

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

2003

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EYES ONLY

15 June 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: [] []

SUBJECT : Progress Report - PBSUCCESS for the Period 8-14 June 1954

I. Operational

The following events of operational significance occurred during the reporting period:

- A. Constitutional Guarantees have been suspended in Guatemala for a period of thirty days, and a rigorous press censorship has been imposed. Reports indicate that a number of anti-Communists have been arrested in Guatemala, while others have sought political asylum and were granted safe conduct to some neighboring country. Among these persons was SECANT who is now in El Salvador. ESSENCE and RAZMARA are at present in hiding in Guatemala.
- B. The interrogation of the ALPHEM crew was completed in Habana during the week. The results of this interrogation will be the subject of a separate report being prepared by Mr. [] [] of WHD.
- C. Operation SAHARA is now in progress.
- D. Four black flights were completed into [] [] during the period, one of which also flew into [] [] Two flights departed from Bolling Air Force Base on 14 June destined for [] [] carrying ammunition and miscellaneous items.
- E. Franklin D. MALLEK arrived in El Salvador on 14 June 1954, [] []
[] []
- G. Shock troops and radio operators have crossed the border into Guatemala, and the dropping of arms and supplies has been begun.

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- H. [] was unsuccessful in making contact with Venezuelan President PEREZ Jimenez and/or other interested parties in Venezuela in the interest of PBSUCCESS. He fared somewhat better in Colombia where he was able to talk with influential members of the government. It had been contemplated that upon completion of his business in Bogota he would return to Caracas and make another effort to see CALDERON Guardia or PEREZ Jimenez. The time required to obtain the necessary visa, however, precluded his making the trip. Consequently he will proceed to Honduras to confer with CALLIGERIS.
- I. The K Program was halted temporarily by the departure of Graham L. PAGE from Guatemala. After several days conference at Lincoln, PAGE decided that he would like to return to Guatemala and re-examine the accomplishments of his program and present capability of dissident members of the Army to effect a coup or compliment the efforts of PBSUCCESS, i.e. CALLIGERIS. However, the Guatemala Station is of the opinion that his returning once again as a tourist at this time is insecure and unwise.
- J. Lincoln currently plans to accredit WELLBANK as the SCOMBER(Consejo) representative with President OSORIO of El Salvador. WELLBANK's attempts to make contact with OSORIO through [] have been fruitless to date.
- K. Some concern has arisen both at Lincoln and Headquarters over the reckless manner displayed by CALLIGERIS in dealing with members of the press. He has issued statements relevant to D-Day which are held to be both insecure and unwise. KUBARK representatives in the field have admonished CALLIGERIS about this, but they are not convinced that he will desist.
- L. Station SANTA FE is complete and operative. Lincoln has requested authority from Headquarters to activate regular broadcasts from there into Guatemala. Lincoln's theory is that: a) this will complicate Guatemala's DFing program; b) it will improve coverage of the target. It should allow propaganda to reach a perception audience not yet tapped.

JACOB D. ESTERLINE

Att: PP Report of Support for PBSUCCESS - 8-14 June 1954.

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14 June 1954

SUBJECT: PP Support by WH/PW for PBSUCCESS - 8-14 June 1954

1. Detailed information and suggested plans, including pegs and special themes, were sent to key WH stations on the following operations:
 - a. Expulsion of Opposition Deputy ARENAS from Guatemala Congress - contrasting governmental "words and deeds".
 - b. Speculation upon Soviet intentions in Guatemala and the apparent "sacrifice of Guatemala" in the Soviet World Plan.
 - c. Costa Rican action against Guatemala before the OAS Council partially due to aggressive actions of the Sociedad de Amigos de Guatemala.
 - d. Leonardo CASTILLO Flores' plan for mobilizing and arming the CNCG and the CGTG.
 - e. Suspension of Constitutional Liberties in Guatemala.
 - f. Latest valuable speculation, quotes and comments from key figures of the hemisphere regarding the ALFHEM arms shipment.
2. As predicted by a WH/PW study, there was a reactivation of the semi-dormant Sociudades de Amigos de Guatemala in La Paz, Bolivia; Habana, Cuba; Montevideo, Uruguay; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and Mexico City, Mexico.
3. [] reports the QKOPERA Congress as attempting to pass a unanimous anti-Communist resolution. Jorge MANACH, distinguished Cuban intellectual and pro-Guatemalan speaker at an earlier, much publicized, meeting of the Cuban Friends of Guatemala, came out at the Congress condemning Communist usurpation of the Socialist goals of the Revolution. The [] mechanism cabled Uruguayan newspapers warning them of AREVALO's background as a Communist agitator prior to AREVALO's speech at a Montevideo university.
4. [] is making initial plans for a Soviet defector to make a tour of Latin American countries under the auspices of the SUMMIT organization. Opposition to Soviet direction of Guatemala's affairs would be emphasized.

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5. [] states that KUGOWN mechanisms have been quite active in Guatemala and the suppression of civil liberties have been given headline treatment in all papers for two days.
6. [] is making arrangements to give maximum possible coverage to the SUMMIT Congress upon the return of that country's delegates. Publicity to date has been light. Attempts are being made to arrange an interview between AREVALO and a controlled agent during which leading questions will be asked for newspaper exploitation. Posters will also be used to expose AREVALO during his visit to Montevideo. AREVALO's speech at the University was attended by 1,000 persons and received wide play only in the Commie-line El Debate; remainder of press gave bare or no mention to speech. The Leftist weekly Marcha and the Communist Justicia are the only papers not friendly to the U.S. viewpoint on Guatemala. The suspension of civil liberties was front paged in all local newspapers. [] initiated 2 special biting editorials in El Pais on the Guatemalan situation. At the suggestion of [] La Manana published an editorial lauding the democratic way Costa Rica solved their difficulties with the UFCO, without resorting to Communism. The Costa Rican Ambassador responded in a long letter expanding on the same theme which was published in a special box on the editorial page.
7. Pending the arrival of full KUGOWN background material, [] [] [] have arranged for editorialization of overt developments along lines suggested by Headquarters. [] reports press coverage on Guatemala continues to be very good.
8. [] reports that the SUMMIT Congress was front-paged in Diario de la Marina. The article consisted of statements by AVILA Sanchez. Twenty thousand reprints of the "pastoral" letter by Archbishop ARRELLANO of Guatemala are about to be distributed by the Havana branch of AMOURETTE-B. A series of small newspaper advertisements based on "punch lines" lifted from the "pastoral" letter is also being sponsored by that unit.
9. [] reports that an interview with URIBE Misas on the results of the SUMMIT Congress with strong anti-Guatemalan statements was published in El Colombiano.
10. [] reports that of a total of 69 articles referring to Guatemala in 9 Rio papers studied, 10 pro-Guatemalan articles appeared in the Communist Imprensa Popular, 6 pro-Guatemalan appeared in papers normally anti-Red, 43 anti-Guatemalan articles with foreign datelines, 10 editorials are anti-Guatemalan. Five of the pro-Guatemalan articles in papers normally anti-Red were based on statements of Guatemalan Ambassadors to Argentina and Bolivia. ALLEVIATOR'S daily radio activity continues.

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