



APPENDIX B

MEMORANDUM OF THE INTER-AMERICAN PEACE COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 18, 1959



INTER-AMERICAN PEACE COMMITTEE

MEMORANDUM

Paragraph No. 3 of Resolution IV of the Fifth Meeting of Consultation provides that the Inter-American Peace Committee "shall immediately initiate broad studies on the questions to which paragraph 1 of this resolution refers, except in those situations governed by other international instruments, and it shall prepare a preliminary report so that the American governments may formulate their observations. This report shall be followed by a definitive report, which shall be presented at the Eleventh Inter-American Conference or, if so indicated, to the Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, so that any pertinent decisions may be made."

In order to comply with this mandate, the Committee has developed a work plan and will appreciate the collaboration of the American governments in carrying it out. The Committee intends to examine all the documentary material available to it, and that which it can obtain from the organs and dependent agencies of the OAS ; but it appears indispensable that the governments submit their views, as soon as possible, concerning the study to be undertaken in accordance with Resolution IV of the Fifth Meeting of Consultation, as well as any information of a general character related to that study which the governments themselves consider would be useful to the Committee in carrying out the task referred to it. In addition to the views and information just referred to, the Committee wishes to mention the following specific points with respect to which the governments might provide the information they consider pertinent, to wit:

1. Insofar as governments of the member states which have ratified the Convention on Duties and Rights of States in the Event of Civil Strife are concerned, information on the legal provisions by which the cited Convention is executed in their respective territories, as well as the policy which is observed, in the absence of such provisions or as a complement of them, to fulfill the obligations which the said instrument imposes upon them. As regards the governments of those states which have not ratified the Convention in reference, information on the legal provisions and the policy which is followed to avoid activities designed to overthrow governments of other American states or to provoke instances of intervention or aggression, in accordance with that which other inter-American instruments provide and in which they take part. In both cases, the Committee would appreciate the governments making suggestions on the methods and procedures designed to avoid activities referred to in paragraph 1. a of Resolution IV of Santiago, which in their view would improve the systems presently in force.



2. Information on those cases about which they may have knowledge in which the violation of human rights, or the failure to exercise representative democracy, has created international tensions of any kind.

3. Information on cases in which systematic diffusion of propaganda, by whatever media, for the purpose of promoting civil strife in another country, has contributed to the creation of international tensions or to an increase in those already existing.

As an integral part of its work plan, visits by Subcommittees of the Committee to various countries in the Caribbean area are being contemplated. The object of these visits will be to receive the governments' views on the matters under study by the Committee and to determine the causes of the tensions existing in the region. For this purpose, the Committee wishes to meet not only with representatives of the governments, but also with those other persons who might be able to make important contributions to the aforementioned study. The conversations under reference would include all the items in paragraph 1 of the abovementioned Resolution IV of Santiago, Chile.

September 18, 1959