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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]
CD NO. [REDACTED]

COUNTRY El Salvador

DATE DISTR. 1 March 1949

SUBJECT Threatened Railroad Strike
25X1A6a

NO. OF PAGES 1

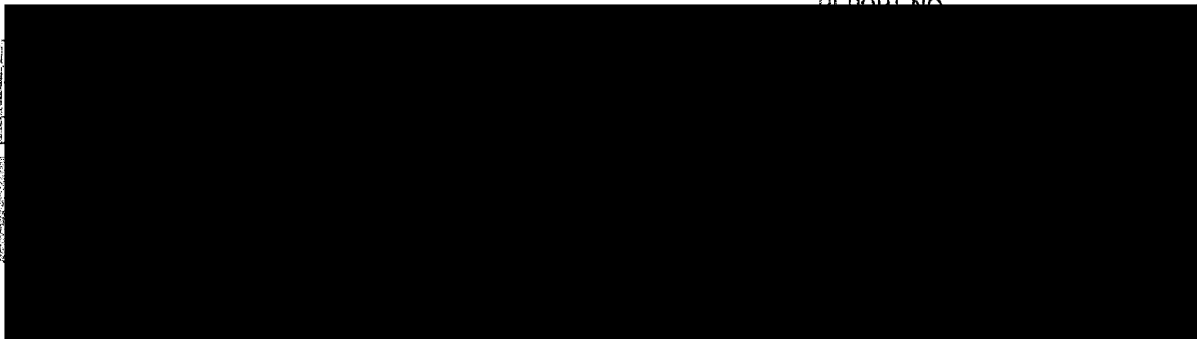
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NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO. 21 February-2 March 1949 25X1X6

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. A full scale railroad strike is scheduled to be called in El Salvador effective 2 March if some agreement has not been reached at that time by the Union de Ferrocarrileros (UTF) and the International Railway of Central American (IRCA). The climax in the long-standing struggle between the union and the IRCA was reached when IRCA manager J. H. Wilson refused to recognize the right of UTF to represent the workers. The UTF has requested that Wilson be removed by the IRCA president.
2. The UTF carried out a three-hour work stoppage on 21 February and scheduled a second stoppage for 26 February.
3. On 25 February, Labor Minister Enrique Porras, UTF President Benjamin Mejia and UTF Assessor Carlos Alex Gomez conferred and agreed that the UTF would accept the mediation of the Labor Minister who proposed the following terms:
 - a) The UTF shall draw up its minimum demands and present them to Wilson through Minister Porras.
 - b) If Wilson accepts the terms, an agreement will be entered into by a legal formula described as estipulacion a un tercero, which will carry legal force in the absence of labor laws.

The UTF also stipulated that the minimum demands must be approved by a general session of the union.

Field Comment. The government seems to be applying pressure on Wilson, since the arrangement appears to favor the railroad workers.

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