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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Argentina

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE DISTR. 29 Dec 1946

SUBJECT Peronismo in Foreign Colonies in Argentina

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1. The Peronista Party has begun to develop an extensive plan through which it hopes to influence and to control if possible various foreign groups in Argentina. Particular emphasis will be laid upon Spanish and Italian groups. The crux of the plan is to form Peronista societies in each of the foreign colonies, all of which eventually will be banded together under the Federation of Foreign Peronista Unions (Confederacion de Uniones Peronistas Extranjeras).
2. The first phase of the plan already has been initiated with the establishment of the Union Peronista Espanola, which has its temporary headquarters at Calle Rodriguez Pena 267. This organization, which is preparing to publish its own newspaper for the dissemination of Peronista propaganda in the Spanish colony, is also supported by local Falangists. The Spanish Embassy views the Peronista plan with satisfaction, believing that pressure will be applied to local non-Falangist Spaniards.
3. A similar organization, to be called the Union Peronista Italiana, is currently in the process of formation.
4. A broader phase of the Peronista plan is to encourage affiliation with pro-Peronista organizations in foreign countries. This will be developed especially in other countries of Latin America.
5. The Spanish Republican colony in Argentina, which is largely anti-Peronista, was quite disturbed by the formation of the Union Peronista Espanola. The Republicans believe that the Spanish Consulates throughout Argentina are compiling data on anti-Peronista Spaniards with the semi-official aid of the Argentine Police.
6. The local Spanish Republican newspaper, Espana Republicana, was denied mailing privileges by the Argentine postal system shortly after the visit to Argentina of Spanish Foreign Minister Alberto Artajo. Only after the Mexican Ambassador to Argentina had appealed personally to President Peron in behalf of the Spanish Republican colony were the privileges reinstated. The Ambassador is said to have cautioned certain Spanish Republicans to employ discretion in the future and, above all, not to appear to be in opposition to the policies of the Peronista government.

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