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TENTH NAVAL DISTRICT

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C O U N T E R I N T E L L I G E N C E

S E C T I O N B-7

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Month ending

NOVEMBER 30, 1942

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GERMAN ACTIVITIES

B-7-G

CUBA

There continues to exist considerable evidence of Nazi activity in Cuba, some of which manifests itself through the actions of Falangists. Alberto Schner Dumois, a former translator of the German Embassy, is attempting to establish contacts with personnel of the United States Navy at the Cafe of Jose Saavedra. Schner Dumois is closely associated with Juan Gonzalez, owner of the motorboat "Eva", which boat is suspected of being used for contacting enemy submarines. Fernando Panne Schmidt, of German parentage, and an active member of the Havana Pilots Association, is being detained by the Cuban police because of his pro-Nazi sympathies, and the possibility that he has been furnishing the enemy with shipping information gathered from his official position as Port Pilot. Further evidence of the possibility of leakage of information is contained in the recent dismissal of Andres B. Oliver, Falangist and former French Consul, from his key position as representative of the Nicaro Nickel Company at Antilla. The Countess Revilla Camargo, who attended secret Nazi meetings last June, is extremely active in the Cuban Nazi organization.

VENEZUELA

It is well established that all German nationals have been expelled from the Venezuelan oil fields. There is considerable evidence, however, that some of these Germans are filtering back to Maracaibo City from the Andean States by railroad from Motatan to La Ceiba, and then by boat to Maracaibo. Although there are reports that all German nationals have been discharged from the Venezuelan gold mines and sent to Caracas and Merida, conflicting reports have been received that some mines are indiscriminately employing Germans. It is reported that the El Pao diamond mines are selling diamonds to German agents at exorbitant prices.

German propaganda is still very active in Venezuela. It is disseminated simultaneously in different parts of the country, and generally assumes three forms; namely, that the world should be grateful to Hitler for destroying the Communist menace, that there exists a secret pact between Venezuela and Germany to the effect that Germany will not attack Venezuelan ships if Venezuela resists United States coercion of German nationals in Venezuela, and that the United States will defeat Japan and then leave England to her fate.

HAITI

Attempts to evade censorship have come to light in Haiti. The wife of a German internee has recently received mail from Switzerland suggesting the use of the Swiss diplomatic pouch as a means of transmitting information. This method is also reported to be in use in Mexico where the Spanish Consuls act as intermediaries.

ISLA MARGARITA

The Nazis continue to give attention to this island. Recently it has been reported that Kurt Mutter has been sent to Margarita in disguise of a traveling salesman. Mutter while in Margarita held several meetings with known Nazis.

FRENCH GUIANA

In a recent report it is stated that a radio telegraph station, signaling post, and large hidden deposits of fuel oil and foodstuffs, are located on La Mere Island. Ex-Governor Robert Chot is said to have directed the establishment of these facilities, and one Marse, German, is presently in charge with the aid of one Grenel.

A large shipment of shoes from New Orleans consigned to the Bata Shoe Co., at Cayenne, via the SS Guadeloupe, has been made. The ultimate destination of these shoes is unknown. It is interesting to note that contraband leather goods is showing up in French North Africa, and that a recent shipment of women's shoes from the Dominican Republic, destined for Martinique, turned out upon investigation to be men's shoes.

ARUBA

The schooner trade between Colombia and Aruba is a matter of suspicion as Otto Ottens, a known Nazi, is now attempting to hire schooners for this trade and is cautioning captains to whom he spoke relative to the chartering of the schooners to maintain secrecy.

SAINT MARTIN

Constance Fleming, Mayor of French St. Martin, is again reported to be aiding enemy submarines. A recent report states that the former method of executing these operations east of Flat Island has been abandoned, and that submarines now enter the deep channel of Oran Bay, and that they are provisioned under the personal direction of Fleming. A sea-going launch owned by Fleming, equipped with a radio, is also reported to be used for provisioning submarines at sea.

ORIENTAL ACTIVITIES

B-7-0

JAPANESE

There has been no activity of an organized nature reported regarding the Japanese in the Tenth Naval District during the month of November.

CHINESE

No activity regarding Chinese in the Tenth Naval District has come to the attention of this office during the month of November.

ITALIAN ACTIVITIES

B-7-1

There have been no activities of an organized nature regarding the Italians in the Tenth Naval District during November.

