E 2 IMPDET CL BY 007622	CONFIDENTIAL (When Fitted In)	A1412370
RESPONSE TO	REQUEST FOR SECURITY CHECK	S 532 65
ROM: Clearance Support Branch, Personnel Sees	nrity Division	DATE 7 1973
O : Domestic Contact Service, FO:		20 October 1972
UBJECT'S NAME Last	First Middle	US CITIZEN ALIEN
THIS NOTICE IS VALID THRU		ERIOD BY OFFICES OTHER THAN DCS EST BE COORDINATED WITH DCS.
Reference is made to your request for security way, this division should be matical immediately. Once The necessary checks have been completed and	ks based upon erroneous information are awaisd	•
CITIZEN:		
Passport data attached.		f .
Subject was last favorably investigated in	·	·
Denied Area Case: FBI Check was comp This office has no objection to Subject be	eing used in accordance with DCI's measorawlum	
Summary of noteworthy information is	attached for your consideration in determining	the extent and level of your use of Subject.
ALIEN: This is not an approval for this alien's a	ecces to classified information.	
FBI has no objection to your preliming	wy contact with Subject. (Resubmit with full)	biographic date if contact is to continue.)
FBI has no objection to continuing conta	act with Subject. Pertinent information has	been developed, and is attached.
3. This advisory on investigative results is for non	steet purposes only and is not to be construed as	a clearance of Subject person beyond that.
4. Coordination of prior covert interest:		
Not necessary No	objection interposed by	
Please contact		
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S. Remarks:		<u></u>
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FOR DCS/HQS USE ONLY		Chi processing or any processing
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FORM 2941 USE PREVIOUS

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3 - DCS/HQ

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FORM 2941	USE PREVIOUS	CONFIDENTIAL		4 - OCS/HQ

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MEMORANDOM FOR	: Director,		
SUBJECT	······································		

- 1. This will comfirm our report that the FBI interposes no objection to the proposed interrogation of the Subject alien and is to inform you that security checks on Subject have been completed.
- 2. The FBI has requested that they be advised if information of an intelligence nature, which may be of interest to that Bureau, is developed as a result of the contemplated interrogation.
 - 3. This is not a security clearance of this person.
- 4. Any additional information we have obtained is attached and is submitted for your confidential use only. It is not to be disserinated outside of CIA.

CONTACT APPROVED
(ALIEN)

7-45 1998 ******** ********

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DOMESTIC COLLECTION L./ISION Intelligence Information Report

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the exercing of the Espiciasis Laws. Title 12, U.S.C. Sets. 773 and 774, for a premission of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is promoted by law.

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SUBJECT	Construction and Exp		DATE DISTR.	07 JUL 15.3°
	Mills/Activities of Guerrillas and Agica		NO. PAGES	1
•			REFERENCES	DCD Case 63307

- 1. The Government of Honduras (GOH) recently obtained a US\$12 million loan from the Central American Bank of Economic Integration for the expansion of the Azucarera del Sur sugar mill located in Choluteca, Honduras. In addition, the GOH has purchased two sugar mills, one in Brazil and the other in Puerto Rico. The mills, bought at a cost of US\$15 million each, will be dismantled and shipped to Honduras, where they will be reassembled with the aid of foreign technicians. Also, another sugar mill is to be built in the country at a cost of US\$20 million; however, the Japanese Mitsubishi enterprise will be the major stockholder, while Honduran private businessmen will hold a minority interest. This is part of an expansion and undernization program by the GOH with hopes of obtaining a larger share of the world's sugar market.
- 2. The GCH is somewhat concerned with the infiltration through Mexico and Guatemals of Communist agitators and guerrilla training personnel. These guerrillas, mostly Cubans who remained in the country after they had arrived allegedly to assist the GOH following Hurricane Fifi, are causing growing concern as a result of several uprisings and invasion of private lands by peasants in several parts of the country. The Cubans, who stayed in the country following Hurricane Fifi and others who have arrived clandestinely since that time, reportedly are training leftist militants and sympathizers among the Honduran peasants. The agitators and guerrilla instructors are taking advantage of growing unemployment and the overall poor national economic situation to stir the peasants into activity against the government.

