

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Chile *TELLOFAX 9*

DATE DISTR. 22 SEPT 51

SUBJECT Pro-Peace Meeting at Lota, Chile

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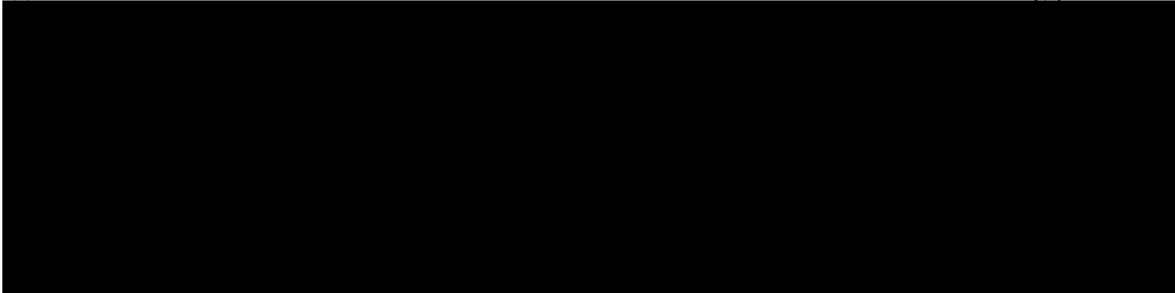
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. On 5 August 1951, at the Chillancito Plaza at Lota, Chile, there was a public meeting sponsored by the Provincial Pro-Peace Committee of Concepcion. About 300 people attended.
2. The first speaker was the president of the Youth Pro-Peace Committee of Concepcion, Isaac Carrillo, who asked those present to sign the Peace Appeal of Stockholm. He said that the Pro-Peace Movement united all men of good will, irrespective of race, religion, or politics. He pointed out that he had been a devout Catholic, as is the writer Gabriela Mistral, who had signed this document. He denounced the Chilean Government for being interested in sending Chilean troops to the fields of Korea, but added that this desire had been frustrated by the decision of the people, who do not want war, which is profitable only to the Yankee imperialists, who are massacring the defenseless people of Korea. The mobilization for world peace, said the orator, was to culminate in the celebration of the Youth Festival in Berlin. Finally, referring to the strike at Schwager, he said that the workers were taking effective measures to recover the syndicate directorate taken over by the traitors.
3. Fernando Steffens, member of the Pro-Peace Committee of Concepcion, spoke on a document related to the last World War and the disastrous effects of the atom bomb, especially on innocent people. He said that the efforts of the Pro-Peace Committee were directed at putting an end to this scourge.
4. Next, Deputy Victor Galleguillos Clett greeted those present in the name of Communist Senators Elias Lafferte and Salvador Ocampo. Then in a long peroration he referred to the Pro-Peace Movement and the necessity for all Chileans to join forces in favor of this movement, which is against the warmongers of the whole world and especially the Yankee imperialists. He added that due to the efforts of Senators Lafferte and Ocampo it was almost certain that the accursed Law of Defense of Democracy would be repealed, in which case numerous exiled workers would be free and the poet Pablo Neruda would be able to return to his country. He exhorted the workers to maintain unity through their union organizations, so as to give battle to imperialistic industries, such as the Compania Carbonifera of Lota.

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5. Finally, Emilio Sanchez and Alejandro Toro, both leaders of the Pro-Peace Committee of Concepcion, added to the themes of the previous speakers, calling for the formation of new Pro-Peace committees and criticizing Yankee imperialism.
6. The meeting ended with the singing of the national anthem.

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