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GUAT 923

TO: DIR

CITE: SGUAT

1. At meeting of high army officers with Arbenz 18 November called by him to permit officers ask questions officers inquired about policy of increasing taxes, international situation as it affects Guatemala and Communism in Govt. Arbenz replies were along following lines:

A. Necessary raise taxes to develop country

B. There are differences between governments on diplomatic level but no differences with peoples of other countries.

C. Few Communists in Guatemala and they have no importance. Can assure no one in Govt practices Communist doctrine.

2. Replies were not concrete and were brushoff of military leaders. C

D long time close friend of Arbenz who is dissatisfied with present situation, did not attend meeting but obtained it from other sources in army. B-3

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