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DOMESTIC COLLECTION DIVISION Intelligence Information Report

This moverus assessing information creating the National Delance of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Tita 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revolution of which in any marker to an whouthorized person is prohibited by law.

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SUBJECT Negotiations for Economic Agreement with Venezuela/Influential Officers in National Defense Council

DATE DISTR.

0 3 JUL 1975

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REFERENCES

DCD Case 63307

- 1. The new military regime in Honduras currently is holding talks with Venezuela and hopes to sign an economic agreement in the very near future. With that in mind, the Government of Honduras (GOH) recently sent a high level commission to Venezuela headed by Captain Armando San Martin, Secretary of State for Economy and Commerce and by Attorney Antonio Jose Cuello to hold discussions with high ranking Venezuelan Government officials. Prior to the talks, the GOH recently sold to Venezuela 25 million linear feet of lumber at a total cost of US\$5 million. The GOH hopes to reach an agreement by which Venezuela would buy Honduran agricultural products for an unspecified mix of cash and petroleum products. In addition, Venezuela would support a new agricultural production plan to be implemented in the very near future by Pernando Montes, Honduran Secretary of State for Agriculture.
- 2. Despite reports that Chief Executive Colonel Juan Alberto Melgar Castro has unquestioned authority, Honduran military sources have indicated that Mario Maldonado, Agrarian Reform Chief; Lieutenant Colonel Mario Fonseca, Director of the Military Academy, and Lieutenant Colonel Juan Ramon Molina Cisneros, Commander of the First Artillery Battalion are the real "power behind the throne." These officers, who profess a strong nationalist ideology, are interested simply in the general welfare of the Honduran people, and they are maintaining a "watchdog" attitude to insure that no one, especially people in positions of power, uses such positions for his own personal benefit. These officers are members of the National Defense Council (NDC), which also includes the commanders of all major military units in the country. Maldonado, Fonseca, and Molina appear to be the "first among equals" in the 15 member NDC.

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COUNTRY

Honduras

DCD REPORT NO.

1 APR 19/5

SUBJECT

Current Political and Economic Situation/Expected Nationalization of Fishing Industry/Leftist Influence in Cabinet

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DEFERENCES

- 2. Businessmen in Honduras have reported that the economic and political situation in the country, currently in a sad state of affairs, is bound to become worse as a result of the indifference being exhibited by President Oswaldo Lopez Arellano. On the economic side, the private business sector is quite concerned about an expected government move to nationalize the fishing industry. Some foreign firms already are pulling out of the country and moving to nearby countries like Ricaragua and El Salvador. On the political side, President Lopez has failed to name a permanent foreign minister since November 1974, when Cesar Batres occupied that post. Ricardo A. Fineda is performing those duties on an interim basis. The President also has undermined Bonduran youth by giving in to the demands of the leftist-controlled labor unions. He gives businessmen the impression that he does not know much about government; consequently, the situation in the country has become very unstable.
- 2. Apperently, the regime in Honduras wants to emulate the current Peruvian Government in failing to even consider elections at all. In fact, the government, which is controlled by the military, has three pro-left ministers in the cabinet. They are Manuel Acosta Bonilla, Secretary of State for Finance; Guatama Fonseca Zuniga, Secretary of State for Labor and Social Security, and Manlio Martinez Cantor, Executive Secretary, Planning Board. At one time, Acosta was the private secretary of the Mexican leftist leaser Vicente Lombardo Toledano, so he has been thoroughly indoctrinated along Marxist lines.

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C-0-H-F-I-D-E-H-T-I-A-L COUNTRY Honduras REPORT NO. X DATE DISTR. 1 4 NOV 1975 SUBJECT Horatio Noya Posas, Agrarian Reform Director/Rigoberto Sandoval in Italy/ NO. PAGES His Attitude Towards the US REFERENCES (2356)

> [This report was developed by an Army representative assigned to the office of preparation.

