

( SECRET )

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FBI SURVEYS OF  
**STRATEGIC FACILITIES  
IN LATIN AMERICA**



1943  
JUNE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
J. Edgar Hoover, Director



June 22, 1943



## *Preface*

During the past fiscal year the Federal Bureau of Investigation, at the request of the State Department and with the approval of the Army and Navy, has instituted a project in Latin America whereby facilities vital to the Allied war effort are being surveyed for the purpose of offering suggestions for their protection against sabotage and espionage. Plant and government officials in the Latin American republics are being given the benefit of experience acquired during this Bureau's extensive plant survey program in the United States towards the end that if suggestions made are adopted the continuous uninterrupted flow of strategic materials to the Allied Nations will be insured. The charts which follow graphically portray the work which has been accomplished to date.

*J. E. Hoover*  
DIRECTOR



# GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF STRATEGIC FACILITIES IN LATIN AMERICA SURVEYED BY THE FBI



Thus far in the plant survey program some 140 facilities have been surveyed belonging to 92 different companies or organizations. In addition to Cuba, every South American republic has been visited except Paraguay and Argentina. No vital facilities are located in the former country. The attitude of the recently deposed Castillo Government in Argentina has precluded the possibility of surveys being made there.

The location and type of facilities surveyed are illustrated on this page.

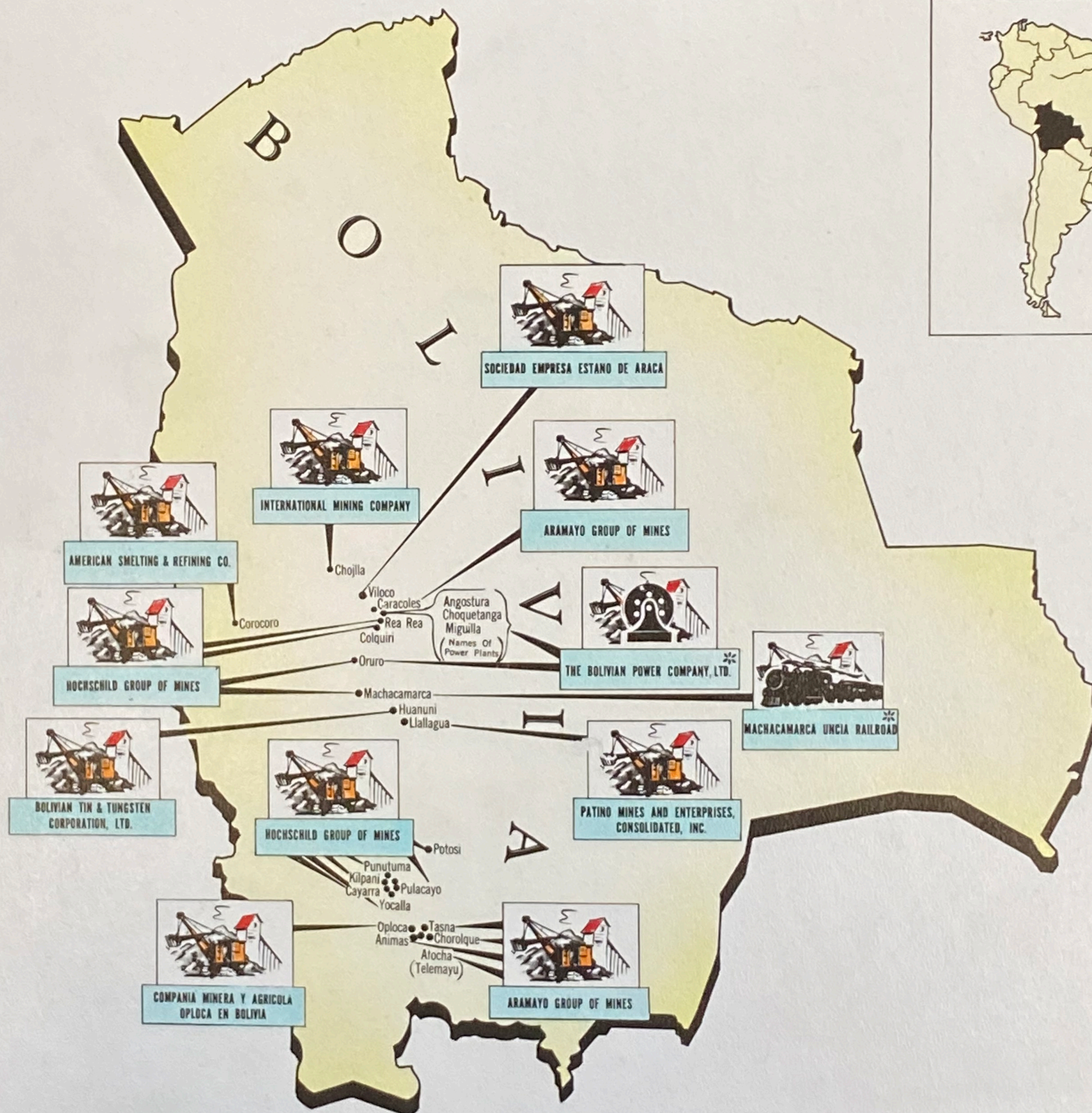
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# FBI SURVEY OF TIN MINES IN BOLIVIA

LOCATION OF BOLIVIA IN S. A.



