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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

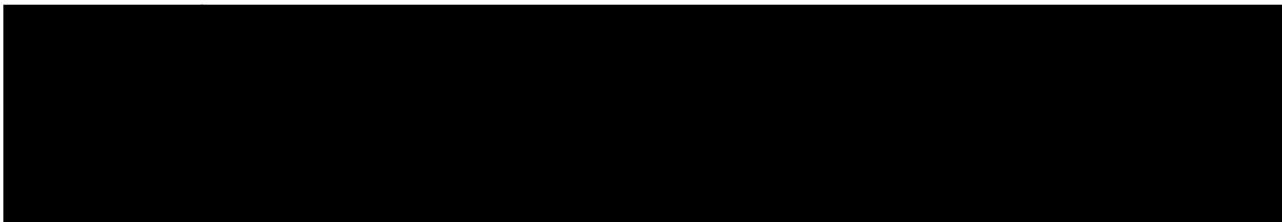


COUNTRY Spain
SUBJECT Spanish Masonry in France
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ORIGIN [Redacted]

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1. In Spain, there was at first only one organization of Masonry, and consequently one authority - the Grand Orient. Later, upon the creation of the AMI - Asociacion Masonica Internacional (International Masonic Association) - the Masons divided into partisans and opponents of the international organization. The latter organized separately and subordinated themselves to a new authority: the Grand Lodge of Spain. However, after a period during which the differences on the question of international organization provided a pretext for airing personal differences among several leaders, the two organizations were affiliated with the AMI.
2. The Spanish Masons in France are trying to organize themselves for the development of an independent policy, opposing that of the AMI, which required that refugee Spanish Masons individually join the French Masonic organization. In late November 1946, there were some ten or twelve separate Spanish lodges organized in France. There are two or three Spanish lodges located in Paris, one in Biarritz, one in Perpignan, which is Catalan, and some in Toulouse.
3. The Catalan Masons, who have in the past belonged to the Grand Lodge of Catalonia, which in turn is subordinate to the Grand Lodge of Spain, wish to organize within exclusive Catalan jurisdiction. This the Spanish Masons oppose. The Toulouse Catalan lodge is divided on this question, while the Catalan lodge of Perpignan, directed by a certain Lentres, appears to be adamantly determined to secure the independence of Catalan masonry.
4. The Communist Party of Spain, in accord with the decision of the Communist Party of France, ordered its members who are Masons to quit the Masonic organization, threatening them with expulsion from the party if they did not do so. Nevertheless, the Communists form the majority of the "Gran Comision de Reforma" lodge in Toulouse and the Communist Party apparently tolerates the participation of its members in the organization. This lodge meets seldom and always follows a "non-conformist" policy, protesting against the activities of the other Spanish lodges.
5. The Prieto Socialists appear to be very active in the lodges. The most influential Socialist in Spanish Masonry in Toulouse is Juan Tardior Lopez (former Propaganda Secretary and present Secretary of Political Education of the Executive Committee of the PSOE in France). Francisco Meca, who is of the same Socialist faction and who is at present in the service of Manuel Torres

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Campana, Minister of the Interior in the Jiral Government, is a delegate of the Grand Orient in France.

6. Some time ago, Premier Jiral was invited by one of the Paris lodges to attend one of their meetings and to join the lodge. Jiral thanked them for the invitation, but declined to join at that time.

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