FRENCH ACTIVITIES

B-7-F

PUERTO RICO

There has been no pro-Vichy activity in the Island of Puerto Rico during the month of November. Several individuals have been recently reported as having pro-Vichy sentiments, but investigation revealed that personal differences of political opinions gave rise to the accusations, rather than through any show of totalitarian sympathy. It has been reliably estimated that 99% of the French population of Puerto Rico, both alien and naturalized are pro-Democratic. One hundred percent are anti-Nazi.

There have been no enlistments in the Free French forces from Puerto Rico. First, there are few young Frenchmen on the Island with any close attachment for the old country; secondly, most of the Frenchmen of military age became United States citizens by the 1940 Naturalization Act, and are consequently now serving in the United States armed forces.

Indicative of the strength of the Free French movement in Puerto Rico is the financial report of the Free French Committee, to which 98% of the French in Puerto Rico contribute. During the first nine months of 1942, \$10,250.00 were contributed to the Red Cross and to General DeGaulle's Headquarters in London. Clothing valued at \$800 was also forwarded to General DeGaulle.

The attitude of Free French regarding pro-Vichy sympathizers who deserted to the Allied cause during the North African drive is shown by the denunciation of Admiral Battet, former Commander of the French West Indies fleet, by Paul Lavergne, President of the Comité Pro-France Libre for Puerto Rico. The NBC news cast of November 18, 1942, announcing that Battet had joined the Allied forces was greeted with derision by Lavergne, who stated that Battet's acts against the Free French in Martinique and Guadeloupe had made him the most hated man in the French West Indies, and that he was only serving his own personal interests in changing face.

CUBA

The endorsement of approval by Gaston Henry-Haye of Diarmid Campbell Johnston, pro-Vichy suspect of English citizenship who was arraigned before the Cuban Bureau of Investigation of Enemy Activities on October 13, 1942, adds another link to the chain of evidence that Campbell-Johnston is engaged in Vichy espionage activities. His lawyer, Jesus Crespo Valdes, was reported to have offered \$10,000 for the release of Campbell-Johnston, who is being held incommunicado during questioning.

Paul Louis Weiller, French businessman of questionable loyalty, departed for Havana and reportedly arrived in Mexico City on October 5, 1942. He is stopping at the Maria Cristina Hotel, a favorite Nazi stopping place, supposedly to await his wife, Aleky Diplaracos Weiller, who is planning a trip to Mexico because of Weiller's inability to get a visa to enter the United States. Cables sent by Weiller do not indicate anti-Allied activity, altho

he may be using the aliases of Luis Weiller y Javal and Luis Esteves y Lasa while in Mexico.

Jean Brillouin, former French Consul of Santiago, was reported to have in his possession United States bills of high denomination, although for some time he has appeared to be financially embarrassed. Brillouin has made open anti-American and anti-British statements, and is suspected of serving the Axis.

HISPANIOLA

The personal funds of Pierre De Francquille, Vichy Charge d'Affaires, were blocked by President Lescott when Haiti broke relations with Vichy France.

Bernard Durand, Secretary of the French Legation in the Dominican Republic, resigned his post on November 13, 1942, indicating his disapproval of the Vichy Government break in relations with the United States. Durand has expressed his desire to remain in Santo Domingo or to join the United States or Canadian armed forces.

VIRGIN ISLANDS

Of the eight hundred to one thousand French inhabitants in and around St. Thomas, all are apparently in sympathy with the DeGaulle movement. Since 1939 none have displayed French flags nor shown any emotion for or allegiance to Vichy France.

FRENCH WEST INDIES

Three hundred and twenty-one Fighting French recruits under the command of Warrant Officer Emmanuell Fouche, Assistant Adjutant at Fort-de-France, Martinique, until December 1941, left Dominica on October 11, 1942 for the United States. They will eventually join the French forces in North Africa. DeGaulle's propaganda through radio, bulletins, and literature has effectively penetrated the French West Indies and has instigated the escape of Free French from the Vichy-controlled islands.

The Surete was reported to have made a secret trip from Guadeloupe to Dominica after the departure of the Free French recruits in an attempt to ascertain who was aiding the escape of Free Frenchmen from Guadeloupe and what methods were being used.

