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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

**INFORMATION REPORT**

CD NO.

COUNTRY Ecuador

DATE DISTR. 23 August 1950

SUBJECT Mancheno Revolutionary Attempt of 10 August 1950

NO. OF PAGES 2

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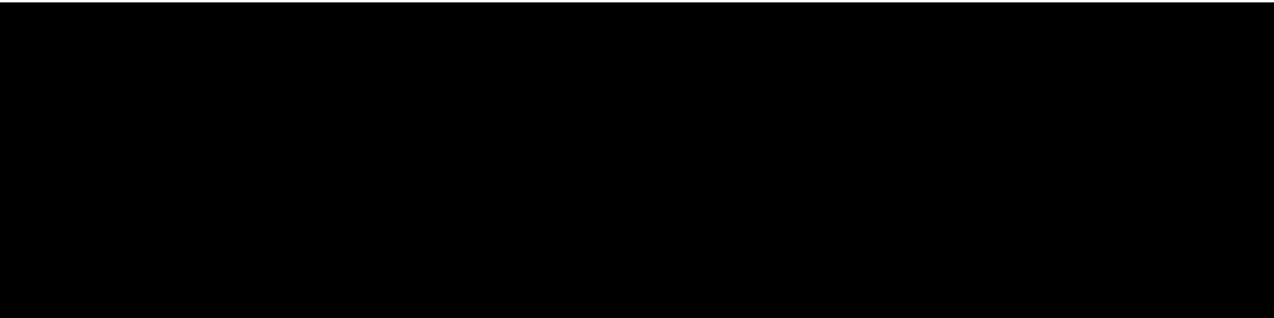
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DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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*Fld 621*



- 25X1X 1. [REDACTED] reported that Defense Minister Manuel Diaz Granados had complete advance knowledge of the revolutionary attempt made by Col. Carlos Mancheno on 10 August 1950.\*
2. On the morning of 9 August 1950, it was learned that military garrisons in and around Quito had been alerted. At 4:30 p.m. on the same day, Captain Rene Avila, one of Diaz Granados' aides and a member of his small personal clique, stated that many of the army garrisons throughout the country were ready to revolt and that the leaders of the revolt were Col. Mancheno, Lt. Col. Bolivar Galvez and retired Lt. Col. Aurelio Olarte. At 6 p.m. on 9 August, Diaz Granados called a special meeting of all officers known to be friendly toward him, advised them of the gravity of the situation and requested that they be ready to take instant action to suppress any attempted movement.
3. Diaz Granados also stated that on the afternoon of 9 August Julio Teodoro Salem, head of the Liberal Party, had given one Lt. Ceron of the Guardia Civil twenty thousand sucres to be used for the revolutionary movement. Ceron delivered this money to Diaz Granados, but it was decided that it should be passed on to the revolutionaries in order not to betray Ceron to them. Diaz claimed that it would be better for the movement to take place as scheduled since the government would be able to overcome it with ease.
4. Diaz Granados further stated that the conspirators met to receive orders in the home of Dr. Tobias Torres in Quito and then proceeded to Villa Flora opposite the Mariscal Sucre battalion headquarters. According to Diaz Granados, the rebels planned to fire a rocket from Villa Flora between 11 and 12 p.m. on 9 August as a signal for the mutiny of the troops of the Mariscal Sucre battalion. Coincident with this, civilians marching from Villa Flora were to attack the headquarters and arm themselves with battalion hand weapons. Diaz Granados stated that he had personally alerted the officers of the Azuay mechanized unit. Diaz Granados considered at least 60% of the Azuay unit to be loyal.
5. The following were taken prisoner upon attempting to capture the Guardia Civil barracks, all being later released except Lt. Col. Molina, who was held incommunicado.

Lt. Col. Virgilio Jesus Molina, a member of the Vanguardia Revolucionaria Anibal Molina, son of Lt. Col. Molina and a former sergeant in Azuay tank group

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Enrique Andrade Rodriguez, a linotype operator for the Socialist newspaper La Tierra  
Nicolas Cando, a former non-commissioned cavalry officer  
Jose Maria Moreno, an employee of the office of the mayor of Quito  
Eloy Munoz, an employee of the office of the mayor of Quito  
Antonio Arias  
Alejandro Pena Guevara, a former soldier  
Luis de la Cadena, a day laborer and member of the PCE  
Ernesto Villacis Troya  
Pedro Penaherrera, owner of a Quito pension and a lesser PCE official  
Carlos Morales Arcos, a former soldier  
Juan M. Tapia  
Arsenio Media Villa  
Hugo Arrova, a day laborer and PCE member from Guayaquil

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Comment. Diaz Granados was also reported to be involved in the 15 July 1950 revolutionary plot of Guevara Moreno. It is considered highly possible that he became involved in both of these movements for the purpose of gaining knowledge which would enable him to put them down when they occurred. He is a powerful figure in the present government and is rumored to be making large sums of money from graft. A revolutionary coup would therefore be of no advantage to him. It is believed that Diaz Granados, although apparently conspiring against the Plaza government, will support it as long as it is possible and to his financial advantage to do so.

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