

PP 26 June 1954

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

2003

26 June 1954

SUBJECT: Berries for Mr. [ ]

1. Guatemalan Colonel Orozco loyal to Arbenz regime is in Tapachula, Mexico, organizing a column to enter Guatemala from Mexico for support of Arbenz' Comandante-controlled government.
2. The Guatemalan Ambassador to Mexico is currently attempting to buy gasoline, fighter planes, and bombs in Mexico, and to recruit trained soldiers for Guatemala.
3. Matamoros fortress just outside Guatemala City was bombed and strafed. Explosions and fire from inside the fort followed. The people in Guatemala City ran for cover and closed stores.
4. Armas "Voice of Liberation" is giving repeated warnings to keep away from military targets.
5. The Chiquimula population is reported to have received the liberation forces joyfully. Three troop trains from Guatemala City were stopped by aircraft, and a number of troops joined the liberating forces.
6. The petroleum in Guatemala City is low.
7. The CGFO had no volunteers for giving blood in the first 24 hours after an appeal to all members to donate.
8. The rebels are in possession of Chiquimula, where there had been heavy fighting reported.
9. Both transport and communications from Puerto Barrios to the capital said to have been cut off.
10. Puerto Barrios is reported to be without sufficient provisions for the population.
11. Antonio Ardon is in charge Government forces at Puerto Barrios.

12. A circular from Cruz Wehr, the Chief of the Guatemalan police, to all departmental governors instructed them to capture immediately all anti-Communist governors and other municipal employees who are actually affiliated with revolutionary party who have been previously known as anti-Communists; imprision them and at the first shot of attack shoot them immediately.

13. A reliable Guatemalan source reports that arrangements have been made to fly into Guatemala a Cuban named Eufemio Fernandez, who was Chief of Secret Police under former Cuban President Prío, Fernandez, the notorious professional revolutionary "master mind", is possibly scheduled to be put in charge of perfecting the organization of Arbens bands of armed Communist cadres.

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