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SECURITY INFORMATION

25 April 1945

DATE OF INFORMATION: 20 April 1945
SUBSOURCE : Piedmont
TO : Chief, SI/ALDOTO
Chief, Italian/SI
FROM : ~~NAME~~ SARAZEN

According to subsource, reports recently received in the Vatican from Spain indicate that Franco is growing more popular and gaining support. Although the Falange is not well liked, ~~as the only element and public face,~~ it is probable that Franco will remain. The main reason for this popularity of Franco is that the people realize that Franco kept them out of the European war and gave little support to Germany. Also, ~~and~~ the republican elements realize that a sudden change now might result in another revolution.

Subsource's information is based on reports from Catholic bishops and priests arriving in the Vatican and from conversations he has had with the Spanish Ambassador to the Vatican, who is not completely pro-Franco but is an independent thinker.

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