

Linsal

VIA: ~~SECRET-AIR~~

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~~SECRET~~ PBSUCCESS RYBAT

DISPATCH NO. ~~HGG-A-929~~

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

RELEASE AS SANITIZED

2003
CLASSIFICATION

TO: LINGOEN

DATE: _____

FROM : Chief of Station, Guatemala []

INFO: Chief, WHD

SUBJECT: GENERAL— Operational

SPECIFIC— Weekly Psych Intelligence Report, 12-19 April 1954

REFERENCE: HULA-40

1. Due to the fact that Holy Week, which is celebrated locally from Wednesday to Sunday, fell during reporting period, this station believes that no major changes in attitudes or moods in target areas developed during 12-19 April. From Wednesday through Sunday almost no newspapers appeared and political activity was almost wholly suspended. Attention was concentrated on pleasure by out-of-town vacationers and on religious activities by those remaining in cities and villages.
2. From 12-14 April, before newspapers ceased publication, the press continued to discuss the Archbishop's letter calling for an anti-Communist crusade (See 5-12 April report, HGG-A-929), the situation in Nicaragua following the alleged attempt on SOMOZA, and the approach of May Day activities in which it was announced that President ARBENZ will participate.
3. Well informed and reliable individuals are of the opinion that the religious ceremonies were marked by an abnormally large attendance on the part of the faithful. There is some reason to believe that this increased attendance is also of political importance in view of the forthright anti-Communist stand made by the Archbishop in his pastoral letter.
4. Of interest was the statement of an American citizen resident in Guatemala who reported that the words "Muera ARBENZ" had been seen painted on a wall in Antigua on Thursday and Friday, days on which that city was thronged with people to witness the religious processions. The mentioned individual also stated that this was the first instance in which such a sign had been noted in the country by her.

19 April 1954

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Clara M. Heagey

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