

*Handwritten mark*

25X1

RESTRICTED

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
INTELLIGENCE REPORT**

COUNTRY Latin America  
SUBJECT Inter-America Defense Board

DATE:

25X1

DIST. 16 May 1947

PAGES 7

SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN

25X1

DISTRIBUTION

STATE	WAR	NAVY	JUSTICE	R & E	C & D	AAF				

25X1

Buenos Aires in Spanish to North and South America, Dec. 20, 1946

"The Radical minority assailed the proposal for expenses of the Armed Forces for 1947 in the annual budget now being debated in the Chamber of Deputies. Spokesman Deputy Donato Emilio del Carril asserted that the House should be informed whether the 'country is pointing for war or is going to live in cordial relations with the rest of the hemisphere.'

"The total budget is 2,523,653,312 pesos of which del Carril calculated the requirements of the Army, Navy, and Airforce exceeded a billion pesos, 'without counting secret expenses on arms purchases.'

"The military budget is not exactly defined in the bill presented Congress but del Carril said that the Army's budget program might reach 109 million pesos itself. He declared that Argentine should obtain the rest from other countries without joining a military bloc with any world power.

"Peronists Deputy Jose Visca said that the Armed Forces need to prepare to join the hemisphere defense under the so called Truman plan, 'in line with the policy of continental solidarity under the Act of Chapultepec.'

"Del Carril and other Radicals interrupted, saying that the Act of Chapultepec did not obligate Argentina to 'defend imperialistic interests' and the people of Argentina would never accept participation in alliance of that nature.

"Prior to the February elections the Radicals were pro-United States in attitude but they did not support ratification of the Act of Chapultepec when the Peronistas approved it." (Ed. Note--The peso is about four to a dollar)

IGWA Guatemala in Spanish, Nov. 3, 1946

"Washington--Army and Navy officers have little hope that the projected Inter-American Military Defense Program will be begun until the United States and Argentina adjust their differences... But members of the Inter-American Defense Board believe that their entire program will be delayed until Argentina and the United States reach some agreement.

RESTRICTED

CLASSIFICATION

"In the meantime, it is said that munitions sellers from Sweden and England are offering their products for immediate sale. Officers of the U. S. Army in charge of the problem say that they are apprehensive about the possibility that European training missions may follow European arms into Latin America. But these army officers say that they are limiting themselves strictly to the military phases of the situation and that naturally the State Department has complete control over all political aspects."

Santiago de Chile in Spanish Morse to Chilean Embassies, Nov. 8, 1946

"The Foreign Relations Minister, Sr. Juliet, yesterday made some important statements to the press on the international policy of Chile. He stated that Chile will not support any proposals in the United Nations Assembly to abolish the right to veto .. Chile will respect the agreements of Chapultepec.."

Press Dispatch in Spanish Morse from Levich, Buenos Aires, for TASS, Moscow (Via AFP New York), Nov. 8, 1946

"The newspaper *La Nacion* (Peronist-ed.), commenting on the results of the elections in the United States, writes: 'The most important international event of the year 1946 for the Argentines is the over-whelming triumph which the Republicans obtained in the recent Congressional elections in the United States, not on account of the Republican triumph itself, but on account of the...defeat, significant of a general reaction against the international policy of Spruille Braden.'

"To us, the Descamisados, who constitute the vast majority of the country, this pointed fact gives legitimate satisfaction which cannot be hidden. In this Bradenian defeat a great national victory comes to us."

"The newspaper underscores that 'the defeat of the Democratic Party justifies the position of Argentina on the continent and opens the way to good neighborliness.'"

Press Dispatch in French Morse from AFP Correspondent in Buenos Aires to AFP in Paris, (Via AFP New York) Nov. 9, 1946

"...The result of the elections is considered the defeat of Braden, thus becoming a great national victory for Argentina, proclaims the semi-official *La Nacion* which considers that the election results will modify radically the policy of the United States and will eliminate the anti-Argentine prejudices inspired by the Democratic Administration.

"The Republican triumph opens the way to real good neighborliness, concludes *La Nacion*. It recalls that Braden, who is Assistant Secretary of State, systematically opposed the admission of Argentina to the pact for Inter-American Military Defense without certain conditions which the Peron Government objects, notably those which the State Department considers indispensable to the expiration of the last vestiges of Nazi influence."

