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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Chile

DATE DISTR. 13 August 1948

SUBJECT Plans of the Chilean Communist Party

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

It has been reported that the Communist Party of Chile issued certain instructions for clandestine activity which were to go into effect on 26 May 1948. Among these was the order that all Party militants and members who had been expelled or were in disgrace were to be contacted and united against the Government. New orders, for which members were to be alerted, would be sent through couriers. The central courier is reported to be Emilio Alborno Carrasco, who will serve as liaison officer between the Party directors and the couriers who contact the lower echelons.

2. The Political Commission of the Communist Party is said to have divided all the regional groups into two categories of members. One category consists of those members who are to carry on illegal activities of an underground nature after the anti-Communist Bill has been passed. The other group is formed of those Communists who are to leave the ranks of the Party and infiltrate other political parties. The Political Commission disapproved any large-scale use of either the Radical or Liberal Parties. In the provincial cities many Communist applied for and secured membership in the Conservative Party. Many of the neighborhood cells in Santiago have joined the Partido Socialista Unificado.

3. On 8 July the directors of the Santiago Regional Committee of the Communist Party commented regarding the present status of the Party as follows:

The Communists hope to coordinate their union strife towards a possible overthrow of the Government. They will take advantage of the present political confusion and of the contacts they have with certain factions in the Army, particularly the garrisons stationed in the capital, which are extremely dissatisfied with present conditions.

The Central Committee has ordered all Communist detainees to attempt an escape and to resume their work at indicated points. The detainees who have been able to escape from Pisagua have already returned to Santiago and have been assigned new localities in which to work.

The Commission of the Central Committee of the Communist Party expects that the anti-Communist law, which will eliminate thousands of Party members from labor unions and federal and local positions, will be passed shortly. The Commission is not very disturbed by this, since it feels that semi-illegal activities will be more beneficial to the Party.

4. It is expected that a national congress of the Communist Party will be

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held in Santiago in the near future, at which time future tactics and instructions will be announced.

- e. Eduardo Royds, a member of the National Directorate of the Communist Party, is reported to have stated that Communists have been quite successful in stealing arms from the Accion Chilena Anticomunista (ACHA), by penetrating that organization. He stated that on 6 July 1948 four Thompson machine guns and eighty English rifles were removed from ACHA headquarters.*
4. The Chilean Communist Party was reported taken completely by surprise by the Tito-Cominform crisis, since it had never been officially admitted through Party channels that a serious rift had developed. The Secretary-General refused to commit the Party on any propaganda line until specific instructions** were received. The Political Commission of the Party issued instructions to all members, especially the leaders, to refrain from making any direct allusions to the crisis.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment: *The newspaper Las Ultimas Noticias reported on 10 July that machine guns and rifles had been stolen from ACHA headquarters. President Gonzalez Videla is reported to have reprimanded Arturo Olayuria, the head of ACHA for this incident.

**A bulletin, entitled Noticias Prensa Continental de Havana, is believed to be the source of these instructions. This bulletin, which is sent to all Communist newspapers at their request, contains the opinions of the various Communist Parties throughout the world. The 14 July issue reflected unanimous support for the Cominform action against Tito.

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