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9 MAY 1954

TO \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

FROM \_\_\_\_\_

(For LUGTON)

INFO Washington

LINCOLN

SUBJECT { GENERAL  
SPECIFIC

Guatemalan Matters  
Air Force Capabilities

REF: HGG-A-946, 23 April 1954 (Not sent to \_\_\_\_\_ )

1. In a conversation with two Guatemalan Air Force officers, ESSENCE was informed that the Air Force has six AT-6's, seven P-29's and "several" AT-11's, all in good condition. The Air Force reportedly has an unknown number of 30 and 100 pound bombs. The pilots have never received training against other planes, all their shooting having been directed on ground targets. The Escuela de Aviacion has been closed down, according to the officers, in order to save available planes from wear and tear. There are some sixty pilots available, counting those of Aviateca, the Escuela de Aviacion and Aviacion Militar.

2. They also stated that the government had tried to buy some Spitfires, but this deal reportedly fell through because of the lack of skilled maintenance personnel familiar with that type of plane and the long period necessary to train such personnel. The two grey bi-motor planes located at the military area of the Aurora airport and listed in the name of Col. Rodolfo Carlos MENDOZA are stated to be actually the property of Juan Jose AREVALO.

3. This material is for your information and that of CALLIGERIS. Any reports which the latter's agents are able to obtain on this matter will be appreciated.

\_\_\_\_\_, ]  
JEROME C. DUNBAR

[2] Vincent/d

30 April 1954

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