The supply of tin, like that of rubber, was curtailed for the United Nations as a result of war in the Pacific. Tin produced by Patino, Hochschild and others in Bolivia is a major source of supply today. That the country is aware of the need for proper protection of the mines is revealed by the fact that the Foreign Minister made the request that the surveys be made. Recommendations for all the facilities shown here have been brought to his attention.

\* VITALLY IMPORTANT IN SERVICE  
TO THE TIN MINING INDUSTRY

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# FBI SURVEYS OF LATIN AMERICAN FACILITIES

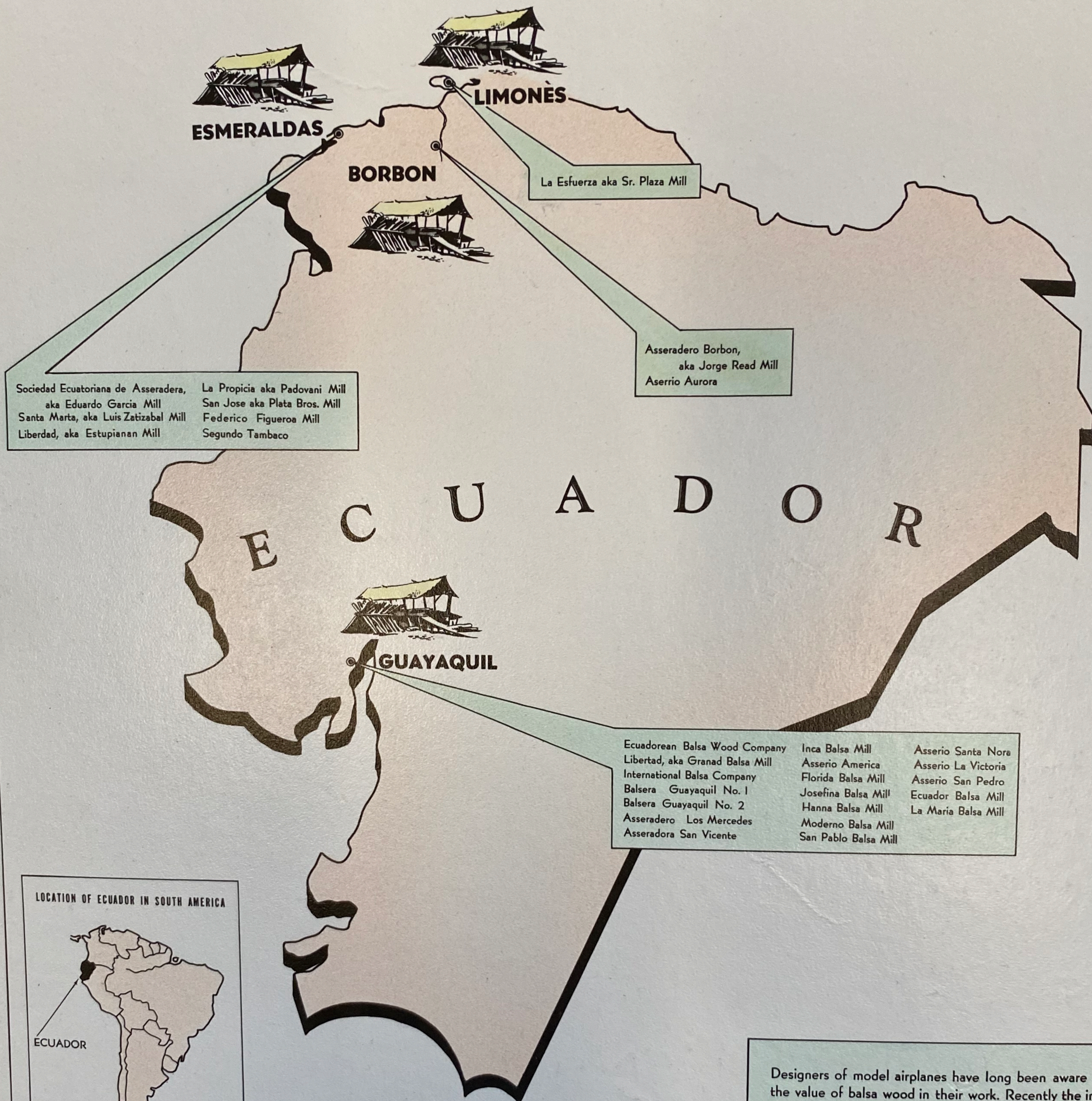
## Producing Vital War Materials



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# FBI SURVEY OF BALSA MILLS IN ECUADOR



Designers of model airplanes have long been aware of the value of balsa wood in their work. Recently the importance of this material has increased even more because it has been adapted for use in the famous Mosquito bombers which are achieving such success in bombing the enemy in Europe. A major source of supply of balsa wood is Ecuador. Numerous small mills contribute their share to the war effort. Pictured here are those which have been surveyed.

