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July 10 1984

2003

MEMORANDUM FOR: CWH

SUBJECT : Counter-Attack Against Further Guatemalan Revelations  
of CIA Plans Against Guatemala

1. Problem

b. The problem is how to deal with possible publication of the above information by the Guatemalan Government, either in the press or at the OAS Conference.

2. Proposed Solution -- Substance

a. DELGADO supplied the basic evidence for the Guatemalan White Paper of 29 January 1954. That evidence included numerous photostats of documents allegedly passed during the course of the "conspiracy" against Guatemala. These documents are fabrications and forgeries, as attested by the following:

(1) The White Paper claimed that Carlos Castillo Armas and "Carlos Centeno Aguilar" ( a name that Castillo Armas allegedly used on a Nicaraguan passport) were identical. Yet the photostats given by DELGADO to the Guatemalan Government show an irreconcilable dissimilarity between the signatures of "Carlos Castillo Armas" and "Centeno". Either the documents signed "Carlos Castillo Armas", or those signed "Centeno", are forgeries, or more likely both.

(2) Another document delivered by DELGADO to the Guatemalan Government purported to be a prospectus on Napalm, mailed to "A. Somoza and Cia" by a German arms firm, the H.F. CORDES Co. of Hamburg. The H.F. CORDES Co., on about 30 January, in response to a press inquiry by the Hamburg representative of Agence France-Presse, stated that it had never sold arms to either "A. Somoza & Cia." or to Carlos Castillo Armas, but had definitely sold submachine guns to the Guatemalan Government. (This is further confirmed by a Department of State dispatch from Hamburg, dated approximately 11 January 1954). It is apparent, then, that the Guatemalan Government or DELGADO, in the pay of the Guatemalan government, reproduced the H.F. CORDES & Co. letterhead

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and fabricated thereon the alleged offer of Napalm to "A.Somoza & Cia." Conclusive proof of this clumsy fabrication is supplied by the fact that H.F. CORDES, in allegedly giving the specifications of the Napalm it wanted to sell, wrote the following: "Cualidad Segun las especificaciones de los Estados Unidos". This is technically so imprecise and propagandistically so blatant as to label the document a patent forgery.

(3) Other documents supplied by DELGADO to the Guatemalan Government purported to be letters written by Anastasio SOMOZA, Jr. to Castillo Armas. On 1 February, 1954, at 1100 hours, the Nicaraguan Ambassador to Guatemala called on Foreign Minister TORIELLO and, on the basis of showing TORIELLO genuine signatures of Anastasio SOMOZA, Jr., indicated to TORIELLO that the SOMOZA signatures on the DELGADO photostats were forgeries. At approximately 1600 hours that same afternoon, the Guatemalan Government called in, from as many newspapermen as it could reach, all copies of the "documents" and "photostats" attached to the White Paper. In other words, by the Guatemalan Government's own tacit admission, the "documents" were fabricated and forged.

b.

(1) DELGADO's previous record as a forger and fabricator.

(2) The obvious propaganda slanting of the new "documents", such as the reference to "blasting caps", making a parallel to the Napalm allegations

(3)

(4)

(5) The elaborate fabrication of a "cloak-and-dagger" character to the messages, to the point where they are virtually unintelligible

c. It is not surprising that the Guatemalan Government resorts to such desperate devices, because this type of fabrication so closely resembles the "potato bug" and "bacteriological warfare" lies of the Soviets, whose loyal servant the Guatemalan Government is.

d. It is regrettable, however, that the Panamanian Government, with whom the United States has always enjoyed cordial relations, should find itself in the position of having a Communist forger and fabricator in its diplomatic corps. This is the second such case in

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recent months. It will be recalled that in December, 1953, the Government of El Salvador was compelled to declare persona non grata that Panamanian Consul-General Manuel RUGLIANCICH, for pro-Communist and pro-Guatemalan activities. It would be highly desirable, in the interests of hemispheric unity, if the Government of Panama would take steps in this matter.

3. Proposed Solution -- Means of Implementation

a. [ ] could protest now, before Guatemala reveals more, to Panama about DELGADO, thus discrediting beforehand any further revelations that might be made.

b. If the Guatemalans break the story, the US State Department could immediately reveal the facts contained in Para 2 a, and say that presumably the new "documents" were of a similar ilk. A day or so later, the new "documents" could be declared forgeries in their turn, in line with Para 2 b.

c. An appropriate State Department official could, if the Guatemalans break the story, go to the Panamanians with the information in Para 2 a and the hypothesis that the new "documents" are forgeries. The US protest against DELGADO's activities would then be leaked to the press.

d. In all above solutions, and there are undoubtedly other means of implementation, the US position might profitably be to play the incident down as irrelevant cat-calling that merely distracts from the main business of OAS.

4. ASBEE Suggestion

If the US, at Caracas, forthrightly takes a lead in establishing ~~the~~ a high plane of discussion, if it focuses on the defense and development of freedom and free ideals, all Guatemalan charges can be placed in a bad light by the very fact that they disrupt the positive plans for the conference.

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