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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

16 December 1953

2003

CONTACT REPORT

DATE: 15 December 1953  
PLACE: Pentagon - Col. Brad Smith's office  
PRESENT: Col. Brad Smith ( Gen. Erskine's office)  
Col. Brandon (second in command, Military Mission  
Branch, USAF)  
Hans V. Tofte (representing PBSUCCESS)  
COVER USED: None  
REFERENCES: DD/P's memos to DDCI and DCI, dtd 19 Nov and 20 Nov 53,  
Subj: Exploitation of Military Missions.

DISCUSSION:

1. Pursuant to DD/P instruction, and at the request of C 7  
(DD/P-PPC), I attended a meeting as indicated in the above at 1400 hours  
15 Dec 53 for the purpose of briefing Col. Hutchinson, Chief, Military  
Mission, USAF, Guatemala, as per DD/P memos referenced in the above.

2. Col. Hutchinson was informed in general terms that the U.S. has  
decided to take action against Guatemala in order to curtail or eliminate  
Communist domination of the Government of that country. Col. Hutchinson  
appeared to appreciate precisely what would be required of him, and it is  
my impression that the Col. is qualified to handle the matter discretely  
and efficiently. It was emphasized that he would report directly to the  
Ambassador. (In this connection, it was ascertained that there would be  
no difficulty vis-a-vis the Air attache or the Military attache in the  
U.S. embassy in Guatemala City who would not be cut in on PRSUCCESS.)

3. It was discussed at the meeting that there was some possibility  
that the Agency might request extensions relative to the tours of duty  
of both (or one of) the current chiefs of Military Missions in Guatemala  
City in order to take advantage of their positions, their local know-how  
and the personal rapport they have developed with Guatemalan Government  
officials during the past two years.

Col. Hutchinson stated that as far as he was concerned it would not  
inconvenience him at all to have his tour of duty in Guatemala extended

for a period

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for a period of some months. He agreed that it would be difficult for new men to be of any particular use to PBSUCCESS; in his estimation it would take up to a year before the replacements scheduled to take over for himself and Col. Hanford in March 1954 would be able to settle down properly and establish any kind of contact with Guatemalans of any use to PBSUCCESS.

4. IT IS RECOMMENDED that the above be carefully considered and that, if at all possible, the tour of duty of at least one of the current chiefs of mission be extended until, say, July 1954.

It is further recommended that the Ambassador in Guatemala City be notified about the briefing of Col. Hutchinson who will avail himself of an early opportunity after his return to Guatemala to contact the Ambassador regarding the briefing recorded in this memo.

[ ]  
HANS V. TOFTE

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