

**CONFIDENTIAL**

COUNTRY Chile

DATE DISTR. 20 OCT 50

SUBJECT Failure of Communist-Front Organization's Festival

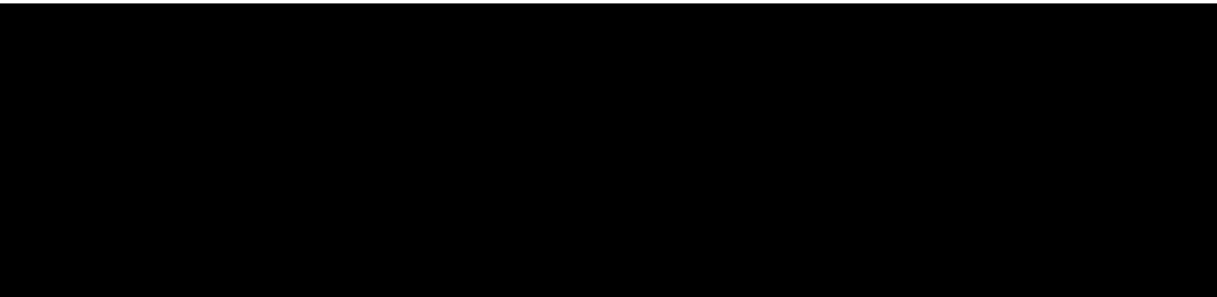
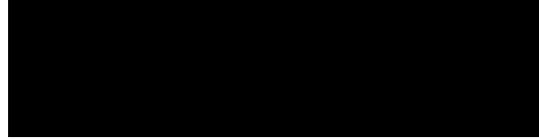
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. The popular festival held on 18 September 1950 by the Chilean Communist-front organization, Grupo de Arte y Ciencia -- Continente,\* was considered a failure by the Communist Party of Chile (PCCh). Haydee Alarcon Lozano, one of the organizers of the festival, is considered responsible for its failure by the Party, and she has been summoned by the Regional Committee of the PCCh to appear before the Party's Disciplinary Tribunal to explain the lack of organization in the preparation of the celebration. When Alarcon was advised of this summons, she announced that she was ill and confined to her bed. Julio Mancada, another organizer of the festival, is also to be called before the Party Disciplinary Tribunal.
2. The PCCh considers that the faulty program for preparation of posters and mural propaganda was typical of the poor organization which characterized the planning by those responsible for arranging the festival. A group of painters controlled by the Grupo Continente were instructed to prepare drawings regarding war, peace, and the housing situation; and to compare through illustrations the cost of armaments with the cost of housing developments. These painters failed to carry out this work, and at the last minute, the Grupo Continente was forced to have the posters drawn by some workers belonging to the Sixth Commune of the Party. Their work was sketchy, improvised and unsatisfactory.
3. The PCCh feels that the fact that a group of Spanish Communists attended the meeting and distributed pro-Communist material was the only thing that saved the occasion from being a complete failure. The Spanish group supplied those attending the festival with various items of propaganda, such as "Millones de Firmas Espanoles" (Millions of Spanish Signatures), a Spanish pro-peace propaganda item; an information bulletin directed to Spanish Communists; and mimeographed copies of a letter from a Frenchman, Jean Doulier Abate, regarding the peace movement and Catholic participation therein.
4. The PCCh was displeased by the lack of seriousness evidenced by leaders of the Grupo Continente, both in the preparation of the festival and during the celebration. The propaganda campaign to discourage the use of "imperialist" bottled drinks such as Coca Cola and Orange Crush became the subject of jokes by those attending the festival, most of whom combined fried fish with Coca Cola while commenting jocularly that they were mixing national and imperialist products. The leaders of the Grupo Continente did nothing to counteract this ridicule of their propaganda campaign.

\*SO-48134 CLASSIFICATION SECRET

STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB		DISTRIBUTION							
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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

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