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**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

CD NO.

25X1A9a

COUNTRY El Salvador/Nicaragua/Cuba

DATE DISTR. 22 Mar 1949

SUBJECT Anti-Somoza Revolutionary Movement

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PLACE ACQUIRED [Redacted]

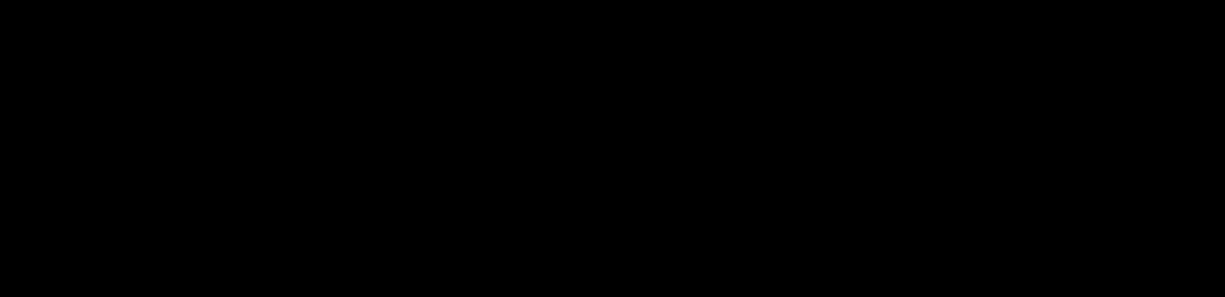
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DATE OF INFO. [Redacted]

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. [Redacted]

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1. Dr. Carlos Castillo Ibarra, who left El Salvador to return to Guatemala on 21 February, was still undecided on that date about the disposal of certain arms he was in a position to obtain in Guatemala, and which are desired by two factions in El Salvador, the partisans of Major Humberto Villalta and those of Carlos Llerena, Rector of the National University. Castillo Ibarra was disposed to give the arms to whichever Central American revolutionary group is first prepared to use them in Honduras, Nicaragua, or El Salvador.
2. Castillo Ibarra reported that in a letter dated 12 February which was written to him by Juan Jose Meza from Mexico, Meza revealed that he had been in personal contact with Villalta. Villalta left El Salvador for the United States on 9 February, having been bought off by the Salvadoran junta for \$11,000 but according to Castillo Ibarra, he is no longer going to the United States. Meza stated he had also been in written contact with Osorio, whose sentiments were now favorable to supporting the anti-Somoza movement.\*
3. Shortly before Castillo Ibarra left El Salvador, he secured the pledge of Dr. Llerena that all the civilian members of the governing junta favored supporting the anti-Somoza movement. Dr. Reinaldo Galindo Pohl, who had previously been apprehensive about the legality of such a pledge, had now joined the others.
4. Castillo Ibarra stated that he intended to report to President Arevalo in Guatemala that ex-President Carias of Honduras is gathering his forces to remove President Galvez.
5. Castillo Ibarra received a letter recently from Adolfo Ortega Diaz, a Nicaraguan contact in New York and Washington, who is planning to return to Costa Rica soon. In the letter, Ortega Diaz commented on a plan Castillo Ibarra had submitted to him for attacking Somoza through a system of small commando raids instead of organizing a large, coordinated military movement. Ortega Diaz reported that he would be able to obtain a ship capable of transporting 200 men at a price of \$12,000, if Castillo Ibarra could obtain the money in El Salvador.
6. Castillo Ibarra described the plan submitted to Ortega Diaz as featuring a small-scale attack to begin in the Las Segovias area of Nicaragua. The

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number of men now contemplated for use was 300-500, in patrols of 25-60 men each, instead of an army totaling 5000 as planned in January. Castillo Ibarra said that the area had been determined after observing that both the air force and Guardia Nacional of Nicaragua had proved ineffective in Las Segovias, and that the Guardia was even afraid to enter it.

7. Castillo Ibarra also clarified the reasons why the Nicaraguan revolutionists were still interested in obtaining additional arms stores in spite of repeated statements that they had more than enough material for an attack.\*\* He said that the overall strategy had changed, and it was planned for the Nicaraguan revolutionists and Hondurans to initiate the government, rather than wait for it to originate in the countries of the "big friends"—President Prio and Juan Bosch of Cuba, and President Arevalo of Guatemala. Castillo Ibarra added that he hoped to obtain the \$50,000 from El Salvador for arms transportation costs in order to be able to confront Prio and Arevalo with the statement, "The battle against Somoza has begun. You have the material we need to finish it, and here is the money to pay for its transportation."

25X1A6a \* ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ Comment. Osorio has given only verbal support to the Nicaraguan revolutionary movement. He has failed thus far to translate any of his words into action.

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