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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

COUNTRY Peru

SUBJECT Limited Acceptance of COC by Peruvian Minister of Government
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1. The limited recognition given by Minister of Government Ricardo de la Puente to the group has temporarily halted the opposition campaign being planned against the Peruvian Comite Obrero del Callao (COC) by the Prefect of Callao, Damaso Rivero de Winder, according to source. COC leader Julio Tizon succeeded in having a delegation of his followers received by de la Puente, who agreed to lend his support to the group. The COC had earlier made several unsuccessful attempts to have de la Puente receive a delegation, and finally the organization appealed to Nestor Gambetta, Senator from Callao. Gambetta is reported to be a strong Odrista who enjoys considerable influence in the area among the laborers and politicians. Gambetta persuaded Deputy Victor Goytizolo, a member of the opposition, to arrange the interview between COC leaders and de la Puente.
2. The delegation, headed by Julio Tizon and composed of Pedro Curay, Fernando Villavicencio, Victor Perez Rengifo and Andres Bracamonte and accompanied by Goytizolo, held an interview with de la Puente in mid-September. The delegation's spokesman, Bracamonte, allegedly denied all the charges made against COC and informed the Minister of Government that the true intent of the organization is strict adherence to the government's labor policy. Bracamonte stressed the COC's desire to form a labor movement which would cooperate with the government, participating in any future government-sponsored workers' congress. De la Puente's protection and cooperation was requested, and official recognition for the group was solicited.
3. Although the Minister agreed to lend his support to COC, he reportedly will watch its activities very closely. The leaders of COC are well aware of the limited character of his approval, and realize that he will be interested in the movement only so long as it serves his purpose.
4. Accordingly, COC leaders have agreed upon a reorganization plan, eliminating any members of the committee who do not represent a strong influential labor union and dropping members whose presence reveals the leftist tendency of the group. This action is expected to affect several of the board's leading members, among them Bracamonte and Guillermo Rouillon. Source reports, however, that these two will continue behind the scenes as leaders of COC, and are contemplating the creation of a covert committee whose existence will be known only to Tizon and certain members of the COC directorate. This secret committee would help Tizon carry out his Communist-line policies.

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5. It is also reported that dissident Communist leader Cesar Angel Marin has been suspended for thirty days by the dissidents' Comite Departamental. This action was taken because Marin approached Juan P. Luna without prior approval and offered to assist Luna put out a contemplated labor publication.

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