INFORMATION NEPORT

CD NO.

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COUNTRY Bolivia

Revolutionary Threat by Younger Military Element

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Additional information has been obtained concerning the revolutionary threat in Bolivia which was reported in

1. Colonel Salinas is said to have told Movimiento Nacionalista Revolucionario (MNR) leader Juan Pinto that the youth of the Army is ready to stage a coup district and that this move would probably be effected before January 1949.

Comment. Salinas is a member of the Bolivian Army Tribunal.

25X1A6a Comment. Salinas is a member of the Bolivian Army Tribunal.)

2. Herbert Anez, ex-Deputy of the MNR, recently returned from a trip through the interior of the country, and in a report to the MNR Com and, stated that the Army officers in Cochabamba and area hold frequent meetings and have been assured the cooperation of the regiments in Viacha and Guaqui in

tactics in order to insure a successful coup.

members of the Logia Radepa.

3. The following officers have been responsible for these meetings in Cochabamba: Ex-Major Irasmo Terrazas, General Carlos Pena y Lilla (retired), General Bernadino Bilbao Rioja (retired), ex-Major Alberto Taborga and General Felix Tavera. Supporting the move, or reported as a possible sympathizer, is Colonel Hugo Ballivian, Director of the Military Academy in La Paz. However, the cooperation of this officer has not been confirmed as yet. Also reported as sympathetic to such a plan of revolution are many members of the Air Force personnel in La Paz and Santa Cruz, and members of some of the Army regiments in La Paz. As a result of this alleged planned revolt, telephone conversations of all important military personnel, headquarters and regiments are being recorded by the police. The following officers are subject to such telephone censorship: General David Toro, General Felipe Rivera, Chief of the Army, Colonel David Terrazas, Chief of Staff, Colonel Hugo Ballivian, Director of the Military Academy, Major Hernan Pol, Air Force Commander, Colonel Felix Tavera, General Carlos Pena y Lilla, General Bernadino Bilbao, and various members of the General Staff and Casa Militar, and less important officers of the Air Force, as well as certain members of the MNR who were at one time

their plans for a revolt. These elements are allegedly studying plans and



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Comment. The Army elements involved in this reported scheme are sympathetic to the MNR and, through a union with certain MNR leaders, this coup might be successfully staged. Ex-Major Irasmo Terrazas is reported as heading the forces in Cochabamba, and it is this group of young officers that would be expected to force the hand of the older officers, faithful to President Hertzog. In the event of a successful coup, the intention at this time is to place Major Elias Belmonte at the head of the Junta Military Government. What reward the MNR civilian supporters would realize is not yet known, but it is believed that they would be content with the opportunity to regain some of their power and position in the Government for this collaboration.)

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