- 1. Horacio Moya Posas is the present director of Agrarian Reform in Honduras. He is inefficient and lacks some of the necessary qualifications for that position. In spite of himbeing a lawyer by profession, he is not astute, is only of average intelligence, is far from decisive, and frequently vacillates when called upon to make decisions. He is, however, extremely anti-Communist. His deputy director is Roberto Oliva. He is no asset. He has no outgoing personality whatsoever, and in fact, he is rather innocuous. One thing that can be said in his favor is that he is reported to be a good engineer.
- 2. The previous Agrarian Reform director was Rigoberto Sandoval. He is an extremely capable lawyer, very sagacions, intelligent and he displayed great foresight in that position. His present and future course of life is worth observing closely because a possibility does exist that he may be a candidate for an important political position in the not too distant future. To date Sandoval has not mentioned which political position he plans to seek. Another reason for observing him is that he is exceedingly anti-US.
 - 3. If Sandoval does decide to seek a political office, it would most probably be Ceneral Oswaldo Lopez Arellano who would sponsor him.
 - 4. Early in October 1972 a US importer-exporter received a very pleasant personal letter from Rigoberto Sandoval. By the tone of the letter one would judge that a close relationship has existed between them for some time. Sandoval stated that he was in Italy working for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and that for the present his stay there was for an indefinite period. He enclosed a long list of items which he requested the US importer-exporter to send to him immediately if at all possible. The list consisted mostly of furniture, household furnishings, electrical appliances, etc.

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COUNTRY Honduras

Intelligence Information Report

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L REPORT NO. 2 3 NOV 1972 DATE DISTR. Possible Reactivation of The Central American Common Market/Labor Not Endorsing Any Specific Political Party NO. PAGES

REFERENCES (2356)

- Honduran merchants, industrialists and some of the people have been urging the revival of the Central American Common Market (CACM). To all intents and purposes it has been practically non-existent. Salvadorians and Guatemalans have also expressed the same desire.
- In early October 1972, these urgings were taken into consideration by the Secretaryship of Central American Economic Integration (SIECA) (Secretaria Permanente de Integracion Economica Centro Americana). SIECA appointed a president, and a board of directors was selected. Eduardo Ortes Colindres, a Honduran lawyer was named president. Ceneral Someza of Xicaragua and General Oswaldo Lopez Arellano approved the appointment of Eduardo Ortes Colindres so much that they offered to aid him in revitalizing the CACM. The board is composed of members from Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Honduras. They are authorized to represent their countries in all matters pertaining to the CACM.
- It is interesting to note that in spite of Honduras having informally retired from the CACM, not only is the president a Honduran, but so is the president of the Central American Bank of Economic Integration (BCIE), with headquarters in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. The fact that General Samoza of Nicaragua and General Lopez Arellano of Honduras have volunteered their assistance to Eduardo Ortes Colindres has led most of the Central Americans to believe that the CACM can once again be made active. If this does occur, it would indeed be most beneficial to the Central American countries concerned.

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- 4. Labor is better organized in the northern part of Honduras than anywhere else in that country. It has a headquarters in every city where administrative activities are conducted and where meetings of union leaders are held. So far meetings have not taken place at work centers.
- 5. Transactions between labor and the government are carried out by labor delegates Celio Gonzalez, through the Ministry of Labor, never directly.
- 6. Labor, as such, does not subscribe to any one particular political party.

 The Marxist theories do not appear to appeal to Labor Unions. However,
 many of their members do seem to be leaning towards the Liberal Party.
- 7. On the surface Labor Unions' actions in Honduras appear to be demagogic at times. They make demands on the government, industry and businesses in spite of their knowing that their demands may prove to be harmful to the economy of their country. It would be rather unfair to always hold the Honduran Union Leaders responsible for this demagogism, because frequently the union members themselves are guilty of pressuring their leaders to execute some specific demand, even though they had already been warned of the possible haraful effects.

