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SUBJECT Return of Chilean Delegates to Berlin Youth Festival NO. OF PAGES 2

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INFO. 16 - 20 October 1951SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. On 16 October 1951 the following Chilean delegates to the Third World Youth Festival in Berlin arrived in Santiago via air from Buenos Aires:

Luis Alberto Reyes Gonzalez
Luis Humberto Figueroa Mazuela
Irma Latorre Vicentini
Alberto Jorge Jerez Horta
Enrique Edwards Orrego
Luis Alberto Dodds Martinez
Julio Silva Solar
Max Luis Perelman Ide

2. It is noted that neither Fernando Ortiz, Secretary General of the Chilean Communist youth, nor Jose Toha, Popular Socialist and former president of the Chilean Student Federation (FECh), returned to Chile with the rest of the delegates. Ortiz is reportedly prolonging his trip to visit the USSR, while Toha, who has been closely identified with Communist activities and has shown himself to be very anti-United States, remained in Madrid. It was reported that he was unable to finance his return to Chile, and that he is awaiting funds from the FECh.
3. The returning delegates were greeted at the Santiago airport by approximately 300 persons, among whom were such leading Communists and Communist sympathizers as Juan Vargas Puebla, Carlos Rosales, Miguel Concha Quezada, Francisco Lagos Castro, Olga Poblete Poblete and Guillermo del Pedregal. This, together with a subsequent street parade and a gathering at the University of Chile attended by an estimated 2,000 persons, climaxed weeks of propaganda by Communist newspapers and Communist-front organizations in preparation for the homecoming of the delegates. Dodds, Perelman, and Figueroa spoke briefly in praise of the Berlin festival, at the University gathering, while Poblete and Cecilia Hubner, pro-peace woman's leader, officially welcomed the delegates.

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Slogans of an anti-United States, pro-Communist nature were shouted by the audience, and also appeared on placards at the meeting.

4. The Chilean press, particularly the Chilean Communist newspaper Democracia, devoted considerable space to the views the delegates expressed concerning the festival. The delegates have also appeared before various Santiago groups. Most of them look favorably on the meeting, and have shown themselves oriented towards Communism. Only Edwards and Reyes have outspokenly condemned the congress and what it stood for, and both have denounced its Communist control and the manner in which it was carried out. Chilean Communists are dismissing Edwards as a youthful liberal who is unaware of what the congress was all about, and they have completely ignored Reyes. Both of these two, however, have aroused considerable interest with the tales of what they experienced at the Congress.
5. Edwards has made the following observations among others: that East Berlin is a dictatorship; that out of 50 East Germans with whom he talked, all were against their present government; that a young girl told him of having been imprisoned for five months for refusing to join the Free German Youth. This story was confirmed by Jerez, who, together with Falangist Silva and Radical Rodas, appears to be a middle-of-the-roader.
6. Silva and Jerez, Falangist youth leaders, expressed concern over the future of religion under Communist domination, noting that there appeared to be a freedom of worship at present but also noting the state control and signs of religion slowly dying out because of the strict Marxist-Leninist orientation of youth education and the lack of religious study or expression of religious opinion. Silva observed in addition that the East Berliners and those in the Communist nations believe that the West is gearing for war, and associate anything "Western" with war.
7. The Communist group within the delegation, led by Figueroa, has expressed only the highest praise for all they saw and has not deviated from the Party line.
8. The delegation as a whole appears to be divided as follows:
 - a. Edwards, who has adopted a very pro-Western attitude and condemned everything to do with the festival and the trip which part of the delegation took through the Western Communist countries, attending the International Student Union Congress in Poland after the Berlin Congress.
 - b. The Falangists, Silva, Jerez, and Reyes, all of whom recognized flaws in the Berlin Youth Festival and also in the Communist regimes. Silva and Jerez appear to have been influenced by the peace campaign, and certainly are not pro-United States. Reyes is more nearly oriented toward the West than the others, and has definitely proved himself to be anti-Communist in his views, although he did not speak favorably of United States handling of the Berlin Festival from the propaganda standpoint.
 - c. The Figueroa-led Communist group.