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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. 98

COUNTRY Spain/France

DATE DISTR. 1 Oct. 1951

SUBJECT Status of Spanish Republicans in France

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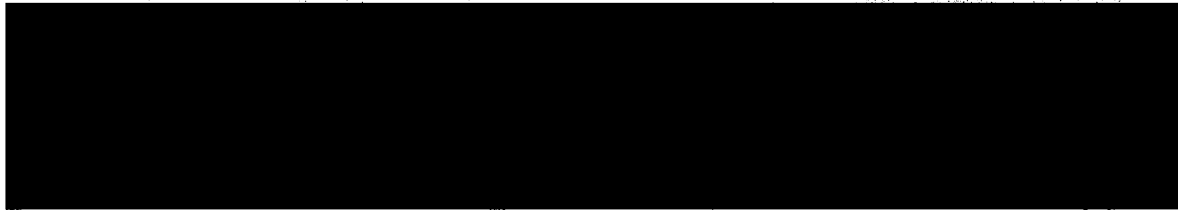
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NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



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1. The status which exiled Spanish Republicans will have in France if the U.S. succeeds in bringing Spain into closer touch with western defense activities is becoming a matter of increasing concern to the exiles. The Republicans felt that with the completion of a Spanish-American accord, France and Great Britain, forced by the pressure of American dollars, would reluctantly accept Spain into the Western bloc. According to Jose BALLESTER Gozalvo, President of the faction of Izquierda Republicana which supports the Government-in-exile, the French government may be forced to refuse further hospitality to the Spanish exile government. In that event, BALLESTER said, the exile government would operate as a Junta Revolucionaria Clandestina, either from Paris or from some other more desirable point in France.
2. BALLESTER said that he was working with French Socialist Deputy and former Labor Minister Daniel MAYER, who was preparing a report on the Spanish question for the Foreign Relations Committee of the Chamber of Deputies. BALLESTER summarized the arguments which he was emphasizing as follows:
 - a. Negotiations between the U.S. and FRANCO were politically unwise.
 - b. In making a bilateral pact with FRANCO, the U.S. would be making it plain that, in case of war, it expected the USSR to reach the Pyrenees virtually without opposition.
 - c. If in fact the Russians should reach the Pyrenees without difficulty, FRANCO would be the first to abandon the struggle.
 - d. If the Russian Army should reach the frontiers of Spain, the Spanish people would receive it as their liberator from the FRANCO regime.
 - e. The U.S., in suggesting the defensive capabilities of the Spanish army as an excuse to treat with FRANCO and aid the army, is lowering the morale of the French and British people.
 - f. As long as FRANCO is in power, the Spanish Army will be too weak to undertake any important action.

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No Change in Class.

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