

Original escrito a máquina, en español
495-107-3. P. 58-59.

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INFORME DE G.MACHADO Y LA DISCUSIÓN POSTERIOR DEL INFORME

Nov., 1929.

REPORT OF COMRADE MACHADO¹⁶⁶⁷

On April 16, 1929, we held a meeting in Mexico City with the representative of the C.I. in which it was decided that the Venezuelan comrades should try to go close to or into Venezuela. Two days later I left for Curaçao, D.W.I, where 5,000 Venezuelans live. We estimated that about 3,000 of them are workers employed by the Oil refinery belonging to the Royal Dutch Shell Co.

In Willemstad, capital of the Island, we had formed in Oct. of 1928 the local of the Partido Revolucionario Venezolano (Venezuelan Revolutionary Party). This Local was composed of workers and was functioning very actively until Comrade Hilario Montenegro, a bricklayer and the leader of that local, was assassinated on Jan. 24, 1929, by order of the Venezuelan Consul, because of his leadership and his revolutionary activities. At that time the local was composed of 27 active members and many sympathizers. The organizers of the local were told by the authorities of the Island, shortly after the murder of Montenegro, that they could not guarantee the lives of the members of the P.R.V.

In accordance with the resolution of the C.E.C. of the P.R.V. in Mexico City, we organized in May, 1929, the Union General de Trabajadores in Curaçao (The General Workers' Union). This Union began with a membership of 23, of which 7 were women and 16 were men; there was a great enthusiasm and receptiveness from the part of the workers to join the Union. Our meetings were held every Sunday and an average of 25 to 30 comrades joined at every meeting. Besides the members of the Union and the new members, about 40 to 50 workers assisted our meetings as visitors or sympathiz-

¹⁶⁶⁷ Véase la nota 1448.