

~~SECRET EYES ONLY~~

### ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Officer designations should be used in the "TO" column. Under each comment a line should be drawn across sheet and each comment numbered to correspond with the number in the "TO" column. Each officer should initial (check mark insufficient) before further routing. This Routing and Record Sheet should be returned to Registry.

FROM:

WESTERN HEMISPHERE DIVISION  
J. C. KING

NO.

DATE

14 January 1953

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
RELEASE IN FULL  
2003

TO	ROOM NO.	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS
		REC'D	FILED		
1. DD/P					<p><b>EYES ONLY</b></p> <p>Noted by D/DGI 1/22/53</p> <p>Com. Great areas OB</p> <p>Copy retained PB Success</p>
2. DDCI					
3. DD/P					
4. C. WH					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					
11.					
12.					
13.					
14.					
15.					

~~EYES ONLY~~  
~~SECRET~~  
SECURITY INFORMATION

14 January 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: DDCI

VIA: *copy to* DD/P

SUBJECT: Guatemalan Situation

Examination of reports received within the Agency over the past four months indicates that the Guatemalan Government has materially improved its position through the purchase of arms and ammunition (see Attachment), the transfer of officers of doubtful loyalty from key positions, the arrival of Government-supporting strong-arm men from other Caribbean countries, increased pressure on anti-Communist individuals and groups, partial implementation of the Agrarian Reform Act, and the suborning of officials of neighboring countries and Communist activities within those countries. The Government can be expected to further improve its position within the next six weeks through assuming complete control of Congress and the Judiciary.

[ J. C. KING ]  
CWH

JCK/lfw

Attachment

Orig & 1: DDCI  
cc: DD/P  
JCK File

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

2003

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SECURITY INFORMATION

Arms Purchases by Guatemalan Government

On 9 October 1952 it was reliably reported that the Guatemalan Government had purchased arms in the amount of \$220,000 from Rexim Co., Geneva, Switzerland, and that 12 Anti-Aircraft guns had already been shipped. It is known that these 12 guns have been received by the Guatemalans.

A B-2 report of 17 November 1952 states:

"1. Colonel Amadeo CHINCHILLA Orellano, Military Attache of the Guatemalan Embassy in Mexico City, is indirectly in touch with Hugo FRANK Olvera attempting the purchase of the following listed munitions for the Guatemalan government:

- 1 million rounds, 7mm ammunition
- 1 million rounds, 7.92mm ammunition
- 100,000 rounds, .45 caliber ammunition (for the Guatemalan Army)
- 500,000 rounds, .45 caliber ammunition (for the Guatemalan Police)
- 10,000 rounds, 60mm mortar ammunition
- 5,000 rounds, 81mm mortar ammunition
- 5,000 rounds, 75mm howitzer ammunition
- 200,000 rounds, .22 caliber ammunition
- 100,000 rounds, .30 caliber M-1 carbine ammunition
- 100,000 rounds, .30 caliber M-1 rifle ammunition
- 200 Thompson sub-machine guns (for the Guatemalan Police).

"2. According to source, CHINCHILLA has been informed that the following munitions are immediately available for shipment to the Suchiate Station, on the Mexico-Guatemala border:

- 1 1/2 million rounds, 7mm ammunition
- 100,000 rounds, .30 caliber rifle ammunition
- 50,000 rounds, .45 caliber ammunition
- 1,500 hand grenades
- 500 rounds, 60mm mortar ammunition
- 50 Mendoza light machine guns, 7mm."

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SECURITY/INFORMATION

-2-

The contract for the arms listed in paragraph 2. is known to have been consummated and as of mid-December 1952 only the lack of an export permit was holding up the shipment.

A B-3 report of 1 December 1952 states that six .50 caliber Anti-Aircraft Machine Guns have been received by the Guatemalan Government from Czechoslovakia.

A B-3 report of 17 November 1952 states:

"The Guatemalan Government has been purchasing arms in El Salvador, Czechoslovakia, and Mexico. During November, 200 medium machine guns and 500 light machine guns, along with ammunition for them, and an unknown number of carbines and hand grenades arrived from the latter country. There is good evidence that none of these arms are reaching the Army, so the inference is that they are going to labor organizations and Communist groups."

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