

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR



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

March 5, 1946

In reply, please refer  
to file No. 100-338781

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN ACTIVITY CORRELATION  
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PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL  
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

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

FROM: John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT: NELA MARTINEZ ESPINOSA  
ECUADOR - COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES

Please refer to communications from this Bureau dated May 30 and November 2, 1945, concerning the captioned individual, a native of Ecuador who has been head of the Feminine Section of the Ecuadoran Communist Party and has been active in labor and political affairs in Ecuador.

Enclosed as of possible further interest is a copy of an additional memorandum received from a confidential source believed to be reliable indicating that Nela Martinez is no longer a member of the Central Committee of the Ecuadoran Communist Party but does conduct classes in Communist matters in the vicinity of Portoviejo, Ecuador.

This information is available to the American Embassy in Quito, Ecuador.

Enclosure

CC - Chief of Naval Intelligence  
Navy Department  
Washington, D. C.

CC - Assistant Chief of Staff  
G-2, War Department  
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Reading Panel  
Military Intelligence Service

VISA DIVISION  
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FOR DEFENSE



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January 20, 1946

RE: NELA MARTINEZ (NEPIROBA), with aliases  
Hella Martinez, Nela Martinez -  
Ecuador

As previously reported NELA MARTINEZ, leader of the Feminine Section of the PCG (Communist Party of Ecuador), and former member of the Central Committee of that Party, spent the latter portion of 1945 in the Province of Manabi where she has been conducting courses in domestic science for the Ecuadoran Ministry of Economy.

In November, 1945, the name of NELA MARTINEZ was proposed among other possible candidates by the United States Department of Agriculture for a scholarship to enable her to study domestic science in the United States. In view of the subject's known affiliation and prominent position in the PCG she was not recommended for this scholarship.

Inasmuch as NELA MARTINEZ had been a substitute member of the National Constituent Assembly of 1944, she returned to Quito on December 3, 1945, to be on hand for the Extraordinary Session of that Assembly, which was at that time meeting. MARTINEZ did not take part in the Assembly as the Deputy for whom she was a substitute was present throughout the session. Upon the close of the session of the Assembly, and after a brief consultation in the Ministry of Economy, the subject returned to the Province of Manabi.

Source C advised that prior to December 31, 1945, the subject was employed by the Oficina de Orientacion y Credito with the title of Inspector of Social Economy. As of December 31, 1945, this office was discontinued, at which time MARTINEZ was transferred to the Ministry proper. At present her title is that of Director of Courses in Rural Economy. Inasmuch as the national budget for 1946 has not yet become effective, it is not possible to ascertain the duration of the subject's employment in Portoviejo.

Source D advised that according to the statutes of the PCG, NELA MARTINEZ ceased to be a member of the Central Committee of that Party upon moving from Quito to take up her duties in the Province of Manabi. This source further advised that the subject has been a member of the PCG for more than ten years, and was one of the founders of the Party Branch in Ambato, Ecuador, where she resided for a time.

Source B advised that in addition to conducting courses in Portoviejo, the subject travels throughout the Province of Manabi for the Ministry of Economy, and devotes her spare time to the organization of Communist meetings and instruction in Communist doctrine.

Enclosed is a copy of a document believed to be related to the Communist Party in Ecuador. It is in poor condition and is divided into two parts. The first part is headed "Communist labor leader" and the second part is headed "Communist labor leader". The document is dated as indefinite date.

This document is available to the American Embassy in Quito.

Special Intelligence  
Director of Staff  
Military Intelligence Service

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