No Axis propaganda has appeared in Guadeloupe papers lately, which are controlled by Governor Sorin, who still apparently follows Vichy dictates. DeGaullists are being closely watched and their property confiscated if they join the Free French forces. Sorin, whose wife has an English background, advised the Shipping Advisor that he has attempted to control anti-Allied propaganda, and that the attitude of the crew of the French cruiser, Jeanne D'Arc, demobilized at Guadeloupe, was not that of the Governor nor the populace, implying that his basic sympathies were with the Allies.

While the demobilization of French warships in the French West Indies appears effective, the crews are entirely pro-Vichy, and on at least one occasion marched through the streets of Point-a-Pitre singing "Contra Angleterre".

Captain Vydil at Guadeloupe and Rear Admiral LeLoup at Martinique have both received orders to scuttle all ships under their command in the event of attack from any source. It is reported that all warships and a number of tankers are mined at vital points in the engine rooms and are wired to be exploded from the control towers. All officers have been instructed to open all valves, hatches and compartments to facilitate sinking.

The economic situation in the French Antilles is critical. Agriculture is maintained by advances from the local Government. Many of the young men have escaped to join the Free French, and the negroes will not work because there is nothing to purchase, due to lack of shipping. Reports from several unrelated sources estimate that 95% of the middle and low classes are pro-American, anti-British, and anti-German, and that they would welcome American invasion. Vichy propaganda is maintained by government officials and by the moneyed interests on the islands.

Resistance in Guadeloupe against American invasion would be symbolic due to public sentiment and lack of adequate defense. In Martinique it is believed that significant resistance would be made since the operation of all serviceable guns on the island has been relegated to the sailors of the demobilized warships in the face of the pro-American sympathies of the native negro Martinique troops, whom Admiral LeLoup referred to as "Boy Scouts".

During the first fortnight of November the number of political prisoners sent to Fort Napoleon, Guadeloupe prison, increased sharply. The favorable United Nations war news coupled with increased effort by Government authorities to stamp out Allied manifestations were put forth as logical reasons.

During the Allied invasion in North Africa there was no reaction except the excitement of the populace of the French islands. Admiral Robert had little communication with Vichy. The officers and men of the French fleet received orders not to have contact of any sort with Americans in the French Antilles, although Admiral Robert has been cordial to the Alusnob. This cordiality is supposed to arise from the economic dependence of the French West Indies on United States shipping.

The two French vessels, SS "Angouleme" and SS "Guadeloupe", which formerly crossed the Gulf of Mexico on their regular forty-day run to southern United States ports, have postponed leaving Martinique until the North African situation is cleared. The German High Command no longer guarantees safe-conduct to vessels.

Inasmuch as there is no road building program in Martinique, the Consul General's request for five hundred metric tons of asphalt for road building is considered by responsible persons to be camouflage for land mines installations. Recent shipments of dynamite and blasting caps to Martinique for road building have been permitted by the State Department.

Rumors of suspicious activities connected with refueling of Axis submarines center around Henri Thomasset. He is reported to be among the first five civilians in the French Antilles to be tried in court by the Fighting French when the final victory is won.

COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES

B-7-Cp

The increasing unemployment is affecting the collection of membership quotas and the party is actively engaged not in merely attempting to gain new members, but is fighting hard to retain the old ones in an active status.

On November 6, 1942 about 7,000 persons attended the 25th anniversary and the foundation of the Union of Soviet-Socialist Republics that was held in San Juan, P. R. However, a large percentage of this gathering is not affiliated or connected with the Communist Party in its activities.

The speeches primarily were cleverly disguised propaganda. The Popular Party's support of the ceremony was indicated by the sale of ribbons bearing the Communist insignia and the motto of the Popular Party only partially concealed by a red painted stripe.

The "Auxilio de Guerra a Rusia" movement (Aid to Russia) depends most exclusively on its motion picture "Our Russian Front" for its funds. The Communist Party, taking advantage of the general situation existing in Puerto Rico, is continuing its efforts to place its members in government positions. It is reliably reported also that the Communist Party is conducting "a school for laborers" using The General Confederation of Labor as a front. The school is scheduled to last for a year and is to be held in the CGT headquarters, 23 Cruz St., San Juan, P. R. The aim is to teach communistic ideas in so subtle a manner that no discontent will be aroused among those not already sympathetic to the party. The "United Front Against Hunger and Unemployment" continues to take up most of the time and energy of the party.

The General Confederation of Labor (Confederacion Libre de Trabajadores) through its Secretary, Juan Saez Corales, announced in the newspaper "El Mundo" on November 5, 1942 that due to the fact that Puerto Rico was excluded from the freezing of wages ordered by President Roosevelt, this organization was going to demand higher wages in several industries in Puerto Rico.

