

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
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16 March 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: MT/7 Task Progress Report for Week 8 March - 14 March incl.

1. CAT pilots held Miami from 6 March to 11 March waiting WHD approval of AMD proposed pay and reimbursement of these sterile air crew members. Concurrence received via telephone 10 March (see Memo for the Record dated 11 March, subject Air Operations). Each air crew member advanced additional [] (total []) to cover additional expenses, travel, and per diem. Pilots departed Miami via Pan American for Havana.

2. CAT pilots in Havana 11 March. Contacted [] by telephone on 12 March. Pilots have rooms in the Packard Hotel, Havana. (See same Memo para 1 above for route and time [] travel.)

3. CAT pilots finance report for the record (refer progress report for week 1 March - 7 March): During the briefing of the CAT pilots on 7 March, [] made the following statement to the CAT pilots: "AMD Headquarters has told the CAT pilots that all their expenses incurred while in Miami would be paid by the Company." [] concurred on this statement. LINCOLN personnel, [] and [] were non-committal of this subject. It is our understanding that all pay, allowance, and reimbursement for travel and per diem is to be decided on Washington Headquarters level between Chiefs WHD, AMD, and FED.

4. Air strips - El Salvador and Honduras:

A. Mr. Robertson on field trip this week selected air strips in El Salvador and Honduras. Request for authority to use these strips submitted by Mr. Robertson [] Authority to use these strips expected week of 15 March - 21 March.

B. Location of airstrips selected

- ** Salvador #2 (primary)
- * Salvador #3 (secondary)
- Salvador #1 (emergency)
- * Honduras #2 (primary)
- ** Honduras #1 (secondary)

- * Inspected by Mr. Robertson on field trip
- ** Photos and detail available.

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5. Air strips - Nicaragua

A. Plans formulated to use as an emergency refuel stop.

B. Plans formulated to use of one of the following airports for training para cargo dispatchers and as an operational staging base for Phase Four. Airports listed by choice:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)

6. Para Dispatchers:

A. Effort was made during this week to recruit six FJHOPEFUL guards to be used as para dispatchers (cargo kickers). Headquarters authorized Chief FJHOPEFUL to contact these men - Chief FJHOPEFUL stated 100% declined.

B. Cable sent CALLIGERIS to provide four of his men, two to be bilingual, to be trained as cargo kickers. Plans formulated to train these men starting 10 May.

7. Phase One: Phase One of PBSUCCESS air operations (movement of sensitive equipment from the U.S. is practically completed. This phase was scheduled to be completed 15 March. Cable sent Headquarters requesting info concerning date of last flight. Lack of adequate info this station based on fact that Headquarters greatly increased air lift tonnage. Last report received was that air lift tonnage now over 280,000 pounds (additional tonnage believed to be commo gear for Santa Fe).

8. Estimate of overall progress -- progress of air operations proceeding in accordance with time table as set forth in air support plan. No delay expected in conducting Phase 1, 2, and 3 operations. Only obstacle in view is concurrence to use respective air strips.

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