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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

122427

COUNTRY Mexico/USSR/Argentina

DATE: 25X1A

SUBJECT Report on Rio Conference to Soviet Embassy in Mexico

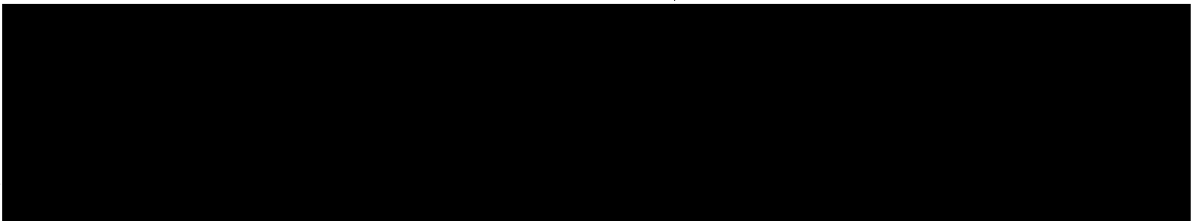
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SUPPLEMENT



1. Ernesto Alvarez Velasco, ex-Chief of Information of the Agencia Noticiosa Latino Americana (ANLA) of Mexico, who covered the Rio Conference for Lombardo Toledano's newspaper El Popular, was used there as a political reporter by the Soviet Embassy, according to a usually reliable source. The following are some of the opinions of Alvarez Velasco on the Conference, as reported to the Soviet Embassy:

- a. The Conference was a failure for the United States in regard to the Truman Doctrine, for although the Inter-American Defense Treaty was accepted, it will be used as a basis for opposition to the Truman Doctrine. The resistance of Argentina to the United States has caused the latter to lose prestige.
- b. The Mutual Defense Plan was the United States' only success, but, on the other hand, Argentina succeeded in incorporating the distinction between inter-continental and extra-continental conflicts.
- c. The plan providing that the signers of the Rio agreement will intervene in the case of a conflict between two of them will only cause difficulties. While the conferences to decide which nation has been the aggressor are being laid, the war will continue, and thus the treaty will lose its strength.
- d. Economically, although the United States has promised financial aid to Latin America, this aid will not be immediate, as requested by Argentina, and thus will be ineffective and useless to Latin American nations.

2. The following opinions of the Soviet Embassy on Latin American relations are attributed to the Embassy by Alvarez Velasco.

- a. The Embassy believes that the next war will be fought in Europe, Asia, and the Polar regions, and Russia will have no quarrel with the countries of Latin America. Thus the problem of whether the conflict is inter-continental or extra-continental will arise, and the Latin American countries will run the risk of being considered aggressors instead of the victims of the attack if they declare war. In any case, the Soviet Embassy believes the aid that Latin America might lend in case of war would be very small and of little value except as security for the United States. They also believe that countries like Argentina and Brazil will follow the example set by the former in the last war and try to make the largest profit possible out of their neutrality or aid.

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- b. In regard to Mexico, Torres Bodet's complete support of United States policies has caused the Soviet Embassy to regard Mexico as a potential enemy of Russia. As a result, the Embassy is taking greater precaution in its work in Mexico.
- c. The exact policies which will be adopted by the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City as a result of the Rio Conference cannot be determined until after the arrival of the new ambassador.

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