The Independent Communist Party of Puerto Rico, Fourth International (Trotsky movement) at the present time appears to be inclined in favor of and closely connected with the Nationalist movement in Puerto Rico. The movement's propaganda strove to differentiate the purposes and aims of the Third International and the Fourth International, as well as between the philosophies of the two highest leaders, Stalin and Trotsky.

The Dominican Revolutionary Party apparently feels that it is financially unable to organize the people of that country against the Trujillo (pro-German) regime. The group feels that mobilization of the people towards the physical aid of the United Nations could be too easily converted to Trujillo's use. The party will continue to spread its propaganda making it anti-Axis rather than anti-Trujillo. It should be borne in mind, however, that the intention is only temporarily to abandon its original aims.

Blas Roca, Communist leader in Cuba, was sent by his government to investigate unemployment conditions in Brazil. He visited Chile, Argentina and Venezuela, obtaining information for his present interest concerning Communists in those countries. This Communist stated that the party in Cuba is Third International and strenuously opposed to the Trotskyites. He feels that internal turmoil at the present time would benefit the Communists but at the same time would interfere with the aims of the United Nations. Therefore, for the duration the Party will concentrate on opposing Axis influences in Cuba.

With the completion of American bases in this District, large numbers of employees are being discharged. In view of the fact that these workers have been accustomed to higher wages and better living conditions, they are finding it difficult to return to their previous status. The Communists are taking advantage of this situation and have been particularly active in agitating the negroes in Jamaica, Antigua and Puerto Rico. This particular agitation is along party lines.

It is interesting to note that Communists have been placed in the offices of Civilian Defense. These officers were recently purged by Governor Rexford Guy Tugwell and knowingly or unknowingly, several Communists were installed, which is exactly the type of foothold that the party is anxious to secure.

Carlos Contreras, who is reported to be a Communist agent in Mexico, is travelling through the West Indies, Antilla, Haiti, Santo Domingo and Puerto Rico, where he states that he dined with Governor Tugwell and was very well received by him. From Puerto Rico he is going to Havana, Cuba, where he will give two lectures. He is also scheduled to have a conference with the Governor of the Estado de Yucatan. This subject expects to be in Mexico by November 27, 1942.

Likewise, the Communist Party is attempting to gain control of labor parties in order to establish its workers in various government positions.

The party has followed party lines in shouting that the Russians are battling for us and that a second front should be established. The party uses the theme of - heroic defense of the Russians - as an appeal to the masses.

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NATIONALISTS ACTIVITIES

B-7-N

The Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico has as its primary object the independence of Puerto Rico. Its history is written in violence. It will be recalled that on April 16, 1932 one person was killed and twelve others injured during a march on the Capitol at San Juan. Immediately thereafter an upward trend of violence began in Puerto Rico. Dynamite bombs were exploded in private institutions and in public buildings during the following months.

Pedro Albizu Campos became President of the Nationalist Party when he conceived and promoted the idea that the United States was a Yankee invader who had illegally entered Puerto Rico. Campos, from 1932 until he was convicted in 1937, made innumerable inflammatory speeches against the intervention of the United States in Puerto Rico.

Since the principal leaders of the Nationalist movement have been in prison, the activities of the organization have been carried on by elderly men. These men were selected as they are draft exempt and because the younger leaders were ultimately convicted of violating the Selective Service Act. As the younger and more adventurous leaders are now incarcerated, the movement does not at the present time have the radical tendency previously shown.

However, since the Nationalist Party has as its aim the independence of Puerto Rico, and since it has shown its willingness to accomplish its aim even by bloodshed, the activities of this organization are being closely watched. Perhaps the trend of thought of the present leaders of the Nationalist Party can be best explained by the statement made by Agustin Maldonado, on September 1, 1940, at a meeting in Rio Piedras. He said: "There is a law approved by the American Congress ordering and recruiting for obligatory military service, but I, as President of the Nationalist Party of this City, advise all Nationalists not to obey this imposition by refusing to comply with the law nor replying to any such call, and if because of this it is necessary to shed blood and lose lives, it will be done because we do not recognize Yankee Democracy and in order to respect that law the United States of America must recognize our absolute independence."

