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Chief, St/L/R

20 March 1959

THRU : Chief, D/S

Chief, S/ID

Contributions to COI Periodic Requirements List (PRL) for Latin America, 1 May - 31 August, 1959

REF : 16 December 1958 memorandum from Ch/S/ID to Ch/St/L/R on PRL for Latin America, 1 January - 30 April, 1959

1. Revise Argentina requirement as follows:

In the recent past Argentina has made considerable shipments of boron (borax), which is on the International Embargo List, to various countries of the Sino-Soviet Bloc. At the request of the United States, the Argentine government has agreed to discontinue this trade except for such exceptions as may be made for Poland under the terms of recently modified export licensing arrangements agreed to by COMCON. The imposition of an embargo on Argentine boron exports to the Bloc appears to have resulted in the establishment in friendly countries of front firms for the purpose of evading these regulations. The supplier in at least one of these cases is the firm Rio Ran S.R.L., Buenos Aires. Front firms already known to be engaging in this trade are Societ A.G., Hauron, Liechtenstein, and Cirograndi S.A., Lausanne, Switzerland. The former is believed to be operating on behalf of Heinrichs GmbH, Hamburg, while the latter is used to cover operations by Trisardi S.A., a Swiss firm reportedly operating on funds contributed by ex-dictator Peron.

(a) Provide information on shipments, or proposed shipments, of boron from Argentina which may be going directly or indirectly to the Sino-Soviet Bloc. Supply all details such as quantities, costs, routing and the name of all participants to these transactions.

(b) Indicate the roles played by Argentine producers, exporters, and shippers in recent diversions. Report all suspect negotiations or shipments in detail. (S)

2. Maintain Brazil requirement as requested in reference memorandum. (C)

3. Revise Cuba requirement as follows:

The diversion of US electronic instruments through Cuba at the instigation of a notorious Swiss east-west trader, Alessandro Boten-Gombos, has apparently been halted by the seizure of a shipment by

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US Customs officials. ~~Notes-Luzon~~ is known to have numerous contacts in Cuba. The breakdown of his Cuban operation, therefore, might result in the establishment of a new group of middlemen.

(a) Report any information concerning ~~Notes-Luzon's~~ operations in Cuba including his contacts, future plans, commodity requirements, and sources.

(b) Provide information on the attitudes and activities of newly installed Cuban officials with respect to the diversion to the ~~Sino-Soviet~~ Bloc of strategic materials through Cuba. Indicate whether this may create a problem in terms of US exports of such commodities to Cuba, illustrating with specific cases wherever possible. (c)

4. Maintain Mexican requirement as requested in reference memorandum. (c)

5. Eliminate the existing requirement for Uruguay.

25X1A9a
[REDACTED]

Distribution:

Orig. & 1 - addressee

1 - D/S

1 - S/TD

1 - S/TD/T

1 - Requirements

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1 - [REDACTED]
25X1A9

RR/D/S/TD/[REDACTED]:jm/8h28 (20 March 1959)

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