

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

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RYBAT

11 May 1954

2003

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: [ ]

1. The above captioned individual was contacted by the undersigned on May 7, at [ ] accompanied by [ ] contact representative from that city who also was a personal friend of [ ] The contact was made at a time when [ ] had been released from the hospital on a weekend pass, which had been issued without the knowledge of his immediate family and which allowed the contact to be made without their being cognizant of it. We spent approximately four hours at this first meeting in which [ ] reiterated substantially the information previously given, but did give a clearer picture concerning his working relationship with [ ]

2. He stated that for the past year he has seen or been in the President's company on an average of "not more than once every three or four months", not including the boat trip in February. Furthermore, that he was not in agreement with his execution of the agrarian reform, although he believed in the reform in principle, and felt that his views on the matter not only would not have any effect on [ ] but might provoke a difference or dispute between the two which he was not willing or desirous of having. For the aforementioned reason he created a "mental block" viz-a-viz [ ] actions and policies and declined to rationalize or discuss them with anyone except [ ] He further stated that his views had undoubtedly been communicated to Arbenz in an innocent endeavor to be constructive by [ ] inasmuch as Arbenz evaded becoming involved in any conversations with him on the recent boat trip concerning controversial subjects as though he was completely aware of his feelings, was not in agreement with them and did not want to discuss them.

3. After our ascertaining that [ ] was aware of the Communist influence in the government and that he felt that there was a great need to follow their activities, a request was made to have him cooperate and furnish intelligence information which he flatly refused, then reconsidered and placed his consent in abeyance to give him time to think the proposition over. He did state however that he would be willing to go to Arbenz upon his return and give him his views on the reaction of the current public opinion in the United States <sup>via A. V. Z.</sup> on the Guatemalan situation, i.e., that Arbenz personally is well liked but is being completely dominated and influenced by the small Communist minority who are in turn receiving their instructions from Moscow; that the Guatemalan foreign policy, particularly their relationship with the United States and other Western powers, is dictated by the Communists and serves none <sup>NO ONE EXCEPT</sup> but Russia and is designed to place Guatemala in such an intransigent position that it

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will result in a chaotic internal and foreign policy which will allow the Commies to solidify their gains, with the possibility of usurpation of the government itself, and that after the Communist influence has been removed, all differences between the countries become secondary and easily solvable.

4. Concerning the aforementioned, it is the writers opinion that [ ] really believes that he is long overdue in making his position known to [ ] and that by doing it in this manner, he will have reconciled his conscience. [ ] agreed to forward the President's reactions to the drop box set up in New York [ ] (Grand Central Station, New York City).

5. A second meeting was had with [ ] the following day although it was quite evident that he did not wholeheartedly subscribe to the idea of a second meeting. However, after making the contact, it became obvious that he was not as adamant against cooperating in furnishing intelligence information as the day before and agreed to do so if a secure means of communication could be set up for him to receive mail in Guatemala. He suggested that inasmuch as it is a common and accepted procedure of receiving one's mail addressed to the American Consulate, that he be telephoned either at home or at his office advising that he call at the Consulate for his mail and that he will read and destroy the same prior to leaving the premises. The aforementioned will give an insight to [ ] thinking process that he will receive a letter but will not allow personal contact. Furthermore, it is believed that the activation of this source be extremely slow at the beginning inasmuch as he has been apathetic for such a long period of time that a general buildup instilling confidence is necessary to overcome inherent conflicts, and be in a position to handle him on a personal basis in the near future by the station. Furthermore, all [ ] capital is invested in Guatemala and his personal welfare seems to be his dominant motivation and everything that is requested of him should be held in this light.

Alan N. Reelfoot

Futhermore that the "white paper" charges were received by the American public with little or no interest and that he [ ] unfounded and believes that such/rediculas charges only tend to aliehate and c animosity toward the Arbenz government.