

ACTION

ARA-10

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAMPOL 12 Dom Rep
POL 18-1 Dom Rep
FOR RM USE ONLY

RM/R REP AF

ARA EUR FE

NEA CU INR

E P IO

L FBO AID

AGR COM FRB

INT LAB TAR

TR XMB AIR

ARMY CIA NAVY

OSD USIA NSA

A-520

CONFIDENTIAL

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO: Amconsul SANTIAGO DE LOS CABALLEROS

FROM : Amembassy SANTO DOMINGO

SUBJECT: Independent Movements in the Municipal Elections,
A Preliminary Assessment

REF :

RECEIVED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MAR 29 8 23 AM 1968

RS/AN
ANALYSIS BRANCH

DATE: March 28, 1968

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

BUREAU OF
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

APR 1 - 1968

1. To date, 22 independent movements have received legal recognition from the Central Electoral Board (JCE) to participate in the May municipal elections. An additional 30 movements are awaiting recognition. With the expiration of the time limit for the formation of independent groupings on March 25, no additional ones can now apply for legal recognition. However, these movements either recognized, or pending recognition, have been authorized an extra period to name their candidates for mayoral and councilman posts and now must do so prior to noon, April 5.

2. In terms of political orientation, the independent movements hardly appear to be "independent." Rather, as indicated by the attached analysis of 38 such movements on which significant information has been obtainable, 30 are seemingly linked to political parties. The remaining eight most likely possess such ties, but it has not yet been possible to identify positively their backers. Significantly, of these 38 movements, 13 are reportedly linked to present or past PRD leaders, 13 to the PR, 12 to the UCN, and 5 to the PQD. Naturally, in numerous cases there has been an alliance between several groups of "outs" against the "ins."

3. The independent movements are scattered geographically, but with the heaviest concentrations in the areas of real or imagined opposition strength. Most notable is the situation in the Cibao provinces, where the abstaining Civicos claim still to have a significant following. In the UCN's home base, Duarte Province, there are six independent groups, in Santiago Province there are five, while in the Provinces of La Vega and Sánchez Ramírez there are three such movements. Similarly, in the areas of PRD strength,

CONFIDENTIAL
GROUP 3

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY

In Out

FORM DS-323
4-62

Downgraded at 12 year intervals; not automatically declassified

POL:JYoule:eaf:3/27/68

DCM:FJDevine

J.J.D.

POL:JWWilson

1968 MAR 29 AM 10 20

COPYFLO-PBR

Drafted by:

Clearances:

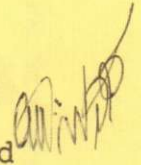
there are also a number of independent groups, most notably in the National District, where there are five, and in the eastern provinces of La Romana (two movements) and El Seibo (four movements).

5. Comment:A. The unprecedented formation of independent movements stems primarily from two basic factors: the anticipated abstention of three recognized political parties (PRD, UCN and PQD), stimulating leaders of these parties to present independent candidacies; and the fact that, for the first time in Dominican history, municipal elections are being held separately from national elections. The abstention of the Reformista Party's principal opponents, in itself, undoubtedly contributed significantly to the seeming breakdown of party discipline and the formation of numerous "independent" dissident Reformista groups.

B. Any assessment of the electoral possibilities of 52 newly formed movements in 38 municipalities at this early stage of the campaign is naturally highly speculative. A few of the movements, in special situations, appear to have significant opportunities for success. In Sabana de la Mar, the independent candidate is the incumbent PRD mayor. In Pedernales, the PRD also controls the municipal government and the independent nominee is reportedly backed by PRD Senator Pablo Rafael Casimiro Castro's organization. In Villa Vasquez, the Province's Reformista Senator has reportedly joined a broad independent front against the PR candidate. However, in most instances, the contesting independent movements have to overcome substantial initial disadvantages, not the least of which is the strong tendency to vote for the party in power.

C. Sources also state that the Reformista Party is making significant efforts to persuade Reformista dissidents who have formed independent movements to abandon their efforts, in exchange for councilman candidacies, contracts, or other concessions. The first fruit of these attempts at conciliation was seemingly manifested March 26, when Caribe reported that an agreement had been reached between the PR and the legally recognized Frente Independiente Higueyano, to support common candidates. According to PR sources, budding dissident Reformista movements in Yamasá, Constanza, and other municipalities were similarly dissuaded from publicly announced efforts, and the coming weeks may see other agreements such as that reached in Higuey.