LA Buenos Aires in Spanish Morse to Latin America, Jan. 20, 1947

"Buenos Aires--*La Nacion*, referring to the invitation given the Argentine Government to take part in the Rio de Janeiro Conference, says that in that meeting 'the plan of continental defense will be prepared,' and it adds that the conference has its origin in the sentiment of solidarity among the nations of America, reflected in the decisions of the Inter-American Conference on problems of war and peace, held in Mexico in February and March of 1945.

RESTRICTED

"It says that step by step, the nations are advancing along the road of international stability. Frequently the times seem suddenly of extreme gravity at first sight, but by dint of patience and mutual concessions the problems are overcome. In this aspect the Latin American peoples are in an exceptional position. They are free from complications since the conflicts and lack of confidence of other times have been replaced by mutual understanding and they are dedicated to prevent the prejudice which directly or indirectly caused the world war.

"referring to the bloc of American nations, the paper said: 'Prejudice will disappear, as has happened with others, and the world will see in the western hemisphere only a group of peoples marching firmly toward a better future, convinced of the necessity of avoiding terrible ideological conflicts which have desolated other countries which still are not free.'"

Buenos Aires in Spanish Morse to Argentine Embassies, Jan. 20, 1947

"The Brazilian Government invited Argentina to take part in the deliberations of the Foreign Ministers' Conference to be held in Rio de Janeiro, probably in March, 1947.

"The conference, the date of which will be made known later as well as the agenda to be considered, will take place before the Pan American Conference of Bogota, which is to discuss the fulfillment of the international commitments under the Act of Chapultepec."

Quito in Spanish to the Americas, Jan. 21, 1947

"Rio de Janeiro--The Foreign Minister, Raoul Fernandez, states at a press conference: 'The time for calling the conference of the Foreign Ministers is not yet ripe. The general desire is to call the conference, but circumstances do not permit it.'

"He did not comment on the note sent to Argentina."

LR7 Buenos Aires in Spanish Morse to Latin America, Jan. 28, 1947

"Rio de Janeiro--Commenting on the reports from abroad that the pact for continental defense might be incorporated into the agenda of the ninth Pan American Congress in Bogota--thus eliminating the necessity of holding a conference for its discussion and signature in Rio--The Secretary General of Itamaraty, Senhor de Branch, said:

"The Rio Conference will be called in good time, and on that occasion the press will receive pertinent information, as well as other details. I reiterate that consultations have not been started concerning the Rio Conference and that therefore reports that an invitation has been extended to Argentina are without foundation."

LR0 Bogota in Spanish Morse to North and South America, Jan. 23, 1947

"The Ur has been authoritatively informed that Colombia has begun talks with all the American nations asking that all of them express to Colombia their points of view on the Rio de Janeiro Conference. Answers to the questionnaire already have begun to come in to the Colombian Foreign Ministry.

"According to the same authorized sources, Colombia, in the notes sent out, has simply expressed an opinion about the precise dates at which the Rio de Janeiro and Bogota Conferences should be held, without making the least suggestions about the matter, and merely asking the views of the other countries. Nevertheless, the Colombian point of view, clearly stated on past occasions, has been that the Rio Conference should by all means be held before the ninth Pan American Conference, which is scheduled for December of this year in Bogota.

RESTRICTED

"Colombia is hopeful that most of the answers will suggest mutual consultation before an official announcement of the conference dates is to be made. Here again it must be recalled that the opening talks about the Rio de Janeiro Conference are already going on among the American nations."

CXA19 Montevideo in Spanish to Uruguay, Jan. 24, 1947

"Buenos Aires--Argentina will attend the coming Rio de Janeiro Conference, according to an announcement made today by Foreign Minister Bramuglia."

(Radio Caracas says that Bramuglia announced that he would attend both the Rio and the Bogota Conferences.)

LQR7 Buenos Aires in Spanish Morse to Latin America, Feb. 4, 1947

"Buenos Aires (UP)--The Chief of the Federal Police, Filomeno Velazco said that Peron is urging the police to speed up the arrest of Axis agents, since this has been named by the State Department as one of the last conditions Argentina must meet for the complete fulfillment of the obligations contracted at Chapultepec. Velazco said that recently the President had taken a personal interest in the matter, after giving personally the orders on how to proceed..." (The item then gives Velazco's reasons for the delay in arresting the agents, one of them being the "vast, uninhabited areas offering easy hiding places" and another the need for secrecy in order to avoid warning the hunted Axis agents.)

