

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PR
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PBSUCCESS/RBAT

HULLA- 711

9 MAY 1954

AIR

PBSUCCESS, Headquarters

LINCOLN

KUGOWN

Documentary Film on Guatemala

1. A clipping from VARIETY, New York, 11 April, headlined "Army Screens NBC-TV Guatemala Red Rule News Documentary" has come only now to our attention. According to that story, NBC has produced a 30 minute news documentary "covering communist infiltration of the Guatemalan government" for TV which is also being used by the Army and/or Air Force in their I & E program.
2. Considering the high propaganda potential of documentary photographs, we request that you have somebody contact NBC as quickly as possible and view the documentary film in question. At the very least, it should be possible to obtain glossy still prints of a number of the more effective pictures in the film which we could either transmit to our outlets or print as a separate picture leaflet. It would be highly desirable if we could reprint these pictures without any credit line or indication of origin and perhaps even give credit to "photo reporters of the opposition" or something like that. Request that you pouch us 10 prints each of the pictures selected, accompanied by information as to the copyright and credit line question. If you have difficulties on that score, we might simply pirate the pictures and reprint them black, without any attribution whatsoever.
3. We don't believe that it would be possible to show the film in Guatemala itself. However, we suggest that you actively explore the possibility to have it shown soonest in as many other Latin American countries as possible, whether via USIA or through commercial channel. The article quoted in para 1 notes that it "has been shown to employees by a number of corporations doing business in Latin America". Any such international distribution of the film (always assuming that it is an effective picture) might contribute to prepare world public opinion in favor of PBSUCCESS.

WILLIAM D. PLAYDON

WDP/EFL/a
8 May 1954
Distribution:
3 - WASH
3 - LINC

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PBSUCCESS/RBAT

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PRESS CLIPPING BUREAU
165 Church Street New York

VARIETY
NEW YORK CITY

APR 14 1954

Army Screens NBC-TV Guatemala Red Rule News Documentary

Army Air Force held a screening yesterday (Tues.) with another skedded tomorrow (Thurs.) on "Guatemala—Red Rule On Our Doorstep," NBC news documentary covering Communist infiltration of the Guatemalan government. HQ Squadron Section of the First Air Force at Mitchell Air-Base, N. Y., is employing the 30-minuter, telecast originally on NBC-TV Feb. 14, as part of its information and education program.

Vidpix traces the economic and political factors which swung Guatemala over to the Commie camp. Marshall F. Bannell, web's correspondent there who was expelled with the 'N. Y. Times' Sydney Gruson, is the narrator and NBC's Joseph C. Harsch the commentator. Pic has been shown to employees by a number of corporations doing business in Latin America.

Another of the net's documentaries, "Berlin, Window on Fear," was supplied to U. S. Army HQ in the German city for orientation of GI's.

Also on the military front is the Army's pacting of Tele-Q Corp.'s prompting system for training films to be made at Camp Gordon, Ga., for Signal Corps use. First to be instructed on its operation for cueing was Cpl. Robert Jones, who underwent a period of orientation. Tele-Q gives filmmakers an on-camera cuer enabling announcer or instructor to look directly into the lens while reading from the device.