CLASSIFICATION 3

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COUNTRY Guatemala

DATE DISTR. 6 December 1948

SUBJECT

DATE OF

General Carlos Castillo Ibarria's Views on the

Guatemala Political Situation

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

In a recent analysis of the political situation in Guatemala, General Carlos Castillo Ibarra, leader of the anti-Somoza Nicaraguan Patriotic Committee made the following observations.

- 1. The so-called fascist revolution in Guatemala will not take place because neither Col. Arana, Chief of the Guatemalan Armed Forces, nor Major Jacobo Arbenz, Minister of War, one of whom would presumably lead it, has the necessary support of the army.
- 2a Arbenz is not considered a real militarist. He is extremely leftist, and is being considered by the Partido Accion Tevolucionaria as its candidate to oppose President Arevalo.
- 3. Arana incurred Army hatred when he assassinated his immediate superior, General Corado, on the eve of the 20 October 1944 revolution, and took for himself the credit for the triumph which was really due to Corado's efforts.
- 4. The only reason Arevalo is confident of the support of Arbenz and Arana, is that they would themselves be executed by the army were they to try to remove
- 5. A final factor contributing to the likelihood that Arevalo will stay in power is the support of his good friend, General Miguel Garcia Granados, who controls the organization of the Indians, and who has a total of 25,000 rifles stored in fincas.

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