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CD NO.

COUNTRY Argentina

DATE DISTR. 1 Mar 1949

SUBJECT Slav Immigration to Argentina

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PLACE ACQUIRED

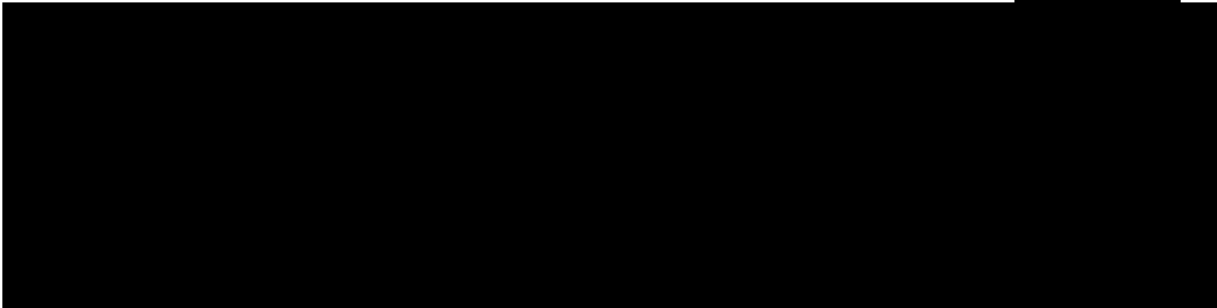
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



1. A secret meeting was held recently at the headquarters of Hrvatski Karitas in Buenos Aires, to consider the problem of financing the passage of Croats and Germans to Argentina and other South American countries. Father Stjepan Draganovic, a Croat priest who is active in Slav immigration matters in Argentina, proposed a plan to create a special fund to bring "sivi" (grey)\* Croats and Germans to Latin America.
2. Father Draganovic explained that there are now about 25,000 Croats in Germany, Austria and Italy, as well as approximately 3600 Germans in Austria who are pro-Croatian. The latter, who consider themselves as "Volksdeutsche", are led by (fnu) Altgayer. As many of these Croats and Germans are considered politically undesirable by the International Refugee Organization (IRO), their passage to Latin America will not be paid by that organization. Father Draganovic believes that there is great danger that these individuals will be extradited to Yugoslavia.
3. It was further pointed out that there are now about 1300 Croats in Argentina whose passage was paid by private means. Father Draganovic proposed that each such Croat contribute 10 pesos monthly to his special fund, with larger amounts to be contributed by wealthy Croats in Argentina.
4. Father Draganovic emphasized that there are ways to bring Croat immigrants to Argentina despite the official suspension of Slav immigration.
5. It was proposed that a committee be appointed to handle the special fund. Dr. Josip Reberski, Argentine deputy for Dr. Vlatko Macek, was invited to join the committee, but he declined. Other names suggested for the committee were Dr. Rudolf Baricevic, Dr. Reberski's son-in-law and former consul in Fiume under Ante Pavelich; Father Dragutin Kamber; Father Josip Tlbijas; and (fnu) Matkovic, former Croat consul in Munich.

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Comment. This designation refers to Ustashi who have a war criminal record.

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