

LATIN AMERICAN LABOR COMMITTEE MEMBER KIDNAPPED IN MEXICO CITY

NEW YORK, Dec. 12 (IPS)--Leading Latin American Labor Committee (LALC) member and International Press Service correspondent for Mexico City, Carlos De Hoyos Perez, was kidnapped from the immediate vicinity of his home in Mexico City yesterday, Dec. 11, at 12:00 noon Eastern Standard Time. At 11:00 AM he left his apartment to help start a friend's car. The friend departed after the car started. Carlos De Hoyos Perez has not been seen by friends or family since that time. He left his home in the middle of breakfast, without his glasses and in a tee shirt, obviously expecting to return within minutes. His car was later found parked around the corner from his house. As of 2:00 AM today, it continued to be surveilled by two unidentified individuals in a late model turquoise Volkswagen.

During the last few days, LALC member De Hoyos had been receiving unidentified phone calls at his home and at the LALC office in Mexico City. Apparently the caller(s) were trying to establish his whereabouts. On December 11, a call was also received at De Hoyos' place of work, attempting to verify his employment there.

On the evening of Dec. 10, a fellow LALC member leaving De Hoyos' home was met by three men who humped out of a black 1970-71 two-door Pontiac or Oldsmobile and positioned themselves in front of the door to the building where De Hoyos resides. The LALC member immediately went across the street to call the LALC office whereupon two of the men followed him and made a phone call. The two men also exchanged several words that were heard by the LALC member. He clearly heard one say to the other, "They're not home, so let me pay you now," whereupon one of them handed to the other approximately 300 to 400 pesos. The apparent leader of the three was very well dressed in a gray business suit, about 30 years old, tall and thin, with short hair. The individual who received the money was poorly dressed in a sweater and appeared to be lumpenized. The third man, who paid out the money to him, was sloppily dressed in a business suit, wore a mustache, and appeared to be about 32 years old.

Acheverria Linked To CIA

The International Caucus of Labor Committees (ICLC) lays responsibility for the kidnapping squarely with Mexico's CIA-linked President Luis E. Echeverria. Echeverria was exposed yesterday as the main CIA agent in Mexico by "ex"-CIA agent Philip Agee, who operated in Latin America. Before assuming the presidency, Echeverria was Minister of the Interior, responsible for "security" matters and for the 1968 massacre of hundreds of students at Tlatelooce Park in Mexico City.

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As President, Echeverria has pushed for implementation of David Rockefeller's Trilateral Commission policies for the devastation of the "Third" and "Fourth World," and for the Rockefellers' genocidal World Food Bank policy planned at the recent Rome Food Conference, for the starvation of "underdeveloped" countries.

Police Kidnapping Suspected

Since the Dec. 10 holdup of two banks and the resulting killing of five policemen by the CIA-linked terrorist group, the "Twenty Third of September League," Mexico City has been under witch-hunt conditions. Reportedly, 20,000 police and military men are carrying out "counter-terror" seal-and-search operations, patrol and investigations. De Hoyos' family and lawyers are checking with police and military camps in Mexico City to find out if De Hoyos has been arrested. It is fairly common practice for Mexican authorities to "kidnap" political opponents and only acknowledge their arrest days after the victim disappears. The description of the events of Dec. 10 in front of De Hoyos' home also fit the modus operandi of the Governacion political police, the Mexican Ministry of the Interior.

The ICLC, however, does not rule out the possibility of terrorist countergang or rightwing gang involvement in the kidnapping. Various rightwing Mexican gangs are paid and trained by the police and the army.

Internationally Coordinated Operation

The kidnapping of De Hoyos comes in the midst of an international campaign of harassment and attempted intimidation of the ICLC:

*On Dec. 11, the Wiesbaden West Germany office of the European Labor Committee (ELC) received a telephone bomb threat from the German CIA-terrorist group, the Baader-Meinhof.

*Several days prior to this incident, articles libelously calling the ELC a brainwashing group tied to the CIA appeared in such divergent Italian journals as the Rockefeller/Trilateral Commission-controlled newsweekly, Panorama, and Contrainformazione, the newspaper of the left countergang Vanguardia Operaio, which in the past has served as a conduit for the CIA-controlled terrorists of the Italian "Red Brigades."

*In New York City, Dec. 4, a phone caller identifying himself as a member of the Argentine Anti-Communist Alliance, a rightwing group that has murdered over 50 leftists, trade unionists and liberals in Argentina, threatened a leading LALC member with assassination within 48 hours. The caller also threatened to bomb the New York offices of the NCLC and shoot NCLC members on the street.

ICLC Counter-Offensive

The International Caucus of Labor Commistees is mounting an international campaign to obtain De Hoyos' release and expose and halt the operation behind his kidnapping. De Hoyos' life is in danger. Workers and journalists must contact Mexican government officials at the Washington, D.C. Embassy (202) 234-6000 and the U.N. Mission in New York (212) 679-6416 to demand De Hoyos' release and an investigation into the circumstances of his kidnapping.

ITALIAN TRADE UNIONS MOVE TOWARD SELF-DESTRUCTION

Dec. 12 (IPS)--The Italian Metalworkers Federation (FLM) together with the Communist-dominated trade union confederation, the CGIL, are moving to drop the last vestige of nationally negotiated trade union contracts. Their actions will leave the Italian working class totally defenseless against the Rockefeller austerity crunch now under full swing with the formation of the new La Malfa government. So far, the countergang and La Malfa-controlled UIL union confederation is affecting "hesitation" over whether to follow the FLM-CGIL lead.

The major confederations (CGIL, CISL, UIL) had decided already at their last autumn conference to run individualized plant contract negotiations, leaving the national Cost of Living negotiations as a formal cover for the actual reality of decentralization. Now not even this cover will be tolerated. According to the financial daily *Il Globo* Dec. 11, the CGIL, under the avant garde leadership of the once-militant FLM, is moving to decentralize the Cost of Living question itself.

This move was the inevitable next step after the FLM sell-out of the working class in the recent FIAT contract negotiations, which provided for full worker coparticipation in slave labor projects and the recycling of workers to Italy's southern region. Trying to cover its tracks and deal with the pressure coming from its base, the FLM is playing down the "nonsense that surrounds the FIAT contract as being one of coparticipation," a definition which is "distant from today's reality in industrial relations."

In a related anti-working class move, *Il Globo* reported that GLM General Secretary Bruno Trentin, a "Communist", threatened to throw the full support of the FLM behind the anarchist civil disobedience movement which is pushing for self-reduction of electricity, transportation, etc. rates if the government refuses to give minimal guarantees of support for real wages. He is seconded in this by one of the leaders of the CGIL construction workers, Masucci, who notes that "self-reduction" could become a mass phenomenon with union backing.