

CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

IN 8/5/61
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HE WAS CRITICAL OF U.S. WEAKNESS IN DEALING WITH THE COMMUNIST PROBLEM, PARTICULARLY IN RESPECT TO CUBA.

3. YDIGORAS SAID THAT THE PENDING MEETING OF THE PRESIDENTS IN SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA WILL NOT AMOUNT TO MUCH BECAUSE IT WILL NOT TREAT SERIOUSLY WITH THE TRUE AND SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS OF THE CARIBBEAN. NEVERTHELESS, YDIGORAS SAID THAT HE, YDIGORAS, WAS PREPARED AND READY TO MAKE SPECIFIC AND CONCRETE PROPOSALS TO PRESIDENT KENNEDY. IN THIS RESPECT, HE SAID, HE HAS ALREADY COMMUNICATED WITH OTHER PRESIDENTS OF CENTRAL AMERICA AND EXPLORED THE POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING THEIR SUPPORT, BUT UNFORTUNATELY THERE ARE ONLY ONE OR TWO OF THEM CAPABLE OF SUPPORTING "THE HARD LINE".

4. YDIGORAS SAID THAT IN HIS OWN COUNTRY, GUATEMALA, ONLY A STRONG POSITION AND CONTINUAL VIGILANCE HAS PREVENTED THE COMMUNISTS FROM STRIKING A SUCCESSFUL BLOW AND TAKING OVER THE COUNTRY.

5. [REDACTED] IF JUAN AREVALO IS PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PENDING GUATEMALAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION HE WILL WIN BY A LARGE MAJORITY. THE OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES ARE DIVIDED AND WEAK. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ALTHOUGH YDIGORAS SAID HE WILL OPPOSE AREVALO, [REDACTED] YDIGORAS MAY EVENTUALLY ACCEPT AREVALO IN ORDER TO PREVENT HARASSMENTS AND OTHER SIMILAR DIFFICULTIES.

6. [REDACTED] DISSEM: STATE [REDACTED] C INCARIB.

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs (C)

END OF MESSAGE

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