

DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
August 30, 1946



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IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NUMBER _____

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER ~~Rlb - Con~~

Mr. Frederick B. Lyon
Chief
Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
Department of State

AP
OFFICE OF
AMERICAN REPUBLIC AFFAIRS
SEP 26 1946
file
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Chief of Naval Intelligence
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

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~~MJG FC/GKC~~

Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
War Department
Washington, D. C.
Attention: Reading Panel
Military Intelligence Service

VISA DIVISION
DEC 5 - 1946
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DC/R

Dear Sir:

For your information, I am attaching hereto a communication
which may be of interest to you.

ICE OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
DISTRIBUTION OFFICE
DEC 5 1946
Rlb
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

822.00B/8-3046

DCR - ARA Unit
Anal. *MJ*
Rev. *V. J.*
Cat. *[Signature]*
Dist.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

FILED
DEC 12 1947

Evaluation:

- Received from reliable and confidential source
- From confidential source previously found reliable
- Not verified by investigation

Available to Embassy in country of origin

Attachment

CS/V 822.00B/8-3046

July 24, 1946

RE: DR. RICARDO A. PAREDES (ROMERO)
Ecuador

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject in hiding since March 30, had returned to home but was forced to again hide elsewhere due to attempted arrest on May 11 resulting from manifesto of May 8 signed by subject urging ouster of VELASCO IBARRA and formation of coalition government. PAREDES' views on amenability of Guardia Civil to PCE aims set forth; also, PAREDES' opinion of Riobamba PCE and leadership.

INVESTIGATIVE DETAILS:

As previously reported, the subject, Secretary General of the PCE (Partido Comunista del Ecuador: Communist Party of Ecuador), was to go into hiding to avoid arrest immediately following the political events of March 30, 1946. During the month of April, Source D advised that PAREDES had become convinced that the police were not pressing a search for him and so returned to reside in Quito at his residence at 9 Ascasubi. However, upon the issuance of a statement to the Quito newspaper EL COMERCIO on May 6 and a leaflet manifesto dated May 8, 1946, a raid was made upon PAREDES' home by the Office of Security, attempting unsuccessfully to place him under arrest. Source D reported that the following night Party members removed PAREDES' more essential belongings from his home and installed him in a house in the La Floresta section of Quito. The following is a translation of the EL COMERCIO article of May 6:

"The Secretary General of the Communist Party, Dr. RICARDO A. PAREDES, has sent this newspaper a communication in which he makes a statement with respect to information received from Guayaquil to the effect that the section of the PCE which has its headquarters in that city is in opposition to the Quito Communists. He advises that such is not the case. PAREDES adds that in reality the Party has but one line of conduct throughout the country; the Communist Party was the firmest supporter of the country's constitutionality against dangers of dictatorship from below or above. But once Dr. VELASCO IBARRA struck out for dictatorship the Communist Party has condemned this action vigorously. PAREDES ends with the statement that the Communist Party is ready for a firm collaboration with all political parties, including the Liberal-Radical, for the democratic restoration of the country based on a minimum program."

The manifesto which was issued under PAREDES' name two days later begins with a condemnation of the unconstitutional activities of VELASCO IBARRA and then in answer to the question of "What is the way out of this situation; how can ruin be forestalled?" PAREDES states that the Communist Party of Ecuador has a clear reply in the form of the following four points:

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

- "1. The dictatorship of VELASCO IBARRA must be ended.
2. There must be no participation in the elections of June 30 for Constitutional Assembly.
3. The VELASCO dictatorship must be replaced with a democratic coalition government.
4. Such a government should follow a minimum program, (which PAREDES then outlined under the following eight items):

- "1. The re-establishment of constitutionality and democratic practices.
2. The application of a plan for improvement of national economy, including assistance to industrial development, broadening and modernization of agriculture and cattle raising, development of uncultivated lands and, in general, a plan which gives preference to public works of a national nature in accordance with the financial and technical resources of the government.
3. Raising the economic and moral level of the working classes, balancing wages and salaries with the cost of living, fighting against speculation, improving living and working conditions of agricultural workers and Indians, maintaining the workers' gains of the labor code and the Constitution of 1945, broadening the services of social security and public health, supporting the development of cooperatives and guaranteeing freedom for organization of labor unions.
4. The efficient and honest public administration, fighting corruption in every form.
5. Encouragement to public lay education as directed by the government.
6. Improvement of the armed forces and restitution for injustices of which they have been victims.
7. An international policy of cooperation with all democratic nations.
8. Defense of territorial integrity and national sovereignty; recovery of bases ceded to the United States in the Galápagos."

PAREDES ends the manifesto with a call to all Leftist and oppositional parties to join a coalition for "national democratic reconstruction."

On May 13 EL COMERCIO published the following article:

"Security agents continue a close watch on certain Leftist politicians concerning whom there are undoubtedly in existence orders for surveillance.

"According to information received yesterday morning, the house of Dr. RICARDO PAREDES, General Secretary of the PCE, was visited by certain Security agents. PAREDES signed the manifesto of the PCE which has been circulated widely in this and several other cities in the country.

"Dr. PAREDES was not found at home, as he had been warned in advance and succeeded in going into hiding. We received this information from a member of the PCE who, aside from his political connections, has a firm friendship with the pursued Leftist leader."

Source C advised that early in July, when advised that the Guardia Civil of Riobamba would back Communist coalition plans to overthrow VELASCO, RICARDO PAREDES made the following statement:

"A situation similar to that in Riobamba also exists in Ambato and in certain other cities. The Guardia Civil is more easily won against VELASCO than army officers. This is partly because the present government placed police officers on a lower plane than army officers, whereas under the ARROYO government, Carabinero ranks were equal to the same ranks in the army."

The same source reported that when PAREDES was questioned as to his opinion of ARSENIO VELOZ, the Provincial Secretary General of the PCE in Riobamba, PAREDES stated that VELOZ is a convinced Communist and rather active; however, PAREDES believed that VELOZ is somewhat too ambitious personally and feels that the PCE cannot do without him. PAREDES stated that although VELOZ is valuable to the PCE, one DANIEL GRESPO might be able to serve the Party better in Riobamba and the Province of Chimborazo, as he has wider connections among the cells and enjoys the confidence of the base to a greater extent than does VELOZ.

According to reliable Source D, the subject is inclined to be rather careless in his management of PCE affairs. This source pointed out as an example the fact that shortly after March 30 the subject sent a secret communication to the above-mentioned VELOZ asking him for a secret address to which communications and propaganda could be sent to Riobamba. Such an address was received shortly thereafter from VELOZ of which no note was taken by PAREDES. The latter then in a short while directed a second communication to VELOZ making the same request. According to this same source, this event, along with the fact that a number of emissaries had visited him in Riobamba, sent by PAREDES, with conflicting instructions, made VELOZ observe that PAREDES is not the type of man who should head the PCE under present difficult circumstances.

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confidential source
from confidential source
personally found reliable
and verified by investigation