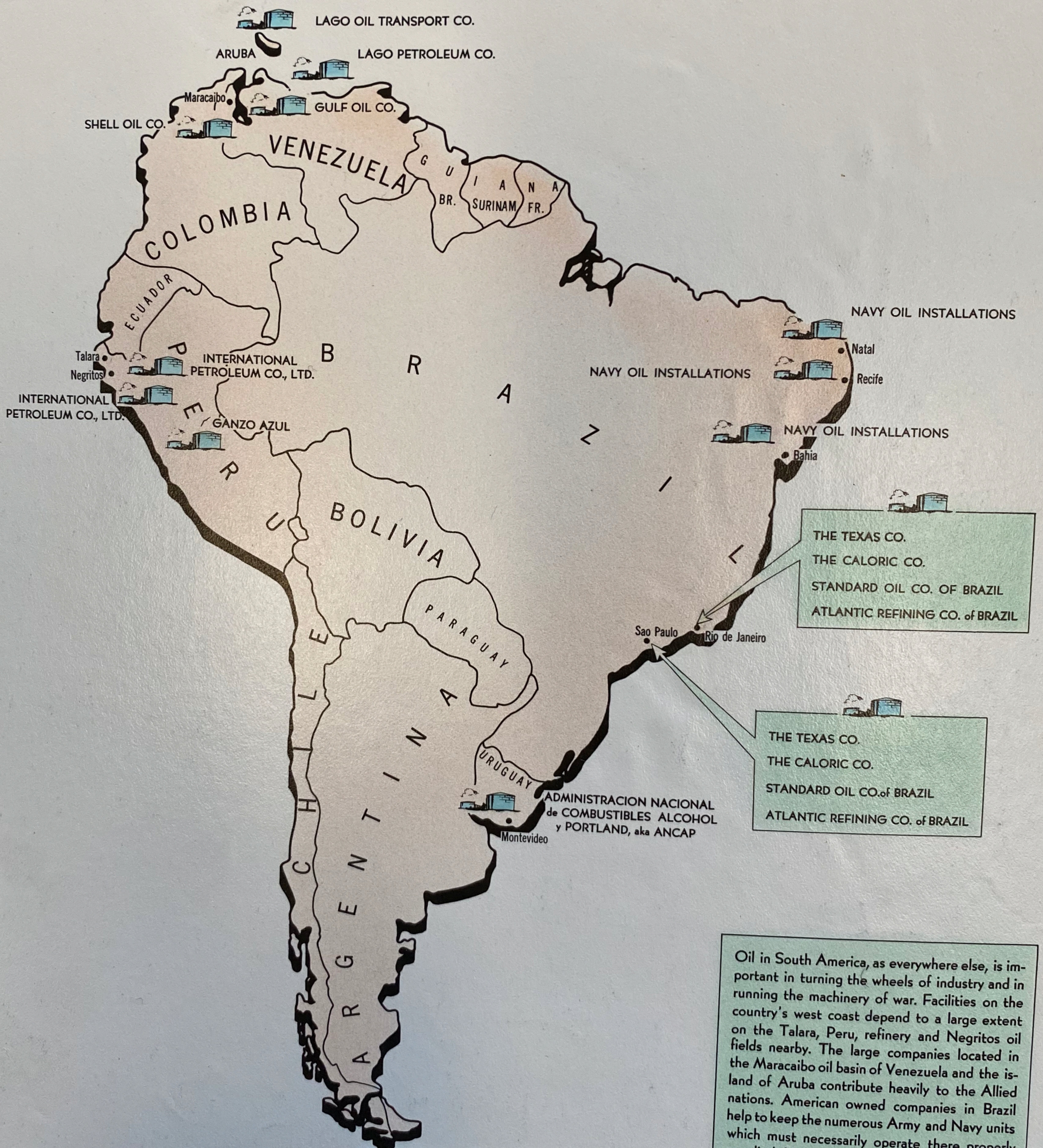
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# FBI SURVEY OF LATIN AMERICAN OIL FACILITIES



Oil in South America, as everywhere else, is important in turning the wheels of industry and in running the machinery of war. Facilities on the country's west coast depend to a large extent on the Talará, Peru, refinery and Negritos oil fields nearby. The large companies located in the Maracaibo oil basin of Venezuela and the island of Aruba contribute heavily to the Allied nations. American owned companies in Brazil help to keep the numerous Army and Navy units which must necessarily operate there properly supplied. Uruguay has an important state-owned refinery producing oil and industrial alcohol.



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