LR3 Buenos Aires in Spanish to Argentina, Feb. 4, 1947

"The Chancellery announced that the head of the department, Dr. Bramuglia, is preparing a decree ordering the expulsion from the country of some 20 persons accused of crimes of espionage on behalf of the axis powers. The majority of the accused are under arrest, and the rest are being sought by the authorities of the federal police. They will be deported in a ship of the fleet. This measure will mark the fulfillment of the international obligation contracted by Argentina by the signing of the Acts of Chapultepec and San Francisco."

XEWS Mexico D.F. in Spanish to Mexico, Feb. 6, 1947

"Buenos Aires--A group of deputies from the minority asked Chancellor Bramuglia to come to Congress so that they may ask him about Argentine relations with the U.S., Russia and the Government of Gen. Franco, as well as Argentina's attitude toward the Chapultepec Act."

HKU Bogota Press Service in Spanish Morse to North and South America, Feb. 26, 1947

"The Juridicial Assessor of the Pan American Union, in a lecture delivered at the National Library, said that the ninth Pan American Conference at Bogota will mark the third stage in the inter-American system which is based upon the deep feeling of world solidarity. He said that the Bogota Conference should approve the ninth resolution, approved provisionally at Chapultepec, which deals with the organization of the inter-American system. (Resolution Given-Ed.) He then said that the ninth conference will coordinate into a single instrument the means for a peaceful solution of inter-American disputes and the creation of various organisms. He concluded by saying: 'From Bogota the inter-American system will emerge reorganized, strengthened, consolidated in all its aspects.'"

LSM2 Buenos Aires in Spanish Morse to Latin America, Jan. 29, 1947

"Buenos Aires--The Federal Council of the 'Confederation General del Trabajo' (General Labor Federation) resolved by a vote of 69 to 11 to separate Luis F. Gay from his post as Secretary-General of the CGT..."

"The request for the expulsion of Gay was presented by Aurelio Hernandez, representing the Hospital and Private Sanatorium Workers, who urged the expulsion of Gay for being a 'traitor to the working classes,' and calling him 'an instrument of imperialism.'"

(Note: Gay has been accused frequently of being a "Bragonist"-Ed.)

RESTRICTED

LRS Buenos Aires in Spanish to Argentina, Jan. 23, 1947

"The prospects for the long-awaited Rio de Janeiro American Hemispheric Defense Conference seem to be brighter than ever. The reason for this is due to the fact the U. S. and Argentina seem to be closer than ever to a settlement of their differences in regard to the Nazi influences in the southern country.

"The impasse in the relations between North America and Argentina began to dissolve over the weekend in a rapid series of events. In the first place, the Buenos Aires Government announced that it was taking control of important German firms. Then the Ambassador to Argentina, Mr. Messersmith, returned to his country last month in order to reach a decision in his dispute with the Assistant Secretary of State, Mr. Braden. Then the State Department made an unexpected conciliatory statement in regard to the Government of General Peron."

Moscow Press Service in Russian at Dictation Speed to the Provincial Press, Feb. 24, 1947

"Rio de Janeiro (TASS)--On Feb. 23 the newspaper LA TRIBUNA POPULAR, commenting on the inter-American defense collaboration plan, writes: 'Against whom must we defend ourselves? The sole interested parties in a new war are the imperial plunderers whose headquarters are in Wall Street. No concrete threat to the western hemisphere presents itself. The forces threatening us are the internal forces of the continent, forces of imperialism. Hence the decisive rejection by the Latin America peoples of the maneuvers aimed at the standardization of armaments and the envisaging the ceding of our national defense into the hands of foreign command.'"

LQR7 Buenos Aires in Spanish Morse to Latin America, Mar. 10, 1947

"Montevideo--In his first press conference since he has assumed the duties of Foreign Affairs Minister, Mateo Marques Castro said that his country wishes to have the Ministers' meeting to be held in Rio de Janeiro as soon as possible so that the relations between the U. S. and Argentina may be defined completely and quickly. He also said that the maintenance of peace in the world and the defense of the attacked fully justify collective action, even though it be multilateral intervention....

"The Foreign Office in my charge faces a year of great activity; besides delicate questions of a universal nature we have in the field of the hemisphere the projects conference of Foreign Ministers at Rio de Janeiro and the ninth Pan American Conference at Bogota. The agenda of these meetings is composed of matters of the highest importance. The conference which is to be held in Bogota at the end of this year is to resolve definitely, among other matters, the most important projects for the reorganization and strengthening of the inter-American system for peace, and draft a declaration of the international rights and duties of man."