The Nationalist Party uses every pretext to further its aims. Along this line there appeared in the party newspaper "Betances", published recently in San Juan, a story which alleged that the Nationalist Party had received information from hygienists and physicians to the effect that it was not safe for Puerto Ricans to use various types of foods imported from the mainland. Likewise, there were charges that a great number of Puerto Rican women are giving themselves up without slight shame into the arms of the invaders. The paper suggested that if United States soldiers need women for immoral purposes, they should bring them from the United States. The paper also warned against the use of cigarettes from North America, contending that they had been saturated with a solution used as a sedative for the sexual impetus of the men in the Army. Various and sundry other charges are carried from time to time in this newspaper in an effort to incite the Puerto Ricans against

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the use of anything from the mainland. It has recently been observed that a number of men in the armed services have been preaching the Nationalist doctrine. Proper investigations have been made of these cases and several stickers have been found reading: "Down with the Yankee invader".

JAMAICA

In connection with the political forces at Jamaica, it is noted that four men; namely, Richard Hart, Kenneth Hill, Frank Hill, and Arthur Henry, all prominent in the Metropolitan Group of the People's National Party, were arrested and placed in internment camp. Their homes were searched and seditious documents found. These men were recently involved in legal proceedings against the Governor, who has refused to recognize the Railway Union on the grounds that it had no employees among its officers. The seditious documents found indicated that these men planned drastic means of pursuing their fight toward the independence of Jamaica.

The leaders of the Metropolitans have been associated in the past with Communist activity. They hope that their labor disturbances will spread to Kingston, their aim being to remove all present government officials by force if necessary, and replace them with Jamaicans. This Metropolitan group is regarded as the most potentially dangerous political faction in Jamaica.

SABOTAGE

B-7-S

Under investigation is the possibility that linseed oil in large quantities has been mixed in lubricating oils.

SPANISH ACTIVITIES
B-7-Fa.

PUERTO RICO

Jose Antonio de Aguirre, Spanish Republican leader who arrived in Puerto Rico recently, voiced the sentiments of those who are concerned with the activity of the Falange when he stated that one of the gravest dangers that the United States faces in cementing closer and better relations with the Latin and South American Republics is the activity of the Spanish priests, who spread their Falange propaganda in the form of Hispanidad (Hispanism), advancing the theory that North Americans are Anglo-Saxons and consequently Protestant; while inhabitants of Latin and South America are Latins and should remain Catholic. The same type of propaganda is being spread in Puerto Rico by the Paulist Fathers, who publish a bi-weekly pamphlet entitled "La Milagrosa". Father P. Marijuan, Vicar of the Cathedral of Ponce, wrote the head of the Paulist Order, Vicar General Tobar, Garcia de Paredes No. 45, Madrid, Spain, requesting that six additional priests be sent to Puerto Rico. He added that there would be no difficulties whatsoever as the United States Ambassador to Spain was Catholic, and that passports could be easily arranged.

The activities of the Paulist Order center in Ponce and San Juan, P.R., but it has been estimated from various sources that 99% of the Catholic clergy in Puerto Rico are pro-Franco and pro-Totalitarian. These priests cannot be removed or substituted by loyal American priests since the Paulist Order has certain rights granted to it ad perpetuum by the Holy See. While they remain they are the most powerful influence in Puerto Rico against the Allied effort.

Tenth Naval District files contain the names of over eight hundred persons in Puerto Rico who are or were members of the Spanish Falange. Many of these are influential in large industrial and commercial enterprises and include many of the richest individuals of the island.

Remittances to Spain from Puerto Rico average \$25,000.00 a month, allowable under General License No. 52, which authorizes \$200.00 a month to be sent to dependents in Spain. Since there is evidence of the active cooperation of Spanish priests with the local Falange, there is likelihood that the priests perform courier service for the Falange. In at least one instance, a Paulist priest assisted in the transfer of 180,000 Pesetas from Puerto Rico to Spain.

There has been no activity on the part of members of the Spanish Falange during November. Many former Falange members are now trying to clear themselves of that stigma by taking an active part in the Red Cross, the USO, and the Civilian Defense. In the case of Angel Joglar Suarez of Rio Piedras, P. R., the members of the Civilian Defense of that city forced him to resign as treasurer of their chapter because of his former association with the Falange.

It was recently revealed that Benicio Sanchez Castaño, San Juan lawyer coached Spanish applicants for U. S. citizenship examinations, and was resp

ible for the naturalization of former Falange members who took out citizenship on April 29, 1942, apparently for business convenience.

