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INFORMATION REPORT

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Copy
COUNTRY France/ Belgium

DATE DISTR. 22 November 1948

SUBJECT Validity of Jules Moch's Statement that First
Cominform Instructions to French Communist Party
25X1A6a Were Passed through Belgian Communists in November 1947

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

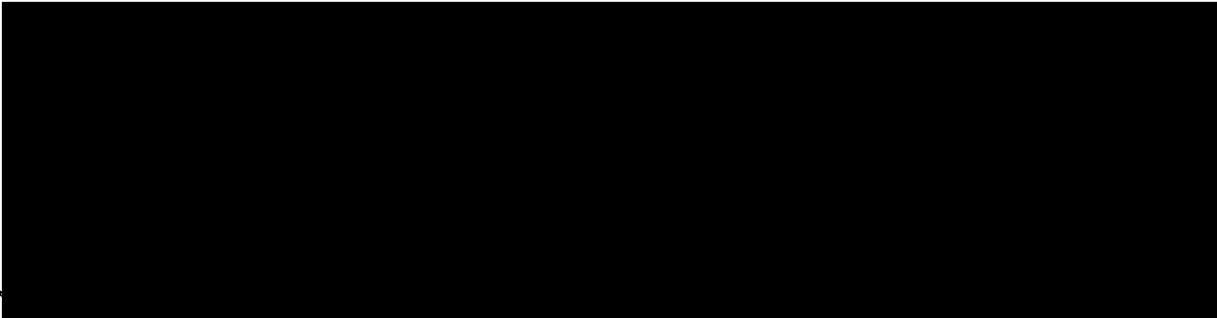
NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO 19 November 1948

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



1. On 16 November 1948 French Minister of the Interior Jules Moch stated that the first precise instructions to French Communist leaders had been transmitted to Edgar Lalmand and Bob Claessens, Belgian Communist leaders, following their return from Moscow in November 1947. This statement has been headlined and refuted in the Communist press throughout Belgium and France.
2. According to source there is no evidence that Lalmand has ever been to Moscow at any time. However, Lalmand, Paul Libois, and seven non-Communist members of the Belgian Parliament visited Warsaw for eight days at the invitation of the Polish government. They left Brussels 29 October 1947 by air via Prague and all returned the same way.
3. There is no indication that Claessens has ever been to Moscow. According to source Claessens has traveled only to Switzerland, France, Holland, and Italy.

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