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FROM BROMLEY SMITH
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE
5 JULY 1968

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

CENTRAL AMERICA SECURITY SITREP 2
(AS OF 1:00 PM EDT)

1. NO NEW INFORMATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED WHICH WOULD CHANGE THE CONCLUSION OF SNIE 82/83-68 "THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO CENTRAL AMERICA: SECURITY CONDITIONS", OF 2 JULY 1968.
2. THE COMMUNIST - DOMINATED GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF SALVADORAN STUDENTS CONTINUES TO PLAY THE DOMINANT ROLE IN PREPARATIONS FOR HOSTILE DEMONSTRATIONS. LABOR AND OFFICIAL COMMUNIST PARTY SUPPORT APPARENTLY WILL BE QUITE LIMITED. THE DEMONSTRATION SCHEDULED FOR THE AFTERNOON OF 5 JULY STILL INCLUDES A MARCH PAST THE U.S. EMBASSY, BUT THIS WILL PROBABLY TAKE PLACE ONLY IF THERE IS SUFFICIENT ENTHUSIASM AND NUMBERS. STUDENT LEADERS REMAIN AFRAID THAT AN ATTACK ON THE EMBASSY, WHICH MIGHT BE INSTIGATED BY RADICALS, WOULD PROMPT A SEVERE CRACKDOWN BY SECURITY FORCES, BOTH STUDENT AND COMMUNIST LEADERS, HOWEVER, APPARENTLY FEEL THAT SOME SORT OF EFFORT MUST BE MADE TO DAMPEN WHAT THEY FEAR WILL BE AN UNUSUALLY WARM WELCOME FOR PRESIDENT JOHNSON.
3. STUDENT ACTIVITY HAS THUS FAR BEEN LIMITED TO THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOSTILE PROPOGANDA AND THE PASTING OF LEAFLETS ON WALLS. A SPECIAL EDITION OF THE UNIVERSITY STUDENT PUBLICATION TOOK A VIOLENTLY ANTI- U.S. LINE, AS IS ITS CUSTON.

4. LABOR ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING THE COMMUNIST-DOMINATED FUSS, WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST THE PRESIDENT. WORKMEN ARE SAID TO BE GENERALLY UNINTERESTED IN THE VISIT.

5. THE THREAT OF A SERIOUS BUS STRIKE IS SUBSIDING. CONSIDERABLE BUS SERVICE, USING NON-UNION DRIVERS, HAD BEEN RESTORED BY LATE AFTERNOON ON 4 JULY, THE GOVERNMENT PLANS MEASURES TO HAVE NORMAL SERVICE GOING BY SATURDAY.

6. THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDC) WILL APPARENTLY APPEASE ITS MORE RADICAL YOUTH ELEMENT BY NOT TAKING PART IN ANY OFFICIAL ACTS DURING THE VISIT AND BY ISSUING A PARTY MANIFESTO BLANDLY CRITICIZING U.S. ECONOMIC DOMINATION OF LATIN AMERICA. IN ADDITION, THE PDC MAYOR OF SAN SALVADOR HAS BEEN REQUESTED NOT TO PRESENT THE KEY TO THE CITY TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON.

7. SECURITY FORCES ARE KEEPING WELL INFORMED OF ALL PROTEST ACTIVITY AND WILL BREAK UP ANY DEMONSTRATIONS THAT SEEM LIKELY TO EMBARRASS THE PRESIDENT. A WELCOMING CROWD OF 25,000, LARGE BY SALVADORAN STANDARDS, IS PREDICTED AT ILOPANGO AIRPORT. A DETAIL OF OVER 300 TROOPS WILL PROTECT THE AIRPORT, WITH A 100-MAN UNIT IN RESERVE. THE ROUTE TO AND THROUGH THE CITY PROPER WILL BE COVERED BY 400 UNIFORMED POLICEMEN AND 130 DETECTIVES AND EACH SCHEDULED STOP WILL BE MANNED BY AN ADDITIONAL 30 TO 45 MEN. APPROXIMATELY 1,000 TROOPS ARE BEING HELD IN THE GENERAL AREA IN READY RESERVE. SALVADORAN SECURITY FORCES ARE ALSO PLANNING TO ARREST APPROXIMATELY 75 LEFTISTS AND DETAIN THEM DURING THE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT.

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8. IN GUATEMALA, [REDACTED] (FAR) REPORTS THAT FAR LEADERS ARE NOT IN FAVOR OF ANY ATTEMPT TO CARRY OUT TERRORISM AT THE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT DURING THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT. THEY REPORTEDLY CONSIDER THE ODDS AGAINST SUCCESS TOO HIGH IN VIEW OF EXPECTED SECURITY MEASURES, AND FEAR THAT PUBLICITY WOULD BE UNFAVORABLE TO THEIR CAUSE. U.S. OFFICIALS IN GUATEMALA NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT THIS INFORMATION WOULD BE REGARDED AS COMING FROM ONLY PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS AMONG FAR LEADERS.

9. ELSEWHERE IN CENTRAL AMERICA, THE SMALL PRO-CUBAN AUTHENTIC REVOLUTIONARY PARTY IN COSTA RICA REPORTEDLY IS PLANNING TO POST MEMBERS AT THE SAN JOSE AIRPORT WITH ANTI-U.S. PLACARDS DURING THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT. COSTA RICAN SECURITY OFFICIALS HAVE STATED, HOWEVER, THAT NO SUCH PLACARDS WILL BE ALLOWED, AND THAT KNOWN TROUBLE-MAKERS ARE TO BE CALLED IN AND WARNED AGAINST ANY DISTURBANCES. IN HONDURAS, THE POLITICAL COMMISSION OF ONE OF THE TWO FACTIONS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY REACHED A CONSENSUS THAT NO STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO EMBARRASS THE GOVERNMENT OR PRESIDENT JOHNSON. THE GOVERNMENT'S ADVANCE SECURITY PRECAUTIONS WERE NOTED.

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