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ARA/BC - Mr. Williams

August 5, 1964

ARA - George Lister

Allende's Paese Sera Interview

By all means let's prevent Allende from getting off the hook on the Paese Sera interview, which was quite genuine (a copy is available in Washington), even though the Chilean Presidential candidate may not have meant to have all his remarks go on the record. The Havana Prensa Latina item I called you on the other day was not inaccurate in quoting him as saying "we will establish socialism like Cuba." And now that he has denied the authenticity of the interview there is even more opportunity to call attention to this and pin it on him. I hope we can find appropriate ways to have him hit quickly, hard and often on this one.

There follows a translation of the relevant part of the interview given to Paese Sera's correspondent in Santiago, Paolo Pozzesi. I have nothing on Pozzesi, but Paese Sera is Rome's largest afternoon paper. Officially it could be described as fellow-traveling and para-Communist, but in actual fact it is Communist-controlled and financed. It is a kind of boulevard, human interest l'Unita (the official Communist daily).

Question: "Up to what point does the Cuban Revolution constitute a valid example for Chile?"

Answer: "The Cuban Revolution is the catalyst of all Latin American revolutionary movements, and therefore also of ours. There exist some differences. In Cuba, Socialism was installed following an insurrectionary movement. Here in Chile we hope to be able to arrive at the same result by an electoral method. If we succeed, as I believe we shall succeed, Cuba and Chile will be the two most outstanding revolutionary examples, both valid even if different in the initial phase. For the rest, differences do not exist: we will make Socialism like the Cubans."

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By ebm, NARA, Date 1-21-07

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Deptel 96 to Santiago; Info Rome 311.

Paese Sera article in Department's hands for first time this morning, contains other exploitable items, including photograph of Allende and Pozzesi during interview, apparently in former's garden, and statements that: 1) pictures of Castro, "Che" Guevara, Khrushchev, Mao and Aguirre Cerda hang in study of Allende's home; and 2) in discussing Chinese-Soviet dissension among Chilean Communists, Allende stated, "I admire both Soviet and Chinese socialism, and consider each a valid example."

Entire article gives impression interview took place last month (rather than in 1963), and refers to Allende's leaving to attend political meetings, presumably in current election campaign. Allende also refers to "recent" FRAP meeting for women, attended by over 2,000 in largest theater in Valparaiso.

Rome requested obtain discreetly available information on Pozzesi, including his nationality (since apparently it is denied

Drafted by:

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Allende gave an interview to an Italian reporter in 1964).
Pozzesi interview one of several articles by him on Chile.
First one probably appeared around July 16, but not available
here. May give pertinent background on trip and series. Any
relevant particulars should be cabled from Rome. END

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