

Wash

Guatemala City, Guatemala

HGO-487

JUN 11 1954

two

Earle N. Bannister

2-Line
2-Wash
1-files

no distribution

see below

Source: ESCONSON-2 from ESCONSON-7 from Oscar Humberto TOLEDO of the CGTG

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

2003

~~SECRET~~ PBSUCCESS RYBAT

Instructions received by Guatemalan Communist Labor Leaders who traveled to Mexico in April 1954.

HGG-487

prior to 28 May 1954

Guatemala City, Guatemala

28 May 1954

(see below)

7 June 1954

Guatemalan businessman (B) from a person having contacts in labor circles (C) from a Guatemalan Communist (F)

Content: 2

1. It was ascertained on 30 April 1954 that Eugenio BOLANOS, Max SALAZAR, and Virgilio GUERRA, of the Confederación General de Trabajadores de Guatemala (CGTG), traveled to Tapachula, Mexico, on 25 April and returned to Quetzaltenango, Guatemala on 26 April. The purpose of their trip, which had been ordered by CTAL General Secretary Vicente LOMBARDO Toledano, was to receive instructions for defeating "reactionary" and "interventionist" maneuvers on the part of elements ^{those} opposed to the ARBENZ regime in Guatemala.

2. On 28 May 1954 it was ascertained that the instructions referred to, which have been passed to Communist cells in Puerto Barrios, Zacapa, Chiquimula, Escuintla, Cuyapa, and presumably elsewhere, were as follows:

A. The ~~United~~ front of workers and peasants must be strengthened by all possible means.

B. Continuous agitation among workers and peasants must be maintained--labor conflicts must be exploited with the ultimate aim of spreading them to cover all industry and commerce. If no current conflicts exist, means must be found to create them by pressing for further pay raises, fringe benefits, etc.

C. The Central Committees of the CGTG and the Confederación Nacional de Campesinos de Guatemala (CNCG) must receive full support from the rank and file and in turn must give their own full support to peasant conflicts in connection with the application of Agrarian Reform.

D. The spirit of struggle against foreign monopolies (United Fruit Company, IRCA, etc.), Yankee imperialism, and intervention by the U.S. State Department in the internal affairs of Guatemala must be kept high.

E. The United Front must become the main political force representing the workers and peasants under the direction of the Partido Guatemalteco del Trabajo (PGT). Its first electoral battle is to take place during the forthcoming campaign for the election of Deputies to the National Congress,

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where the PGT (communist party) must succeed in electing a majority of the representatives.

F. The principal leaders of the ^{different} various labor groups must maintain constant unity with the heads of the PGT and must also express publicly and constantly their adherence to and support of the ARBENZ government.

G. Both the PGT and the other labor groups must constantly seek means of infiltrating their leaders into the governmental structure, the better to control the government's actions.

H. Each member of the workers' and peasants' organizations must keep constant watch over reactionary activities on the part of both Guatemalans and foreigners. If possible, acts of aggression or sabotage against the government must be organized which can then be attributed to local and foreign reactionaries' elements. ^{so that they}

I. All members must be indoctrinated with the necessity of creating a government of the working classes, wholly identified with the workers and peasants, a government truly of the people and for the people, which will arise from the United Mass Front.

J. Last^{ly} and most important^{ly}, the workers and peasants must be prepared to take an active part in a counter^{revolutionary} movement aimed at the overthrow of the ARBENZ government, which must be exploited to enable the popular masses to seize power. ²

1. Source Comment:

Informant did not state whether the counter^{revolutionary} movement was being organized by the labor groups and the Communist Party or whether the latter meant to take advantage of the movement which the opposition has been preparing for some time

2. Field Comment:

There have been other reports concerning the intentions of the Communists in the event of a counter^{revolutionary} movement. Available information indicates that they would attempt to defeat any such movement and probably attempt to seize power themselves.