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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

COUNTRY Chile

SUBJECT Reported Withdrawal of Communist Party Support
from Newspaper Extra

25X1A6a

ORIGIN [REDACTED]

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letter of 1 October 1978 from the
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INFO. [REDACTED]

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SUPPLEMENT

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1. It is reported that the Central Committee of the Chilean Communist Party will soon withdraw its financial support from the newspaper Extra, and that the editors, Juan de Luigi and Alejandro Flores, will have to discontinue publication of the paper or else find new capital. De Luigi has requested additional time to make other arrangements.
2. In the meantime it appears that de Luigi and Flores are negotiating with the Radical Party Senator, Rudecindo Ortega, and the Radical Party industrialist, Luis Mozo, to buy the paper for 250,000 pesos, with de Luigi and Flores continuing as directors. Since the paper has no presses of its own and is printed by the Communist paper, El Siglo, the purchasers would, in effect, be buying only the name and good will of Extra. This latter deal has not yet been completed, although it appears likely that it will go through.
3. Although Extra has been just about breaking even financially, with the aid of the Communist Party, and has obtained a fair circulation, the reason given by the Central Committee for discontinuing its support is in order that it may concentrate more time, money, and effort on El Siglo. It is also indicated that the Communist Party does not believe that de Luigi can find other backers and that, therefore, the presses can be more advantageously utilized in the printing of Communist leaflets, books, and other propaganda.

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