

Threat Seen In Mexican Sinarquistas

By William D. Patterson
Associated Press Staff Writer

Mexico City, Nov. 4.—Enigma No. 1 of Mexico and center of increasingly bitter controversy are this republic's 250,000 to 500,000 semi-military Sinarquistas, whose leftist foes accuse them of being shock troops for a Nazi-Fascist Fifth Column.

Who are the Sinarquistas? Who is behind them? What do they want?

The powerful, nationalistic organization has been accused of being an ally of the totalitarian powers by government spokesmen, by Congress, by newspapers and the Confederation of Mexican Workers.

Axis ties are vigorously denied by Salvador Abascal, "supreme leader" of Sinarquismo.

The leader charges that the critics despoiled Mexico under the guise of the revolution and seek now, by attacking the Sinarquistas, to halt President Avila Camacho's swing toward the right.

Debate flared up recently when Avila Camacho authorized the Sinarquistas to settle 100,000 followers in deserted regions of Lower California.

After a tempestuous session, the Chamber of Deputies voted unanimously to petition the chief executive to rescind his authorization and to order the movement dissolved.

"Grave Danger" Seen

"The colonization of Lower California," Deputy Alfredo Felix Diaz said, "represents a grave danger. There is Magdalena Bay, one of the most strategic harbors in the world, which would serve as a beautiful refuge for a well-organized Fifth Column with Nazi tendencies."

Magdalena Bay, already a Mexican naval base, is being enlarged and improved. It is the best port on the Pacific Coast between San Pedro, Calif., and the Panama Canal.

"Do you want proof of the cooperation between the Sinarquistas and the totalitarians?" Deputy Carlos Zapata Vela asked during the chamber debate.

"The insignia, the flag, the salute and the ideals of the Sinarquistas—and their methods of fighting—are the same as those of the Nazi-Fascists. I am sufficiently sure that German, Italian and Spanish Falange money are giving force to the movement."

Returning to the attack, Deputy Diaz said:

"In Mexico there exists a Fifth Column, a shock brigade organized by a Nazi agent, which is trying to distract the attention of the United States from events in Europe and to paralyze its relations with our country and the other peoples of America.

"It is a lie that that union is nationalistic. It only obeys a pre-meditated plan of espionage of the agents of Hitler"

Abascal replied:

"It is a lie that we are enemies of the good neighbor policy."

The sole purpose of the colonization, Abascal insisted, is to provide peasant families of the movement an opportunity to improve their standard of living.