6. A preliminary list of independent movements is enclosed.

Enclosure: 
As stated

CRIMMINS

J.H.C.
by J.J.D.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL
INDEPENDENT MOVEMENTS

Santo Domingo A-520

Enclosure #1

<u>Province</u>	<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Backers' Orientation</u>
Nat. Dist		Movimiento Aglutinador de Recuperación Edilicia	María Adalgisa de Monegro	PRD Dissidents
Nat. Dist		Movimiento Candidatura Municipal Independiente	Víctor Félix Peguero	PQD
Nat. Dist		Movimiento de Unidad Capitaleña	Francisco Campos Villalón	Independent-PRD-UCN
Nat. Dist		Movimiento Republicano Democrático	Antonio Martínez Francisco	PRD Dissidents
Nat. Dist		As yet unnamed	Milagros Elmúdesi Balaguer, Federico Marte Pichardo or Quirilio Vilorio Sánchez	PR Dissidents
La Altagracia	Higüey	Frente Independiente Higüeyano *	Homero Antonio González Mera	PR Dissidents - PRD
Azua	Azua	Movimiento Reformista Azuano	Jaime Ruiz Canó	PR Dissidents
Baoruco	Neiba	Agrupación Patriótica Independiente *	Leonte Hernández Acosta	?
Baoruco	Neiba	Frente Auténtico de Neiba	Julio Ernesto Méndez	PR Dissidents - PRD
Dajabon	Dajabon	Frente de Unificación Democrática *	Demetrio Senfleur Cepín	PR Dissidents
Duarte	San Francisco de Macorís	Unión Macorisana Independiente *	Eduardo Kunhardt Oleaga	UCN
Marte	San Francisco de Macorís	Unión Regional Independiente	Luis Castillo Faña	?
te	San Francisco de Macorís	Movimiento Reformista Independiente	?	PR Dissidents

 ated that movement recognized by Central Electoral Board

Drafted by:

Clearances:

CONFIDENTIAL

Santo Domingo A-520

Enclosure #1, Page 2

<u>Province</u>	<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Backers' Orientation</u>
Duarte	Castillo	Agrupación Política Independiente *	Rafael Martí Sanz	UCN
Duarte	Villa Riva	Unión Municipal *	Julio de Jesús	?
María Trinidad Sánchez	Nagua	Frente Independiente	Turín Paredes	?
Monte Cristi	Pepillo Salcedo	Agrupación Independiente Progresista *	Rafael Eladio Torres Díaz	PRD
Monte Cristi	Villa Vásquez	Movimiento Independiente Pro-Bienestar del Municipio de Villa Vásquez *	Abelardo Martínez Bonnelly	UCN - PR Dissidents
Pedernales	Pedernales	Unión Pedernales Apartidista *	Milciades Mancebo Pérez	PRD - PR Dissidents
Peravia	Baní	Movimiento Independiente Unión Banileja *	Manuel de Jesús Soto	?
Puerto Plata	Puerto Plata	Movimiento Electoral del Pueblo *	Agustín González Estévez	PRD - UCN
La Romana	La Romana	Movimiento Independiente Revolucionario *	Emilio Estrella	PRD - UCN
Salcedo	Tenares	Unión Ciudadana Independiente *	Manuel de Jesús Español	UCN
Samaná	Sánchez	Movimiento Político Independiente	?	PRD
Sánchez Ramírez	Cotui	Frente Independiente Conciliatoria Cotuisana*	Luciano Soto Jáquez	UCN-PQD-PR Dissidents
Sánchez Ramírez	Cevicos	Agrupación Independiente del Municipio de Cevicos*	Emiliano Sánchez Marte	UCN-PQD
San Cristóbal	Villa Altagracia	Movimiento Independiente Unido	Alfredo Collado	PRD

CONFIDENTIAL

1968 MAR 29 AM 10 20

COPYFLO-PBR

FORM 4-62 DS-323
 Drafted by: [Signature]
 Clearances: POL:JYC
 POL:JWW

CONFIDENTIAL

Santo Domingo A-520 Enclosure #1, Page 3

<u>Province</u>	<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Backers' Orientation</u>
San Cristóbal	Villa Alta-gracia	Movimiento Unido Independiente de Villa Altagracia	Agustín Baez	?
San Pedro de Macorís	San Pedro de Macorís	Movimiento Independiente*	Miguel Acta Fadul	PR Dissidents
Santiago	Santiago	Movimiento Independiente Conciliatorio *	Oscár Estrella Sadhalá	UCN-PQD-PRSC
Santiago	Santiago	Todo Por Santiago	Virgilio Mainardi Reyna	PRD
Santiago	Villa Bisonó	Movimiento Restaurador de Villa Bisonó *	Julio Reyes Bisonó	?
El Seibo	El Seibo	Movimiento del Partido Reformista	Yoryi Chahín	PR Dissidents
El Seibo	Hato Mayor	Name Unknown	José Severino	PR Dissidents
El Seibo	Miches	Movimiento Independiente Democrático Reconstructivo *	Francisco Cedano	?
El Seibo	Sabana de la Mar	Acción Independiente de Unidad Sabanalarino *	Notier Rodríguez	PRD
La Vega	La Vega	Agrupación Progresista Vegana Independiente *	Mario Longo Minervino	UCN-PQD
La Vega	Monseñor Nouel	Agrupación Independiente	Víctor Manuel Jiménez Taña	UCN-PR Dissidents

Other independent movements reportedly exist in the municipalities of Barahona, Pimentel, Nagua, Altamira (2), La Romana, Salcedo, Fantino, Monte Plata (2), San José de las Matas (2), Esperanza (2), and Jarabacoa. None of these movements has been recognized and relatively little information concerning them is available.

CONFIDENTIAL