

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

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**CONFIDENTIAL**

COUNTRY Chile

DATE DISTR. 28 Apr 1949

SUBJECT Proposed Purges Within the Chilean Communist Party

NO. OF PAGES 2

25X1A

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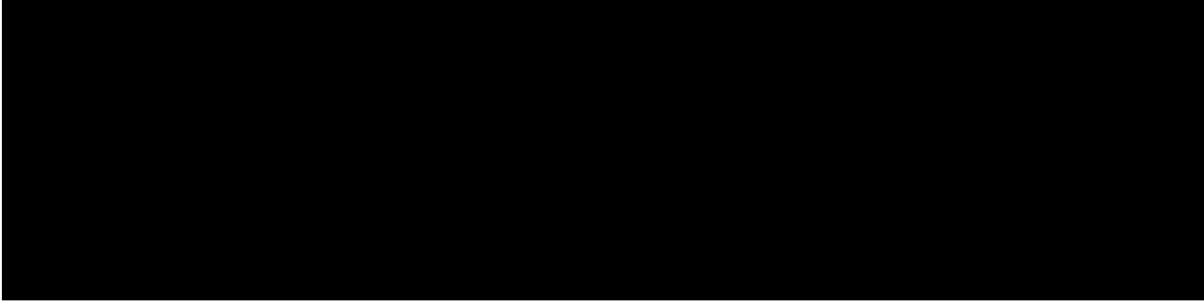
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DATE OF INFO

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. The Communist Party of Chile (PCCh) is in the process of removing some of its leaders from their positions. Humberto Abarca and Luis Valenzuela Valenzuela are particularly under fire for alleged errors committed in guiding the Party during the recent electoral campaign. Abarca will not only be removed from his post in the General Secretariat but also from the Political Commission. Valenzuela has also been held particularly responsible for the Communist failure at the polls. It was he who appeared as the strong man of the Communist Party during the election period, and he held the following positions in the Party: Member of the Executive Secretariat; member of the Political Commission in charge of Administration and Finance, and now also in charge of Parliamentary affairs; and Secretary of the Santiago Regional Committee. His administrative duties in the Political Commission consisted in the supervision of all Communists employed as public officials. This work has been reduced in quantity recently, because there were only a few Communists left in public office. In financial affairs, his duties were to supervise the PCCh treasury. As a parliamentarian, he is in charge of Communist activities in the national congress, and is assisted by Guillermo Guevara. His term in Congress expires in May 1949, and until that time he is expected to continue in charge of Parliamentary affairs. Valenzuela replaced Abarca in Parliamentary affairs, and Pascual Barraza as Secretary of the Santiago Regional Committee.
2. It is believed that the Party may keep Galo Gonzalez in the Commission of Control, and Luis Reinoso in the Commission of Organization. However, Party criticism extends to these two leaders. It is felt that as experienced men in the Communist Party directorate, they should have exercised supervision over Abarca and Valenzuela and should have called them to task for their continual mistakes during the pre-election period.
3. On the other hand, there is a faction in the Party which wishes to maintain the directorate as it is and accentuate the "Bolshevik tendency" of the Party. This group wishes to take a larger number of workers into the directorate, eliminate the intellectuals, and give a greater central authority to the directorate.
4. This internal difficulty has curtailed the political activities of the Party and the national congress first scheduled for March 1949\* has been postponed until further notice. A meeting of the Central Committee is expected to take place soon, and the Party's past errors and its new political line will be

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 DECLASSIFIED  
 Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C  
 OBA Memo, 4 Apr 77  
 Auth: OBA REG 771123

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.  
 Next Review Date: 2008

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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discussed again. It is believed that there will be no expulsions from the Party but rather releases from directive positions.

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