

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
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[ ] 705

9 MAY 1954

Chief of Station, [ ]

INFO: PFSUCCESS, Headquarters

LINCOLN

KUOOON

Notes for Francis R. HEARTY

Please transmit the attached two notes in the usual manner to HEARTY.

JCD/EFL/a

JEROME C. DUNBAR

Attachments

7 May 1954

Distributions:

- 2 - [ ] (w/att)
- 2 - WASH (w/att)
- 3 - LINC (w/att)

~~SECRET  
PFSUCCESS/RIBAT~~

P-3-1 / Hearty / Report /

6 May 1954

For Rodolfo:

1. In para 9 of our notes of 21 April, we had suggested that Pancho should write a private letter to the Archbishop, not to be made public. In para 13 of our notes of 27 April, we asked whether this letter had been written and dispatched. We hope very much that this has been done in the meantime: if not, please see to it that it is done without further delay and inform us accordingly.
2. In view of the wide-spread and overwhelmingly favorable publicity which the Archbishop's letter continues to receive both in Guatemala and in other countries, we consider it essential that Pancho follows up that private letter with a public statement. We suggest that you have his statement tape-recorded and pouch it to us at your earliest convenience for broadcasting via our station. You might wish to give that statement also lateral distribution through your own press and radio outlets, but we believe that this should be done only after it had been broadcast by our station.
3. We suggest that Pancho's statement might follow approximately the following lines: "The fact that the Archbishop felt compelled to issue that letter and the wholehearted acclaim with which it was welcomed by the faithful in Guatemala as well as elsewhere in Latin America, prove that Communism is indeed an increasingly severe threat to the Christian way of life practiced by the overwhelming majority of our fellow-citizens. Not only is the communist doctrine in itself atheistic, but communist practice in Guatemala is undoubtedly going to expel religion from the schools, to force the children away from the church, away from their families, into the ranks of communist youth organizations -- just as the communists did in every country where they came to power. Religion would have to go underground, just as it had to do after the Bolshevik revolution in Russia from where our local communists receive their orders as well as their funds. The pictures of the Holy Virgin and of the Saints would have to be replaced by the pictures of Marx, Lenin, Stalin and Malenkov -- as they were replaced only recently in such profoundly Catholic countries as Poland and Hungary after the

Communists had seized power there. Our opposition against the Arbenz-Soviet regime is therefore also a struggle for the defense of the Christian religion and of the Catholic way of life. No faithful Catholic can support the Arbenz-Soviet regime or belong to any of the organizations controlled by the communists, whether they pretend to fight for peace, or for the rights of women or any other cause which they misuse for their unscrupulous bid for total power in our country."

4. You may wish to draft a text in Spanish on the basis of the above outline, but it might be preferable to discuss the suggested statement with Pancho and have him or one of his advisers prepare the text, utilizing the above suggestions as much as possible. In any case, we would greatly appreciate receiving the recorded statement as soon as possible, while the issue of the pastoral letter is still vivid in many minds.

7 May 1954

For Rodolfo:

Re your report #30, dated 27 April:

1. We are pleased to note that you have pursued the issue of smuggling more propaganda material into the factory once more with Manuel. Making sure that our output gets there and is actually read by the right people is of paramount importance. We are therefore a bit skeptical about balloon or leaflet bomb operations (on which we shall give you definite answers separately, by cable) -- since in these cases you can never know for sure how many copies are actually received by readers. Nor can you aim your distribution by balloon or similar devices at specific groups of people whom you want to reach -- for instance, military personnel. In your geographic location, the usefulness of these devices appears to be even more limited. We therefore urge you (and through you, Manuel & Co. ) to concentrate upon smuggling -- whether this can be done by legal or by illegal border crossers, by collaborating with railroad personnel, seamen, fishermen, professional smugglers or whichever other ways you may be able to discover and utilize.
2. The payments for smuggling which you mention seem not extravagant to us -- always provided that you can control the actual arrival of the material in the factory and make sure that, once it has arrived there, it will also be distributed in the right manner. Do whatever you can to check on the identities of the persons involved in these smuggling operations and discuss with Manuel the security angle of every step taken. In particular, make sure that the actual border crossers -- whether they are professional smugglers or persons specially recruited for this purpose -- know as little as possible about the contents of the packages, about their origin and their destination and especially about the identities of the people from whom they receive or to whom they deliver these packages. Keep always in mind that any of these people may be caught while crossing the border and may be subjected to considerable pressure: the only facts which we can be absolutely sure that he will not disclose under any circumstances are the facts which he simply does not know.
3. When mailing papers from your area to the factory, it will be advisable to mail them from different towns, in envelopes of different sizes, colors etc., with different sender's addresses and the like, in order to avoid their being intercepted by censorship. Does Manuel know whether first-class mail or printed matter are more likely to be singled out by the censor? Consider also the possibility of using the papers as inner wrappings in small postal parcels or packages, the main contents of which could be some inexpensive and completely innocuous items of any sort. Experience has shown that only particularly well-trained inspectors look at the wrapping papers, instead of merely at the contents of the package itself.
4. Re your para 3: we do not approve purchase of the radio station in question since we consider our existing over-all broadcasting facilities quite adequate for the time being.
5. Re your para 13: we do not see any special reason for interference with the new local radio station, to be set up by the Cuban. On the one hand, this seems like a diversion of our capabilities into a very secondary direction, hardly directly related to our principal objective. On the other hand, interference with a properly licensed radio station might get your people into all sorts of trouble, legal and otherwise, which we definitely want to avoid. Instruct therefore Manuel & Co. not to

undertake any action whatsoever against Sr. Aramis or his radio station, but keep us informed of all significant developments in the propaganda or other political action sponsored by the embassy in question.