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elligence Information : port 18. U.S.C. Sera. DIRECTORATE OF ENGLUSTIN C-0-N-F-I-I-E-N-T-I-A-L REPORT NO. llondurus . COUNTRY DATE DISTE. Sandoval's Dissatisfaction 24 JUN 1970 SUBJECT with the US/Possible Lopez 1 NO. PAGES "Continuisco" Micerver REFERENCES (2356)

- 1. I have recently had the opportunity to spend an evening with Rigoberto Sandoval, who as the General Secretary, Planification Board, is responsible for agrarian reform within the Republic of Honduras. He told me the following information:
- 2. Sandoval is making a trip to West Germany and possibly other non-Communist European countries in an attempt to procure technical assistance, credit and other unspecified help for the Eunduran agrarian reform program. He feels it is in the best interests of Honduras to turn to countries other than the US for assistance. He claimed the US is now in decline; that she is both unable and unwilling to fulfill her international obligations, particularly within Latin America, and that she is slow to react and bogged down with bureaucratic red tipe. Sandoval also suspicions that the Peace Corps, initially very beneficial to Honduras, is a tool of the
- 3. Sandoval considers himself to be the enemy of foreign businesses, particularly American, as they are holding large amounts of property which should figure in the agrarian reform movement. He did not mention plans to appropriate foreign land holdings however.
- 4. Sandoval has not heard President Oswaldo Lopez Arellano personally claim interest in another term. The feeling inside government circles is that Lopez will request a constitutional amendment permitting him to remain in office for six more years without benefit of election. If this happens Sandoval will resign. Although Lopez is behind the agrarian reform program his remaining in office would not be beneficial to the country.

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Please direct to: International Division	An excellent report. I am sure OCI will find it useful. It answers their questions. Another reason that it appears that Lopez plans to continue in office after 1971 is that he keeps the threat from El Salvador on a high key.
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Intelligence Information Report

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SUBJECT Honduras REPORT NO.

SUBJECT Interest of Lopez in Second Term/
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REFERENCES
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- 1. President Oswaldo Lopez Arellano is interested in a second term. This opinion is based on a growing consensus among Congressmen, Honduran business leaders and the military that Lopez desires to remain in office for another term. The thinking in these Honduran circles is that the lack of disclaimers by Lopez is, in itself, a strong indication of his "continuismo" plans. Approximately ten days ago Herman Pascua, manager of the National Railroad, headquartered in San Pedro Sula, had a discussion with the President during which Pascua passed the remark that he would like to remain with the railroad as long as Lopez remained in office. Lopez made no specific rejoinder to this but Pascua left the President's office with the distinct impression that Lopez would run for reelection.
- 2. Lopez would probably be reelected with relative ease. The opposition Liberal Party is divided internally and lacks both an effective ca didate and the capital necessary to offer a serious challenge.
- 3. The power and influence of Ricardo Zuniga has declined drastically in recent months. This is not due to any specific act but more to a growing realization by President Lopez of Zuniga's dishonesty, ambition for power and his inability to get along with some government officials and prominent military officers. President Lopez was particularly dismayed at Zuniga's handling of Honduran propaganda during the recent Honduran/El Salvadoran border war. Lopez allegedly felt that the invective against El Salvador often mirrored the type used by Cuban Communism.
- 4. Miguel Andonie Fernandez, a self-appointed presidential candidate, is an honest, sincere and well respected man. There is a small group of roughly ten Arab and Jowish businessmen in San Pedro Sula known as the "economic mafia" because they control so much of Honduran business activity. This group has taken note of the candidacy of Fernandez and has been impressed by his honesty and sincerity. They will not support him however, because they feel he lacks the political experience and popular base for a successful campaign.

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- 1. For over five years I have been in close contact with Hondurans of different backgrounds and social position. Never before have I seen the anti-American sentiment which is sweeping Honduras at the present time. The feeling is not only evident among student and labor organizations, but among sectors of what is considered to be the best informed and educated individuals in the country. Most of them are convinced that the US has the influence to exert diplomatic pressures on El Salvador in order to settle the pending border dispute, but has failed to do so. They see the US Government as favoring El Salvador.
- 2. During conversations with several government officials they emphatically stated that Honduras was not going to open the Pan American Highway to Salvadoran traffic. This is the attitude of almost everybody that I talked with. This single issue has served to unite the country like never before. There is a new feeling of patriotism which was lacking before the conflict with El Salvador.
 - 3. The campaign against Salvadoran products has resulted in an incentive for Honduran investors. I have had several inquiries from Honduran businessmen who are interested in establishing production facilities for consumer articles which were normally imported from El Salvador. These individuals are eager to invest and establish factories in order to fill the demand for products which were imported from El Salvador.
- 4. Honduras has been purchasing arms and ammunition from Portuguese and Belgian sources. Some of this armament has arrived in the country. According to a military informant most of the armament has not been delivered, but is expected in the country before the end of the year.

