

How "Pacification" May Be Used to Ensure Saigon's Victory in Any Vietnam Poll

Guatemala Shows How to Make A Cynical Farce of Free Elections

We must leave our comment on the outcome of the Guatemalan elections until next week, when final returns are available. In the meantime it is worth examining into the background of these "free elections," the first since 1958, to see how the transition from military dictatorship can be accomplished with minimum risk to U.S. interests and their native allies, in a colonial country like Guatemala under our domination.

"Framing" A Constitution

In the first place the elections are being held under a new constitution drafted by a Constituent Assembly of 80 members. Sixty were chosen by Guatemala's military dictatorship. Two others parties were allowed to nominate ten members each, but their nominees too had to be approved by the military. The result was a constitution which makes it harder than before to get the agrarian reform the country needs, and tightens up regulations designed to prevent free organization of political parties.

In accordance with this Constitution not only Communists and Socialists but moderate reformist parties like the Guatemalan Social Party and the Christian Democrats, were barred from the elections. The Christian Democrats were founded by conservatives after our CIA helped the United Fruit Company to overthrow Arbenz in 1954 and get rid of his agrarian reform. But in 1964 the party was taken over by socially-minded Catholics, advocating agrarian reform and state direction of the economy. Only three parties were allowed to take part in the election, the Institutional Democratic Party, formed by the military and its well-to-do supporters; the Movement of National Liberation, a rightist split-off group within the upper class which has ruled the country since 1954; and the Revolu-

Democracy in Action—Brazilian Style

Rio de Janeiro, March 4—An Army colonel was reported today to have forced the aldermen of a small town in Rio de Janeiro state to elect leaders supported by him. The pro-government paper, *Jornal do Brasil*, said the colonel, commander of an armed car squadron, surrounded the City Hall of Barra do Pirai with 800 men and presented his list of candidates.

The action took place a few days after President Castello Branco had declared in a major speech that democracy existed in Brazil and said the fundamental institutions of democracy were being preserved.

—*Baltimore Sun's own Rio bureau, March 5.*

tionary Party, which is referred to as "Leftist" in the U.S. press but cooperated with the military in the farce of the Constituent Assembly. Its Leftism is indicated by its advocacy of economic development supported by private enterprise. Even if its candidate wins, United Fruit need not fear for its bananas.

We may be sure the U.S. Embassy in Guatemala played its part in this "guided" democracy, and that the U.S. Embassy in Saigon will see its applicability in South Vietnam. There a new wrinkle is being introduced in the shape of the CIA-trained "pacification" squads. Their main job will be to root out suspected Viet Cong sympathizers in the villages. We'd hate to see CIA-trained squads allowed to determine what Americans can be allowed to take part in political activity, and we can easily imagine the results in Vietnam. When the suspects have been gotten rid of and the rest intimidated, South Vietnam, too, may be as safe as Guatemala for "free elections."

Time to Find Out Whether Our Government Finances Assassinations

Both the Senate and the House Appropriations Committees have subcommittees which pass on the CIA. The existence of these subcommittees is always cited whenever someone proposes that a special joint committee be established to supervise CIA operations. The members of the Senate subcommittee, so we were told after a curious delay possibly for clearance higher-up, are Senators Hayden, Russell, Saltonstall and Young of North Dakota. The membership of the House subcommittee, so Chief Clerk Kenneth Sprankle informed us, is a secret. We suggest that members of the House and Senate who have campaigned over the years for some Congressional check on CIA activities, ask their respective subcommittees to investigate and report on the communique issued by the Cuban government March 5 alleging that the CIA put up \$100,000 in a plot to assassinate Fidel Castro. The U.S. Embassy official in Madrid alleged to have handed over the money and two alleged Cuban employees of the CIA were named. There is no reason why either or both of the CIA subcommittees could not at least stage secret hearings and report publicly to the Congress. If the CIA does not engage in assassination, it should itself welcome such investigation.

The Cuban government in the past has proven better informed than the American public on CIA activities aimed to overthrow it. We believe the charges should be taken seri-

More CIA Dirty Tricks?

