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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

~~INFORMATION REPORT~~

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DATE DISTR. 11 May 1949

COUNTRY Chile

SUBJECT Decision of Nationalist Party of Chile to
Join the Agrarian Labor Party

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

1. The National Council of the Nationalist Party of Chile met on 30 April and voted in favor of fusion with the Agrarian Labor Party. Fourteen National Councilmen were present and took part in the debate and the voting. One Councilman abstained from voting, two voted against fusion and twelve voted to join the Agrarian Labor Party. In his speech opening the meeting, Modilberto Bizama Merino, who was presiding, stressed that he was opposed to such action, and admitted that he himself would not be acceptable to the leaders of the Agrarian Labor Party. He requested that he be given a leave of absence.
2. In the discussion which took place before the voting was held, Olaf Ulloa Perez pointed out that the Nationalist Party is losing rather than gaining members, and that the only way to carry out the programs advocated by the party lies in fusion with the Agrarian Labor Party. He stated that the program of the Agrarian Labor Party contains about 80% of the Nationalists' platform. Ulloa Perez also emphasized that ten of the present fourteen Agrarian Labor Party deputies are former Nationalist Party leaders or members. He proposed that the Nationalists should join the Agrarian Labor Party and attempt to gain effective control of that party by working within it.
3. Orlando Espinoza agreed with Bizama Merino that fusion with the Agrarian Labor Party would be a fatal error. Espinoza claimed that Communist cells already existed within the Agrarian Labor Party and can be expected to do all in their power to oppose any creative effort on the part of the Nationalists or anti-Communist groups within the Agrarian Labor Party.

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