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COUNTRY	Honduras/El Salvador	• • •	REPORT NO.		
SUBJECT			DATE DISTR.	11 251 500	
	Alleged Purchase of (Combat Aircraft by	PAGES	1	4. 5. 18. 19. 19. 19. 19. 19. 19. 19. 19. 19. 19
	:		REFERENCES (2356)		

- Coreccoli (phonetic) and members of the Honduran Army General Staff. Colonel Coreccoli and members of the Honduran Army General Staff. Colonel Coreccoli and members of the Staff were alarmed by the continuing reports of arms and ammunition stockpiling by El Salvador. These individuals were of the opinion that the armament of the Honduran Armed Forces was inferior to that of El Salvador.
- 2. During the meeting Colonel Coreccolli inquired about the possibility of a legal or illegal purchase of approximately 2500 M-l rifles and an undetermined amount of .30 caliber ammunition from US sources. He explained that the weapons were needed to arm personnel with prior military service in case of a renewal of hostilities with El Salvador. These individuals were considered to be a reserve for the Honduran Armed Forces.
- Wy associate explained to Colonel Coreccolli that under the circumstances the US Government would not issue an export permit for the armaments. As for illegal sources my associate disclaimed knowledge of any. He also considered the transportation problem. Colonel Coreccolli stated that if acquired the weapons could be smuggled aboard a Honduran refrigeration ship which was anchored in the Miami River at that time. Following this Colonel Coreccolli closed the meeting indicating that he was going to explore other possibilities.
- **A. Following the meeting my associate had a conversation with Rigoberto Sandoval, a member of the Planification Board. Upon being informed of the meeting, Sandoval warned my associate to be careful in any dealings with Colonel Coreccolli, since he was known as a corrupt government official, a "thief". Sandoval stated that this was the opinion of President Oswaldo Lopez Arellano who distrusted Coreccolli. A few days later my associate learned that Ricardo Zunica, Minister of the Presidency, has been given the task of purchasing arms and ammunition for Honduras.
- 5. Hauricio Hernandez, wealthy owner of a lumber mill in Honduras, visited the US during the first part of August 1969. He told me that he was going to purchase two "combat aircraft" for the Honduran Government. He did not specify the type nor the source of the aircraft. About a week later I had a telephone conversation with Hernandez, during which he told me that he had been "successful" in his purchasing mission. He did not give any details. end —

U YES

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1. A content of this office recently reported the information presented below.

- 2. I had a convertation with some relatives the arrived free Cuba during October 1950. During the course of the convergation I impulsed on the observations of Annalia Willia Recrea, a former close friend of my family. From my relatives I contined the relativishmentation and imprecisions conserving Smillo and madors of his family.
- 3. Trille is the accord or third officer chard the MUNICAS ship "In Plate". He is discatisfied with the SOC. This discatisfied arises from the reject imprisonment of his father, Auralia Atuala Frille de Facasida from September 1989 to Calcher 1987. He was convised for "counterscendationary potivities" by the COC. Cubesquently his father was released and the present time is in Herica valuing for a vice to enter the US. Earing the time of his father's imprisonment Aurelia was planning to heave the island by all election mann but was dissurded by his family.
- 4. Trillo resains in the limitant limins because of the privileges obtained as an officer and because of the opportunity to travel. In his trips he equives items which are scarce in Cuba and gives them as girts to his facilty. Post of these gifts are then cold or turbered in the block number for foodstuffs and other necessities.
- 5. Trilio has two distors who are serviced to Herebent Harine officers. Person Trille Harta in nerviced to Alfredo Personal. The is a covernment scarcing who won't in charaffed foreign transmit scarcing who won't in charaffed foreign transmitted. The has the child, four years old. Among her closs relatives, the is openly anti-CCC. The other sister is Lilian Trillo Harta. One of these Hardant Harine officers is a captain but I con't recall which one.
- 6. Amelio Wrillo is about 23 years of age, intelligent and an introvert. To is not introde. Though it has been about nine years since I have seen him, from what my relatives told so I believe that Willo would be willing to occurrate against the Coc. Purius the fourth week of October the "La Plain" was supposed to be at Fillino, Spain unlargoing regains.

