

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

SECRET

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Authority 440959039
By D NARA Date 10/19/7

TO : ARA - Mr. Coerr *12/26*

DATE: December 8, 1960

FROM : ARA - Frank J. Devine *F.J.D.*

SUBJECT: Your request for a report on the anti-Communist
"Centro de Estudios y Accion Social" in Bogota

On Pete Vaky's letter to me dated November 28 (Tab A) you have penned a brief notation expressing interest in seeing additional material on the anti-Communist "Centro de Estudios y Accion Social" in Bogota. I am pleased to attach such material, most of which is borrowed from Mr. Gerberich and which I must return to him when you are done with it.

The earliest good statement of which I am aware appears in Bogota Despatch No. 245 of October 19, 1960 (Tab B). For an idea of the group and its contemplated functions, I suggest you read at least paragraphs three and four of that despatch.

Following a brief discussion of this new initiative in the course of one of the regular Tuesday meetings, I sent off our Deptel 315 on October 27 (Tab C). I understand it arrived a little bit late to head off all contact of the sort which we were interested in minimizing. Some suggestion of this fact appears in Bogota Despatch No. 283 of November 7 (Tab D).

In this general regard, you may care to read my letter of October 31 (Tab E) to Pete Vakyⁱⁿ which I pointed out some of the reasons for our moderate apprehension about the complexion of the new group and too close association of an overt nature therewith.

Since getting under way the new organization has unfortunately displayed some tendency to flex its muscles not only in the direction of Communists but also of domestic political opponents. I attach (Tab F) a set of three copies of documents in which some hint of this is seen. To my mind this emphasizes all the more the desirability of our keeping contact and support on something of a covert basis.

In glancing through the attached documents I think you will have a good idea of this outfit and its general approach. Should you wish further info, please let me know.

Attachments:

1. Ltr of 11/28
2. Desp. 245, 10/19
3. Deptel 315, 10/27
4. Ltr of 10/31
5. Memcon of 11/7; Desp. 289 of 11/8; Memo of 12/1.

cc: WST/Co-Mr.Gerberich

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ARA:FJDevine:blr 12/9/60

not attached

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