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Approved For Release 1999/09/08 : CIA-RDP82-00457R002100590007-1

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COUNTRY Ecuador

DATE DISTR. 9 December 1948

SUBJECT Investment of Soviet Capital in Latin America and Canada

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE ACQUIRED 25X1A6a

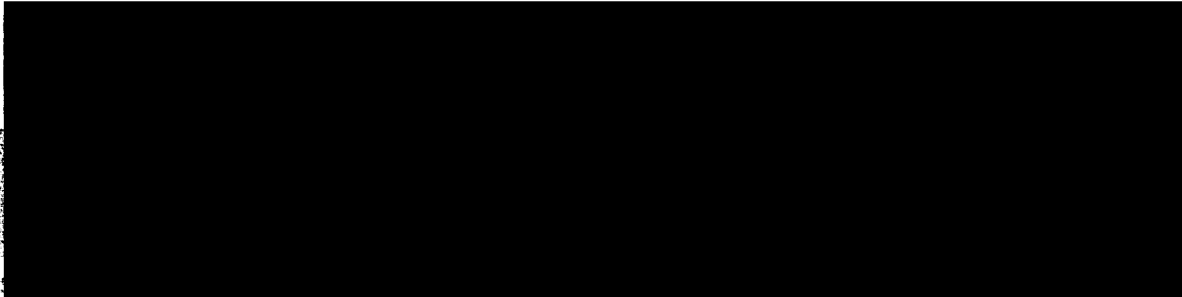
NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO Prior to 14 November 1948

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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- Information has been received that certain Soviet officials are endeavoring to invest money in Latin America through a special agent from Switzerland who is presently living in Quito, Ecuador. ~~Comment.~~ This agent has been identified as Juan Egger. His principal activity is described as the investment of European funds. Egger is approximately 50 years of age and speaks German with a definite Swiss accent. It is believed that he has two assistants, who are also Swiss. One of these individuals has been in Ecuador for over ten years. The other, who arrived in Ecuador a few weeks ago from Montreal, Canada, is known as Chassurie (phonetic).
- The above report may have some connection with a statement made by Andre Munsch, who has been negotiating for the investment of illegally obtained French capital in Ecuador (see SO-16207). Munsch stated that, in addition to his own group, there were other investors in Europe who desired to make sound investments in Latin America. The true identity of the investors could be concealed by working through intermediaries in Switzerland. Munsch stated that he had been confidentially informed that high Soviet officials and Army officers had sent their personal funds to Switzerland for reinvestment in Latin America and Canada, the latter country receiving preference.
- As for his own plans regarding French investments in Ecuador, Munsch stated that nothing had materialized to date. The reasons given were the unstable condition of the Ecuadoran Government and the unexplainable delay of Andre Mutter's return to Ecuador.

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 Next Review Date: 2008

Document No. 7  
 NO CHANGE In Class.   
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 Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C  
 DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77  
 Auth: DDA REG. 7/1763  
 Date: 08 MAY 1978 By: 24

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