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COUNTRY	Honduras	REPORT NO.		
E SULLECT -	Opinions of Moises Lopez Maldonado	OIL DATE DISTR.	1 FEB 1958	4 1
	Possible Presidential Candidates	NO. PAGES	1	
		REFERENCES (2356)		Opin trans

- 1. During the middle of January 1968 I had a lengthy conversation with

 Moises Lopez Maldonado, Honduran Consul in Costa Rica and a leading
 personality in the Partido Nacional (FI). He is a very close friend
 of Martin Amero, leader of the FN. Lopez spends about half of his
 time in Honduras. He is an intelligent and cunning politician with a
 lot of common sense. He is critical of the soft lines used by the US
 in internal and foreign affairs.
- During our conversation he stated that the next President of the country would be a civilian. He doubted very much if the Armed Porces could come up with a suitable candidate. He gave his opinions about several individuals with presidential aspirations.
 - "Armando <u>Velazquez</u> Cerrato has completely disregarded the Party machinery. He is ambitious, but too individualistic. He has no political future in the country.
 - "Manuel Acosta Bonilla present Kinister of Economy, is capable, a hard worker and a good man. His Presidential ambitions at the present time are very subtle.
 - "Ricardo Zuniga is well qualified and would have support from most of the influential people in the government who would like to see him as a Presidential candidate. A hard working individual, he is the right hand of President Lopez Arellano. I consider him the best qualified to run for the Presidential office."

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COUNTRY	ãondura:	REPORT NO.		
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- 1. I have known Rigoberto Sandoval for approximately eight months. As the General Secretary of the Planification Board he is a very carable and competent individual. He is progressive and liberal in his ideas, though at times seems to be inclined to the left. He is a man of great potential for the development of the country. Sandoval as instrumental in instituting a housing project of approximately one thousand houses, to be constructed in San Pedro de Sula. The houses will be built for needy families. A loan of US\$2 million has been granted by the "Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo" for the project.
- 2. The Minister of Economy, Manuel Acosta Bonilla, is an honest, hard working, and responsible individual. I have talked with him and with people who are close to him and got the impression that Acosta has no higher political aspirations. At least he does not show any outward signs of it.
- 3. Armando Velasquez Cerrato is being handled by the government very carefully. He is considered to be a dangerous individual. However, he is regarded by some of his followers as a scapegoat of the present government. Personally I don't think that he has any opportunities or enough popular support to intervene in the government successfully.
- 4. Ricardo Zuniga, Minister of Presidency, remains as an influential figure with President Lopez Arellano. Zuniga provides financial support to the non-Communist student organizations who support his claims that the US is intervening in Honduran internal affairs. In a recent confrontation with an official of the US Embassy, President Lopez Arellano openly supported Zuniga.
- 5. Since the last two years there has been a marked change in the country. There could have been more progress but the government is not dynamic enough, even though President Lopez Arellano is in complete control of the government. The opposition to the government is weak, plagued by differences of opinions, and lacking unity. The large majority of the people are universing great misery and poverty. Still, the masses are contented. Their interest is in subsisting from one day to the other, not politics.