Jose Manuel Fidalgo Diaz, former radical contributor to the Falange organ "Avenca", changed face when the popularity of the Falange waned in Puerto Rico, dropped the organization in May, 1940, and joined the ranks of the Popular political party, led by Luis Muñoz Marin. With the "Populares" holding political control, Fidalgo Diaz occupies the position as Secretary to the Insular Commissioner of the Interior. In his present confidential post he will bear considerable watching.

Muñoz Marin, who has never shown Falange tendencies, signified his approval of the efforts of the Accion Española to effect the release of a group of Spanish Republicans interned in France by writing the State Department in his official capacity as President of the Puerto Rican Senate. The Accion Republicana Española is calling for all writers, statesmen, and scientists to appeal to Vichy for the release of the Spanish Republicans. Since the German invasion of Unoccupied France, it has been learned that at least one of the political internees, Largo Caballero, was taken into custody by the Nazis and has passed the point where pleas will be of avail. Of interest though, is the fact that the movement, which is anti-Falange, is gaining attention in Puerto Rico, and is connected with a similar organization in Mexico.

CUBA

It was learned that Juan Gonzalez Soto, Falange courier, arrived in Cuba on September 25, 1942 aboard the SS "Magallanes", bearing letters to district chiefs from Sergio Cifuentes Gonzalez Posada and from Genaro Riestra, Falangists who are presently in Spain. It will be recalled that Riestra was expelled from Mexico for espionage activities and was likewise ejected from Cuba on similar charges. Cifuentes Gonzalez Posada, his secretary, was also declared persona non grata in Cuba, but charges were later retracted for lack of evidence. Indications point to Cifuentes' return to Cuba where he will resume employment in the Anti-American publication "Diario de la Marina", undoubtedly to follow the dictates of Riestra. Cifuentes, who has been in Germany for the past months, will soon leave Bilbao for Buenos Aires, thence to Chile, and finally to Cuba. His proposed trip to the two South American republics that maintain neutrality gives rise to the supposition that Cifuentes will carry information to totalitarian agents operating in those regions.

General Federico Monteverde, Spanish Military Attache to Cuba, is reported to be the head of the Militia, principal governing body of the Cuban Falange. Juan Costa Marcote is a member of the Territorial Directing Body of the Cuban Falange.

Courier activity suspicion has centered around four Cuban salesmen: Enrique Badell, Remigio Escondon, Jose Muino, and Jose Maria Calafat. It is also known that \$20,000.00 was collected by the Cuban Falange and entrusted to Pedro Ortega Mas, Falange treasurer at Ciego de Avila, Cuba, who sent it to Spain with courier, Hermenegildo Sabater.

Spanish Jesuit priests at Santiago de Cuba, who are known to be active Falangists, operate the Colegio Dolores at that city and exert a strong totalitarian influence on the pupils of that school.

Recent reports indicate that Cuba is tightening up on inimical activities within her borders. Spanish Captain Jorge de Vera Garijo was interned by the Havana Urgency Court on October 15, 1942 for having in his possession Falange propaganda and a picture showing him in full Falange uniform.

After the visit of the Spanish vessel SS "Magallanes", Alvarez Reymundo, Spanish Charge d'Affaires, wrote to the Spanish Minister of Foreign Relations setting out the mistreatment of Spanish diplomatic privileges by Cuban officials. He complained that secret police constantly watched the Spanish Embassy, that the Cuban Minister of State prohibited Spanish diplomatic pouches from entering or leaving Cuba, and that all of the official mail was subject to American censorship. He added that he was thus deprived of all communication with the Spanish Minister and could not comply with the functions of a diplomatic representative.

Alvarez Reymundo also advised his superior in the same letter that the Spanish colony had withdrawn and made no demonstrations for fear of being denounced, and that the Cuban press was attacking the Spanish government in an "unpleasant, aggressive manner".

Alvarez Reymundo is the only remaining official Franco representative in Cuba since the last Spanish consul, Francisco de Pando de Aznar, resigned his position at Guantanamo on the first of November. De Pando has recently been loudly voicing his democratic views, but formerly was decidedly pro-Franco. Informants consider that he is trying to play both sides for his own personal gain, since he has extensive sugar holdings in Cuba.

