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W. J. ...

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CSI ON 5-5-79

AIR

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Chief, Lincoln

Chief of Station, Guatemala

Info: Washington

Operational

Death Notices

Reference: LDM 1725

1. Attached are two different samples of death notice cards used in this area. The large folding type was obtained from [] through [] The smaller, less elaborate type was obtained from Mexico in early 1953 and is not unlike cards used in []
2. For your information, the contemplated operation was previously tried here in 1953. Acting on instructions contained in DIR 47462, one death notice was sent each day for thirty days to [] Each card contained the name of a prominent communist who had been purged after he had outlived his usefulness. Each card also contained the request to pray for the soul of the particular communist victim. After thirty days three additional cards were sent on successive days to each of the four persons named above. On these cards the names of the addressees were inserted.
3. The first cards described in para. 2 above were mailed on 15 April 1953. Beginning 15 June 1953 the operation was repeated. In neither case was there any reported or observed reaction, but it is possible that it had the desired effect which was to implant a feeling of insecurity among the target individuals and their associates. If at this time you wish to repeat this type of operation, we will attempt to observe and report the results and reactions.
4. If you wish to review the operation described above you may refer to DIR 47462, GUAT 840 and 825, [] and []
5. For your information we have under consideration a similar operation in which we will employ birth announcements to advise selected addressees of the impending (re) birth of liberty in [] The purpose is the same as that which you contemplate in LDM 1725: to create a feeling that the anti-communist victory is inevitable. More details regarding this proposed operation will be submitted in a separate report.

Encls: as noted

19 April 1954

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