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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. 25X1A

COUNTRY Venezuela

DATE DISTR. 8 August 1960

SUBJECT Comments on Report from the International Political Bureau of the CTAL

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PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED] 25X1C

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO [REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1X

25X1X

The following comments have been received [REDACTED] on a report on Venezuela allegedly prepared by the International Political Bureau of the CTAL.

1. It is not believed that the report was written by a Venezuelan. Errors in the spelling of names, which do not appear to be merely typographical errors, are not frequent but are sufficient to indicate that they were committed by a person not well versed in the affairs of Venezuela and unfamiliar with Venezuelan names. For example, the name, Dr. Luis de Beltran Prieto appears in the context whereas the actual name is Dr. Luis Beltran Prieto. In addition, the use of the title "doctor" for Romulo Betancourt is an error. Doctors in Venezuela are either medical doctors or lawyers, and Romulo Betancourt is neither.
2. The writer of the report unquestionably had access to material prepared by a Venezuelan or had consulted with a Venezuelan having considerable knowledge of the country. This consultant might have been a labor leader who had traveled extensively throughout the country.
3. It would be extremely difficult to believe that the report, which consists of a patchwork of old and new information, was prepared for sale. The general tenor of the language is boasting, and the inaccuracies are probably the result of a desire to make the report good reading material for propaganda purposes. Such a desire might also be behind some of the incorrect statements, the most glaring of which concerned the part to be played by the Venezuelan Indians in the Communist movement. Persons who know these Indians know that their lives and thoughts are such that they would have no interest in participating in a Communist movement. They have not been affected by the Communist propaganda so widely circulated in literate areas.
4. Although the ground covered in the report is extensive and plans are outlined whereby the Communist movement would result in a revolution and eventual dictatorship of the proletariat, the report contains very little information of concrete value. Very few names are mentioned, and the report does not name the specific camps where councils have been or are to be set up which would be the bases for carrying out the movement. 25X1A