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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. [REDACTED]

COUNTRY Latin America

DATE DISTR. 9 Mar 1949

SUBJECT Organization of Latin American Women's Movement

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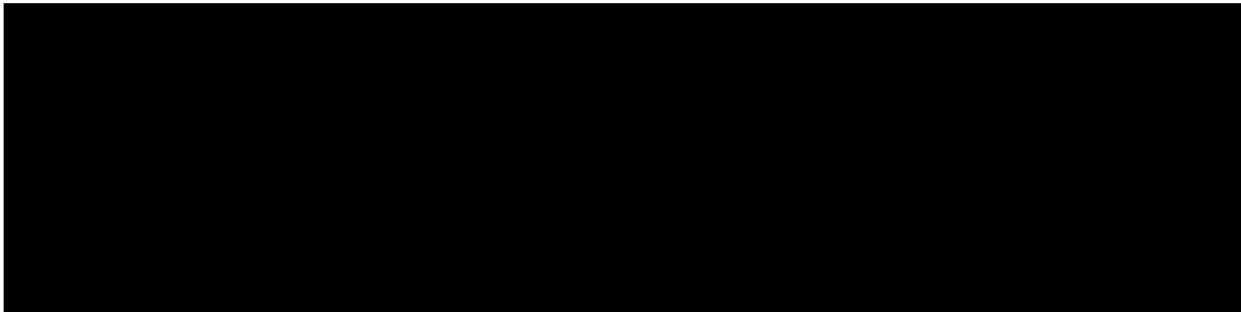
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. When Gilberto Vieira White, Secretary General of the Partido Comunista de Colombia (PCC - Communist Party of Colombia), returned from his recent trip to Quito, Ecuador,* he reported that one of the principal decisions made at the informal meetings there had been the organization of a Communist women's movement in Latin America. He stated that the continent would be divided into geographical regions and that the headquarters for the Bolivarian countries, i.e., Venezuela, Colombia, Panama, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia, would be set up in Quito under the direction of the Ecuadorian woman Communist leader, Nela Espinosa de Martinez. This regional headquarters would facilitate collaboration and exchange of ideas between the various national movements and in turn would cooperate with other regional headquarters. One organization with which contact would be made was the American Committee of the International Women's League for Peace and Liberty, which has its headquarters in Washington, D. C.
2. Organization of this movement in Colombia has been entrusted to Mercedes Abadia, the foremost woman Communist in that country and a member of the PCC Central Committee in charge of women's affairs. For the purposes of organization, Colombia will be divided into sections, rather than departments, each of which will be directly handled by a sectional directorate under a woman Communist. Carmen Castro de Sevilla has been mentioned as having been placed in charge of the Cali section. As a first step toward putting the plan into effect, Mercedes Abadia plans to publish a small propaganda leaflet outlining the purposes of the organization.
3. The new movement will not be limited to members of the PCC. All women members of the Partido Comunista Obrero as well as of the PCC and non-Communists, will be asked to join. It is expected that the majority will be non-Communist but will be controlled by Communists. It is hoped by Vieira White and Abadia that the organization will influence many women to accept the principles of Communism and will help to combat the influence of the Catholic Church.

This document is hereby regraded
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ in accordance with the
 letter of 13 February 1978 from the
 Director of Central Intelligence to the
 Archivist, United States.
 Next Review Date: 2 08

CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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