

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

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DATE DISTR. 22 NOV 49

COUNTRY Ecuador

NO. OF PAGES 1

SUBJECT Revolutionary Plans of the Opposition

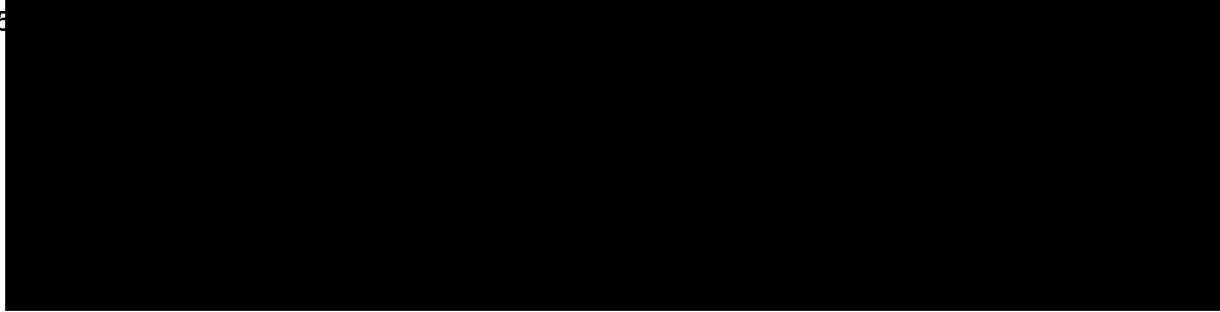
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SOURCE Ecuadoran with good contacts in government and army circles

1. National Deputy Manuel Puga Dillon, one of the principal leaders of the subversive revolutionary movement in Ecuador, reportedly stated that plans had been made to stage a revolt on 17 October but that they had been postponed because of the death of Manuel Sotomayor y Luna. Puga added that the movement would remain in a state of suspense until Sotomayor's replacement was announced. If a Liberal or a leftist were elected there would be no revolution.*

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2. [redacted] that the revolutionary movement has been growing, that arms for the revolution have been received from Colombia, and that Dr. Jose Ricardo Chiriboga Villagomez, mayor of Quito, who is affiliated with the movement, was prepared to ask the traffic police in Quito to assist in the movement.

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3. [redacted] also stated that Dr. Carlos Guevara Moreno, campaign manager for Rafael Mendoza Aviles, Independent candidate in the Guayaquil mayoralty elections, recently made a trip with Mendoza to Esmeraldas and Manabi in an attempt to gain support for the revolution in the military units of those areas.

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4. [redacted] most of the army support for the movement comes from the enlisted ranks and the junior officers, while only a small number of high ranking officers are involved. Major Manuel Antonio Salgado, commander of the San Antonio tank base near Guayaquil and a stalwart backer of the movement, is reported to have gained the support of almost all of the enlisted personnel of his unit and of most of the sub-lieutenants and the lieutenants. Salgado had planned to place under arrest the captains and the one major under his command when the revolution took place. However, since plans have been suspended, Salgado, having gained time to make more effective arrangements, went to Quito and asked the Ministry of Defense to reassign his captains and the major on the grounds that they were incompetent and had exhibited conduct unbecoming officers.

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5. [redacted] that most of the enlisted personnel of his unit are prepared to support the revolutionary movement.

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Comment: If a Liberal-leftist is elected to the vice presidency the revolutionary movement would attempt to stage a "constitutional" coup to unseat the President.

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Date: 24/1/78 By: [redacted]