

INFORMATION REPORT CD NO.

COUNTRY Spain/Morocco

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SUBJECT Relations between the Spanish and the Nationalists

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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25X1X. [REDACTED] it is difficult to predict the lengths to which Spain is prepared to go in order to win Arab goodwill in the Middle East, but that it is believed that for a variety of reasons Spain intends to make some concessions to Nationalist demands in Morocco; there have already been minor indications of this intention.

2. The High Commissioner has announced that before the end of October it is hoped to place in effect the dahir drawn up by General Varela four years ago, whereby a Moroccan Secretary-General would be appointed to each Ministry; these men are to be nominated by the Spaniards in consultation with the Khalifa. Similarly, there are plans to resuscitate the Khalifian Council, which is to consist of ten members, headed by the Khalifa's elder brother.
3. In the Kert region of the Rif most of the Caids (one of whom, the Caid of Beni Tusin, was a close personal friend of the late High Commissioner) have been suspended as a result of numerous complaints from the tribesmen.
4. The Moroccans believe that the various indications of a more liberal policy stem from a Spanish desire to shine by comparison with the French. When the Moroccan question is raised in the General Assembly, the Spanish will be in a position to point out that they are already engaged in reforms more advanced than any hitherto conceived in French Morocco. Abdeljalek Torres states that he puts no faith in these signs of a softening of heart, and regards them as pure "window dressing."

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1. Comment. According to some reports, Torres himself has had conversations with the Spanish authorities. Nevertheless, in the absence in Cairo of his fellow-Nationalist leaders, Allal el-Fassi and Hassan el-Guazzani, it is improbable that he will come to any agreement with the Spaniards.

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