Additional information on Cuban-American relations is shown in the report of U. S. Army Captain J. R. Rundle, of Puerto Rican-American extraction, who is stationed at Camaguey, Cuba. Capt. Rundle found relations between Cuban and American troops stationed there unusually cordial, and the cooperation of the Cuban Army officials complete.

The removal of the radio monitoring and range finding equipment from the control of Comandante Govea, Former Controller of Radio in the Cuban Ministry of Defense, and the reallocation of the department under Captain Paget, of the Bureau of Investigation, is a step decidedly in favor of the Allied cause. Comandante Govea was responsible for dissemination of false reports and the leakage of information, the secrecy of which was vital to American-Cuban shipping.

VENEZUELA

Membership of the Spanish Falange is estimated at six hundred persons. It is headed by Rafael Caldera, congressman and Venezuelan representative at the recent National Catholic Welfare Conference in Washington, D. C. Forming its plans for anti-democratic activities in secret sessions, the Falange at

tempts to dominate national politics through control of the political-civic organization, "Accion Nacional". The Falangists do not hold a majority of votes in the "Accion Nacional", but because of the closely knit organization and the manipulating tactics of the Falange, they are subtly able to control the organization. The same situation exists in the National Student Union. Both organizations represent the Falangist effort to influence social and political thought in Venezuela.

As a counter stroke to totalitarian propaganda in Venezuela, the British Government has paid Manuel Penella de Silva, a free lance journalist widely travelled in Europe, a large sum of money to write an anti-Axis propaganda book in Spanish, using the style of Shirer's "Berlin Diary" as a model.

MISCELLANEOUS

B-7-M

HAITI

Luescher & Company, Basel, Switzerland, loaned the Haitian Republic a large sum of money through the influence of Mr. R. Ditisheim in return for his services. Ditisheim was permitted to issue one hundred Haitian passports. It is reliably reported that these passports were sold in Switzerland for \$3,000 a piece.

MEXICO

Aimed at preventing the sale of Mexican vessels to any foreign country is the Government decree that no ship leaving Mexico for foreign ports shall change her flag at any time. All vessels, under threat of seizure by the Mexican Government, must guarantee to fly only the Mexican flag and return to Mexico after trips to foreign ports.

ARGENTINA

The Argentine State Merchant Fleet now owns 28 ships or over 60% of Argentine freighters and combination vessels of over 1,000 gross tons. Additional purchases are planned. Shipments to New Orleans continue but a shift of route via the Pacific is indicated by the most recent routes of the ships.

MARTINIQUE

Attempts are being made to ship coal from the United States to Martinique in order to forestall the collapse of the sugar factories.

HAITI

President Lescot is attempting to increase the effective strength of the Garde D'Haiti by 1,500 enlisted men and 60 officers. He also desires to reopen the military school. This action is considered unnecessary by American officials in Haiti, based on the fact that all equipment for additional troops will not only be unobtainable except through the United States, but that it would be more valuable elsewhere.

French subjects in Haiti are being canvassed by Ferdinand Fatton, leader of the Free French movement in Haiti, to determine how many will be willing to enter the armed forces of the Free French. When this canvass is completed Fatton intends to take such steps as may be necessary to have volunteers join Fighting French units under training in the United States.

CUBA

The American Ambassador reports that the Vichy French Minister to Cuba, Armand Barois, has requested the assistance of the United States to get himself and two of his officers from Cuba to North Africa, on the grounds that his two officers wished to enter active military service. Barois, who has previously been decidedly pro-Vichy, apparently now considers final victory of the Allied Nations evident, and wishes to join them in time to get in with that side.

ECUADOR

It is reliably reported that Quito, Ecuador, has become the Headquarters of a Nazi espionage ring. The Nazis plan to send one of their Ecuatorian Nazis to the Galapagos Islands, one to the Canal Zone, and one to the United States.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

The Dominican Revolutionary Party charges that Trujillo no longer hides his anti-American activities, as he is printing and reprinting in Santo Domingo the memories of Manuel Machado, who is "a hard critic of politics in the United States and Cuba". Party claims that Trujillo has already paid for the translation of the memories to English and intends to distribute in America more than fifty thousand copies.

AFRICA

Crews of American ships returning from Egypt complain about management of shipping in that area. They allege that automobiles, trucks and motors delivered in Egypt are sold to "hock shops", and very carelessly left in the desert to ruin. It was stated that a new Ford motor, not even uncrated, can be bought in Egypt for \$125 cash.