

Top Secret

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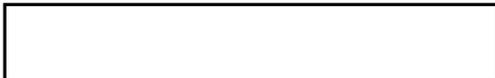
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NOTES

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USSR - Latin America: Moscow is seeking increased participation in the UN's Economic Commission for Latin America. The commission is influential in the economic planning activities of a number of Latin American countries. Its secretariat in Santiago includes some notably anti-US personnel. [redacted]

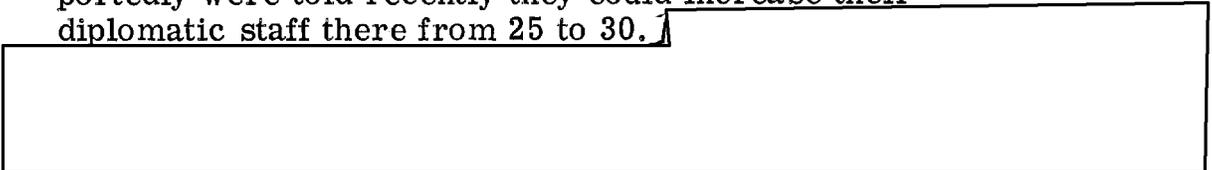
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The Soviets, who have been making steady progress in gaining official and public acceptance in Chile, reportedly were told recently they could increase their diplomatic staff there from 25 to 30. [redacted]

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Guatemala: Security forces have reportedly made several hundred arrests in Guatemala City in an effort to find the Communist terrorists responsible for the murder of two Americans on 16 January. The capital has been relatively quiet for the past two days. In spite of strong security precautions the city remains tense, and Communist or right-wing extremists could carry out further assassinations at any time. [redacted]

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*Colombia-USSR: Bogota has re-established relations with the Soviet Union, probably in an effort to broaden the market for Colombian exports. This step has been under negotiation for some months. The renewal of relations, which were broken in 1948, has been a prime objective of the Communist Party of Colombia. Its secretary general earlier this month told a party plenum that this would "benefit the revolution." The USSR now has diplomatic relations with six Latin American countries in addition to Cuba.

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Yugoslavia: Tito has taken another move to restore discipline in the faction-ridden Serbian Communist organization by putting one of his old cronies, Yugoslav party presidium member Petar Stambolic, in charge. This action comes less than a week after the announcement that another presidium member and long-time Tito associate, Veljko Vlahovic, is to take over the Belgrade city party organization. Stambolic's predecessor probably had to give way because of his failure to get a firm grip on the Serbian Communists, who have been growing more and more nationalistic.

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