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COUNTRY	Honduras	•	REPORT NO.		
· SURECT	Proposed Steel Plant	and Paper and Pulp	DATE DISTR.	1 9 JAN 1968	•
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- 1. Regotiations are going on with Mexico for the establishment of a steel plant in Honduras. The principal force behind the establishment of this industry is (fnu) Alduvin, an engineer with the "Banco Central". Alduvin studied in Mexico, and is a very intelligent and capable person. Alduvin was Minister of Public Works during the regime of Villeda Morales. At that time he was a supporter of Brown and Root, a US company with offices in the country. Though Alduvin was instrumental in granting several important projects to the company he now criticizes it as another extension of "Yankee Imperialism".
- 2. A US firm, International Paper Company, has been selected as one of the major stockholders, with participation of ADEIA and the Government of Honduras, for the establishment of the paper and pulp plant and for the exploitation of lumber reserves in the country. The paper and pulp plant is tentatively to be established at the junction of the Aguan and Mame rivers. The area selected by the government for the exploitation of lumber reserves covers approximately 15 thousand square kilometers in the departments of Olancho and Yoro. The government is going to face a problem trying to determine the ownership of property in the area. I estimate that it will take three years to survey the boundaries and to set landmarks in the area.
- 3. Two access roads will be constructed to serve the area. One, "Carretera del Projecto Forestal de Olancho", will connect the paper plant with the forest reserves, extending from Mame to Salama, a total of 130 kilometers. The other road will connect the plant to the coast, from Mame to the port of La Ceiba, a total of 100 kilometers.

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CON:ROLLED DISSEM	C-O-N-Y-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L	NO DISSEM ABROAD
COLNIRY Honduras	REPORT NO.	4.6 100 000

Civic Action Program Success/Armed Forces Capability to Cope with Insurgency/

Capability to Cope with Insurgency/ Activities of CIAC, Cuben Propaganda Organization DATE DISTR. 1.9 JAN 1968

NO. PAGES

REFERENCES CIRL C-DC7-53900 (2356)

- The armed forces are doing a splendid job in their civic action projects. Their primary interest seems to be the construction and repair of roads throughout the Republic. In conversation with a liaison officer between the army and other government agencies he mentioned that the only difficulties they are facing in their programs is the lack of adequate equipment, and the lack of cooperation by the Public Works Office. He told me that in most instances the requests made by the army for the use of additional transportation or utilization of existing equipment are disregarded by minor officials. This creates problems requiring the action of higher officials, who are given the impression that the army is the originator of these problems.
- 2. Considering the available resources and facilities of the country the armed forces are well trained and disciplined. During the latter part of 1967 President Anastacio Somoza and a group of other Nicaraguan dignitaries visited Honduras. Several groups under Communist influence demonstrated against the visit. I had the opportunity to observe the development of the demonstration, from a meeting to a riot, from a vantage point. Despite the fact that the army riot control troops were stoned and abused they were disciplined enough to prevent what could have been a serious incident. They did not attack or fire at the mob, as would have been the desire of the leaders, who incidentally always remained behind the mob and utilized other people to direct and incite the demonstrators. The troops and junior officers who were present during the demonstration were highly praised by the responsible elements of the society.
- 3. If a guerrilla movement started I believe the armed forces would act swiftly. A special counter-guerrilla unit is well trained and equipped to prevent development of small units into large and organized guerrilla bands.

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Let or three months ago I met three Cuban nationals, Jose de Jesus Flans, Carlos Morris, and Eduardo Garcia, members of the "Confederacion Latino Americana Cristiana", CIAC, with contral offices in Caracas. These indiaviduals travel through Latin America with the purpose of familiarizing groups with Communist methods of operation and spreading democracy. I talked several times with them, and with people who had attended their meetings. It is my impression, as well as that of others, that they temded to create the wrong impression. Several times they justified the actions of Fidel Castro, and seemed to be anti-American in their line of propagands. Certainly they did not do anything worthwhile to aid democracy. These individuals claimed not to have any association with the US, and to receive financial support from Germany.

-end-



Intelligence Information Report

•	C-O-N-F-1-D-E-N-1-1			-			
COUNTRY	Honduras	REPORT NO.					
	General Lopez Arellano Unwilling to Lead Coup d'etat at Present/Army Officers Being Trained in Peru/Zuniga's Stratagems to	DATE DISTR.	2 .		,	4. ←	; ;
•	Retain Present Power	REFERENCES (2356)					

- The Honduran economy is in a deplorable state. Some young army officers' are urging teneral Oswaldo Lopez Arellano to lead a coup d'etat to displace President Ramon Ernesto Cruz, and have offered to help him. Early in October 1972 a government official and several young army officers stated in a private conversation that Lopez Arellano did not believe it advisable for him to lead a coup d'etat until most of the following events took place:
 - a. A rally in the general economy of the country.
 - b. Improved diplomatic and commercial relations between Honduras and El Salvador. This improvement would further a better functioning of the Central American Common Market (CACM).
 - Completion of the Pan American Highway extending between El Salvador and Honduras. Completion would benefit both countries by giving access to new markets for their products.
 - Decreased corruption among government officials. Not only are some of them feathering their future nests with currency, but also permitting individuals to do likewise in return for something the government official desires the recipient to give or to do for him.
 - Enrichment of the Treasury so that funds could be made available for projects beneficial to the country and its people.

