

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

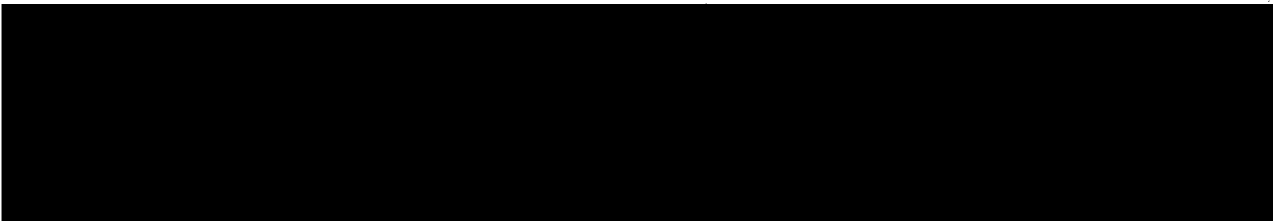
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Colombia/Chile	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]	25X1A
SUBJECT	Colombian Delegates to the Santiago Cultural Conference	DATE DISTR.	6 May 1953	
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1. Carlos CASTRO Saavedra, Medellin poet, is scheduled to attend the Cultural Congress in Santiago, Chile, during April 1953. CASTRO is now director of the cultural extension department of the Universidad Libre in Bogota, and has organized a series of lectures there by professors of distinct political tendencies. The first meeting was conducted by Luis LOPEZ de Mesa, Liberal medical doctor, and other speakers have included Father Rudesindo LOPEZ Lleras and Diego MONTANA Cuellar. In this manner CASTRO has been able to give the lectures the appearance of being designed solely for cultural ends, but the real purpose is to give persons like MONTANA an opportunity to spread Communist propaganda publicly without the danger of encountering official interference. CASTRO attended the Democratic Youth Festival in Eastern Germany in 1950 and has been active in the support of Communist-front groups in Colombia.
2. Luis VIDALES will also represent Colombia at the Santiago conference. VIDALES departed for Buenos Aires during the last week of February 1953, and he intends to reside there under the protection of Juan PERON. VIDALES was at one time a member of the Colombian Communist Party, but later his name was dropped from official Party lists. He still is active in Communist affairs and enjoys the confidence of Party leaders.
3. Other Colombian delegates will be Guillermo CORDOBA Romero, Andres GROVO Amon, and Carlos SANIN Vermon. These three writers are not active Party members but belong to those pro-Marxist groups which are regarded favorably by international Communist organizations. Julio C. POSADA explained that all important militant members of the Party are known to the authorities and are watched. On the other hand, those intellectuals who are not actively identified with the Party are free to carry on Communist activities without interference.

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4. One of the matters which will be considered at the Santiago conference will be the best methods for strengthening the anti-Yankee program of PERON in Latin American countries. The most appropriate methods of obtaining money from Argentina without arousing the suspicions of the United States will also be studied.

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