Madrid (AP)—Unexplained and continuing mishaps to ships being built for Cuba in Spanish yards suggests that anti-Castro sabotage is involved. In one year 5 ships under construction for Cuba's merchant fleet suffered damaging "accidents" in which four Spanish shipyard workers lost their lives and nine suffered injuries. . . . It is rumored but unproven that anti-Castro leader Manuel Artime [the CIA's fair-haired boy at the Bay of Pigs—IFS] has recruited agents here to sabotage Castro's ship-building program in Spain.

—Richard Mowrer in York, Pa., *Gazette & Daily*, Mar. 7.

ously. To let them pass without a demand in Congress for investigation is to encourage the CIA in the "dirty tricks" of which it boasts. There are many in Africa who blame our government for the murder of Lumumba and many in Southeast Asia who believe we encouraged the murder of Diem. If nothing more, a demand that the subcommittees investigate would put them as well as the CIA on the spot, dramatize the weak supervision they give CIA and strengthen the case for a special supervisory committee. The question is not whether the U.S. likes Fidel Castro but whether we are so far gone in lawlessness that we would secretly finance his murder.

Not Strange That China, Too, Wants A Nuclear Deterrent

(Continued from Page One)

because so little is known about "intermediate" fallout in the 1,000 mile range. We know a good deal about "local" fallout, which may extend for hundreds of miles. We know a good deal about stratospheric world-wide fallout. But there is little unclassified material at least on the "intermediate" fallout. This and the "local" fallout would represent a danger of unknown dimensions in Japan. This is why we proposed last week—as a brake on the war machine—that an international body of scientists begin a study of what various levels of attack on China would do to the adjoining countries and to the world health picture. Dr. Lapp began urging such a study of the effects of nuclear war years ago. The Japanese, for their own safety, ought to initiate it now.

No Pushbutton Victory

It is our hope, in opening up these insane perspectives of an insane world order, to raise the pressure for peace from Japan and the rest of Asia, and to explode the delusion that if worst comes to the worst we could destroy China by distant pushbutton without danger to ourselves and our allies. This brings us to the third factor, China's lesser vulnerability to nuclear attack. In this year's posture hearings, Secretary McNamara gave some figures on what we could do in retaliation if the Soviet Union attacked first. These figures show how much more vulnerable the Soviet Union is than China. McNamara speaks of destroying one-third the population and one-half the industrial capacity of the Soviet Union in an attack on its major urban centers. The attack he sketches on 50 Chinese urban centers would destroy half China's industry but only 50 million of its 700 to 800 million people. Very dense and radioactively "dirty" bombing is needed to cripple a largely rural and agrarian society like China's. It could carry on guerrilla war for years even after destruction of its cities. The level of nuclear attack necessary really to destroy China would create a radioactive menace to Japan and a world health problem. If such considerations impose limits on nuclear attack, we confront the formidable task of occupying China and subduing its superior numbers. This is where we are being led in that "open-ended" conflict in Asia against which the Mans-

Marines Let Slip What Rusk Tries to Deny

Sec. RUSK: We are not putting ourselves in the position of the gendarmes of the universe. . . . We are not trying to impose a Pax Americana on the world. . . .

Sen. FULBRIGHT: You deny that there is a Pax Americana, but the fact is we have troops in Europe, Korea, Vietnam and the Dominican Republic. We have military missions in half the nations of the world. . . .

Sen. AIKEN: And are we bound to fight communism wherever it exists?

Sec. RUSK: No, sir, no sir. . . . What we are talking about Senator is that where Communist countries undertake to commit aggression against those to whom the U.S. has undertaken a clear commitment to an alliance, that there we have a duty to assist our allies.

Sen. AIKEN: That would include what, about 80 or 90 countries in the world?

Sec. RUSK: No, sir. This would include just over 40 countries.

Sen. AIKEN: Only 40?

Sec. RUSK: That is right.

—Sen. For. Relations hearings on Vietnam, Part 1.

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—Page 1 appeal in The Reserve Marine, Jan. 1966.

field report warned us.

Secretary McNamara told the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy at the hearings on non-proliferation March 7 that China was imposing hunger on its people to develop nuclear weapons. But it is the fear of attack from us which leads China to strain every muscle in this task. Our military philosophy is based on nuclear deterrence. It is the mutual balance of terror that keeps us and the Russians at a fearful standoff. The Chinese want the deterrent, too. They have far more reason to fear us than we have to fear them. They are only striving to apply the murderous lesson we are teaching. It's McNamara-ism not Marxism-Leninism.

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