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- 2. During the same private conversation, General Oswaldo Lopez Arellano was quoted as having stated that it would be futile for him to lead a coup d'etat unless there was hope of improving the welfare of the masses and the general economy of the country as well; he firmly believes it would be impossible to accomplish that goal until a change in most of the above conditions were met prior to any coup d'etat in which he would be interested.
- 3. Selected Honduran army officers have attended special courses at an army facility in Peru since approximately 1967. According to an army officer the number of candidates sent since early 1972 has not only been increased but also each has been ordered to specialize in any one of the broaches of their choice. They previously attended the various courses given at that facility.
- 4. The army gives an outward appearance of being in sympathy with the present regime, but in reality not all the members sympathize with President Cruz. In private conversations some speak of him in a derogatory manner, especially young officers.
- 5. A man who continues to wield a great deal of power in Honduras is Ricardo Zuniga Augustinus, Minister of Government and Justice, also leader of the Nationalist Party. Zuniga's ability to continue wielding power is due to his being a very clever, astute, wealthy man. He always knows exactly what he wants, and does not hesitate to utilize his personal characteristics and his wealth in obtaining his objectives.
- 6. Zuniga's present ambition for continued power has forced him to feign being a firm constitutionalist. That is, he is claiming loud and clear that commitments made between the government and political parties must not only be respected but must also be adhered to. Zuniga does not claim this because he really believes this to be a moral obligation, or because he is a fervent democrat. The fundamental reason is that he knows he is the recognized leader of the Nationalist Party, as well as having become influential in the Liberal Party. He believes these parties are the ones sustaining the present regime of President Ramon Ernesto Cruz in power. Therefore, he calculates that through these two parties he can protract the power he has today.
- 7. Today relations betwen General Oswaldo Lopez Arellano and Zuniga are not as cordial as they were previously. However, one must not be led to believe that this situation is unrepairable because if Zuniga needed Lopez Arellano's help, or vice versa, the former pleasant r 'ationship would be hastily nursed back to life. It is just possible that if a coup d'etat led by General Oswaldo Lopez Arellano should take place, and be successful, Zuniga would make a great effort to settle any differences existing between them. This might not please some of the army officers who dislike Zuniga due to his character and the procedures used by him to obtain power.
- 8. Up to the present time the Armed Forces do not appear to be leaning towards the "left". They are naturally desirous of improving their way of life. The Air Force has recently organized a company whose entire net profits will go to the Air Force for the benefit of its members. General Oswaldo Lopez Arellano is investing in various industries and small private industries. He has very recently established a company called Empacadora de Carmes (meat packing firm) whose net profits will be for himself alone. The Armed Forces hold General Oswaldo Lopez Arellano in the highest esteem. This knowledge is based on his observations and personal contact with officers and enlisted men.

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- Ricardo Zuniga, Ministry of Presidency, is the hardest working man in the Honduran Government. He enjoys his liquor as well as any other official in government, and when he goes on a drinking spree it may last for days. However, he has a great capacity for work and lately he has cut down on his drinking. He is too intent in his presidential aspirations. President Lorez Arellano has left the administration of government to Ricardo Zuniga. Zuniga's trusted man is Lucas Lozano Zelaya, Procurador General (Attorney General).
- Lopez, President of Congress, and Colonel Armando Velescuez Cerrato, Honduran Ambassador to Mexico. Rivera Lopez' chances are very small, but Colonel Velasquez is a very serious contender. Both Zuniga and Lopez Arellano are fully aware of his strength. Even though Colonel Cerrato has publicly denied that be is behind the pro-Cerrato committees being formed within the Mational Party, I am informed that he is in fact supporting them.

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