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COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORPS  
MOROCCAN TRAVEL CONTROL DETACHMENT  
AFHQ  
APO 759 U.S. ARMY

PLACE: ARBAOUA SECTION  
DATE: 20 OCTOBER 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

SUBJECT: GENERAL SITUATION REPORT

RE: Activities Relating To The Frontier Zone

Over the past month, this Agent has assembled the following information relating to the frontier situation and the Spanish zone.

1. BARGHA Farm: Since the 18th of September, the Spanish and French military authorities of the frontier region have agreed that BARGHA Farm ( a "sore spot" in frontier control ) shall be considered as French controlled territory and that Spanish Mohaznis will, in the future, desist from entering the said territory. Up to the present time no infractions of the agreement have been reported. Commandant BARRERE, Chef des Affaires Indigenes of Arbaoua reported to this Agent that relations between the French and Spanish AI authorities have improved considerably since then. However, the Spanish Commandant is reported to be out of favor with his superiors because of his amiable relations with the French and for his appeasement tendencies.

2. Troop Movements: Units of the Tabors (native regiments) have left the frontier region and have been reported to have been sent to the Franco-Spanish frontier in the Pyrenees where the Spanish have concentrated numerous troops to prevent Spanish Republicans, who are well-armed, ex-members of the French Forces of the Interior from infiltrating into Spain. According to this Agent's informant, the Spanish fear an anti-Franco uprising by these armed Spanish Republicans.

3. Incident in Tetouan: On the same subject of sending native troops to Spain, the Khalifa of Tetouan was approached by Spanish officials over a month ago, who demanded that the recruiting, and the sending of native troops to Spain be sanctioned by the native leaders. The Khalifa replied that the Sultan was the only authority who could sanction such a move. The Spanish officials then accused the Khalifa of pro-Allied sentiments, and the resulting discussion

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led to blows and eventually to an exchange of pistol shots. In the fracas, the Khalifa is reported to have been slightly wounded and that he was being treated in Tangier. It is also reported that there is great unrest within the ranks of the native troops, and that Spanish authorities fear that Spanish Republicans are inciting the native troops.

4. Spanish Republican Activities: It is reported that Spanish Republicans are active in Spanish Morocco. A week or two ago several people were sentenced to death or deportation for Republican activities in Tetouan.

5. Strengthening of Frontier Posts: This Agent has noticed that both the French and especially the Spanish authorities have considerably strengthened their frontier posts. The French have strengthened their frontier posts because of the increasing desertions of Spanish soldiers. The Spanish fear Allied inspired, Spanish Republican illegal crossings. Although unconfirmed, French Special Services are recruiting agents from the Republican refugee population for work in the Spanish zone and in Spain. It has also been confirmed that a Spanish Republican organization has been formed in French Morocco working towards the overthrow of Franco and the return of a republican form of government in Spain. Headquarters are located in Casablanca and the leader of the movement is a man named HIDALGO who is now living in Meknes. Recruitment of members and money is now a confirmed fact. Members of this organization are now reported to be near the frontier zone waiting for the opportunity to cross into the Spanish zone. Some of these men are reported to be located near Mechra Bel Ksiri south of Souk el Arba. Already; clandestine newspapers of this organization are in circulation in French Morocco. The French are prone to support this organization because of its communistic tendencies.

6. Expulsion of Aliens in Governmental Positions in Spanish Morocco It has been confirmed that, although the Spanish government announced over a month ago that all aliens in governmental positions were to be expelled from Spanish Morocco, there are still many German agents and officers in the zone. In Larache, German officers in Spanish uniform are reported to be still holding their former posts as advisors and instructors in the Spanish army.

7. Anti-Jewish outbreaks: Several weeks ago, there were anti-Jewish outbreaks in Larache. These outbreaks resulted in damage to Jewish owned property and to the sentencing of several Arabs guilty of vandalism. These demonstrations are reputed to be inspired by Axis agents still active in the Spanish zone.

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8. Colonel BUTZER: From a confidential informant this Agent has learned that colonel BUTZER, Chef des Affaires Indigenes of Ouezzane is being at last relieved of his post after a hard fought campaign for his removal by M. HARDY, Chef de Surete of Ouezzane, and "BSM" officials of Souk el Arba. Colonel BUTZER has been often accused of illegal dealings with contrabandists, of being pro-Vichy, and interfering with French Military Intelligence activities in the region, as well as dealing with the suspected Pasha of Ouezzane who is reported to be a German agent.

NICHOLAS A. NATSIOS  
SAIC, ARBAOUA SECTION

EVALUATION:

1. A -1
2. B 62
3. B -2
- 4;;B -2
5. A -1
6. A -1
7. A -1
8. A -1

3.

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