"Asked about the Foreign Ministers' Conference in Rio, he said: 'All the American Governments have delegated to Brazil the setting of the date, after consultation. The pact to be concluded there will replace...the Chapultepec Agreements, which, as is known, will expire once the treaties with the Axis Nations are signed.'

"In reference to the pact for continental defense, he was asked what situation a pact of that nature would create in connection with UN. He replied: 'Our universalistic view of international rights and life brings it about that we do not have the slightest doubt that any inter-American agreement, be it merely political or of a nature to attain the aspects of armed defense, must be framed with, or rather added to, the obligations which emanate from the...UN. We conceive regional settlements, in this case inter-American, as complementary to the high aims which the United Nations pursue, and never in opposition to the world organization.'"

RESTRICTED

HKO Bogota in Spanish Morse to North and South America, Mar. 13, 1947

"Former President Eduardo Santos publishes an article entitled 'My Conferences with President Roosevelt, and Plans for an inter-American military organization.' It recalls the last interview which he held with Roosevelt in Washington on Jan. 5, 1945, which he affirms was entirely based on the collective security of the hemisphere, and included the ideas agreed upon in the Act of Chapultepec months later.

"Santos referred to the inter-American military pacts now being worked out, stating they must be as 'clear as they are precise in order that there will be no danger of their being interpreted as simple factors of any world policy in the development of which we do not participate.' He affirms that no enemy of the U.S. will ever be able to have a base for operations in our countries....

"Santos states that since he talked with Roosevelt basic changes have taken place. 'The panorama of a tranquil peace in the future for all men of good will hopefully awaited two years ago has been replaced with suspicion and fears which lead to fear a tomorrow worse than yesterday.... Defeated totalitarians are now faced by victors surrounded by sinister distrust. More than they speak of the doctrines of peace and justice, they speak of the possibilities of the atomic bomb and fronts which can be organized to assure future predominance....'

"Santos asks himself, 'what limits must the new accord have, what commitments does it demand, what expenses does it imply, to what international situation may it lead us, what relations does it determine between military solidarity which must be made automatically effective...if to a bloc of enslaved nations which Russia forms around her frontiers, another bloc of nations, free, but bound by military commitments, were to oppose itself?....'"

PRY7 Press Wireless in English Morse for LA NACION in Buenos Aires, Mar. 18, 1947

"Rio de Janeiro--The afternoon paper DIRETRIZES, in a special article from Buenos Aires by correspondent Samuel Walmer, said that the Washington and Buenos Aires Governments are now 'honeymooning' and that the situation between the two countries has changed vastly within the last two years. It said Messersmith is liked in Buenos Aires as much as Braden was hated. It said that Truman and Peron may yet reach a common accord on the basis of anti-Communism."

Paris, AFP, French Press Service in French Morse to Latin America and Canada, Mar. 22, 1947

"Rio de Janeiro--The diplomatic circles in the capital are following with the greatest interest the developments of events in Washington where the visit of the Chilean Chief of Staff coincided strangely with the call of the American Ambassador to Rio de Janeiro, William D. Pawley, to Washington, accompanied by his military, naval and air attaches, and finally with the violent attack against Communism made by Spruille Braden, who is responsible for the State Department policy in South America.

"It is not new to anyone that the American Governments are watching with concern the increasing influence of Communists in the hemisphere. The state of mind resulting from that is well explained by the phrase used in diplomatic circles usually well informed: 'It seems that finally we--the South American countries--have found a common denominator; namely, anti-Communism.' This source feels that the last moves are aimed at consolidating the anti-Communist front of South America and at hastening to call the Rio de Janeiro Conference where all the 'i's' will be dotted.

RESTRICTED

25X1

"In addition, the same source says that the military authorities would like to see the political pact backed by a military pact which would be put into practice by the Truman plan of standardizing the equipment of the continental armies. The visits to the United States by the Brazilian Chief of Staff in January and by the Chilean Chief of Staff now might be good indications of this desire.

"Coming back to the question of the anti-Communist common denominator, Peron seems to be the first result of the appeasement mission of U.S. Ambassador George Messersmith, who convinced Peron to join the American family and the prospective bloc."

This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Act 50, U.S.C. 31 and 32 as amended. Its transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

RESTRICTED