointments for me, entertained a several times.