COMPAGENTIAL

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Turkey

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DATE INFO.

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Return to Spain of Sephardic Jess | This document is hereby regraded to

SAFIDEN TAL in accordance with the letter of 46 October 1973 from the DIST. 13 January 1947

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Next Ferfery Date: 20.3

- Acting upon instructions received from Madrid, Alfonso Fiscowitch Gullon, the Spanish Minister to Turkey, has notified the leading Sephandic Jews of Istanbul (who are the descendants of those Jews who left Spain at the time of the Inquisition) that they will be offered every facility if they now wish to return to Spain. Spanish passports will be granted them for the special purpose of entering Spain and for general travel. They will also be permitted to retain their present Turkish passports in the event of their desiring to return to Turkey.
- 2. It would seem that the above move on the part of the Spanish Government aims at encouraging a number of the wealthy Jews throughout the Middle East to return to Spain. It is also believed that the Franco Government is anxious to show public opinion that it follows neither a racial nor anti-semitic policy - on the contrary, it offers a haven to Jews. Members of the Spanish Legation in Istanbul express the hope that such a pro-Jewish attitude will influence Jewish world opinion and that Jews everywhere will be induced to adopt a pro-Spanish attitude.
- 3. Mr. Pernand Moral, the Cultural Attaché of the Spanish Legation, has organized Spanish courses which are being attended by a great number of Sephardic Jows.

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