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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAMS ONLY

RELEASE AS SANITIZED FBSUCCESS WEEKLY MEETING
30 March 1954

2003

Present: Messrs. Wisner, Helms, Barnes; Colonels King and [] []

1. Project of [] [] to attempt high level defections inside Guatemala was approved. Because his tourist cover is weak, an attempt will be made to set up a firmer one as representative of German commercial houses. Action: [] []

2. A grid showing timetable for all parts of the operation was submitted, as requested by Mr. Wisner, by [] [] Mr. Wisner stated that the grid was too vague for him and he would like it to be re-examined to determine what other items might be included which would make it clearer. Action: Barnes and King.

3. Security violation with pouch manifest at [] [] was reported by Col. King. Mr. Wisner instructed [] [] to eliminate ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ such compromising expressions as "Via Diplomatic Courier" on the pouch manifests from LINCOLN to the field. Action: [] []

4. Black Flights. When Col. King reported that three black flights had successfully been made to Nicaragua, Mr. Wisner called [] [] attention to the fact that the previous week [] [] had stated there were to be fifteen black flights to El Salvador, fifteen to Honduras, and none to Nicaragua.

5. Sherwood. [] [] said he had been unable to obtain action on his request made last December for phonograph records of Guatemalan music. Action: Barnes.

6. Polygraph results. Screening of RUFUS' staff is now under way. First report from the field states that RUFUS [] [] and [] [] are ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ in, but there is considerable doubt about [] []

7. [] [] mission [] [] described at length a conversation he had had with [] [] at LINCOLN concerning the [] [] future relationship with the Agency. It was agreed that [] [] should be encouraged to accept an offer made by Somoza to Nicaraguan shipping lines and that the Agency would consider making up the difference between the amount asked for by [] [] and the amount offered by President Somoza. Action: King [] []

8. A report was submitted on the contaminated rations sent to ROBALO and procured by Logistics. It was decided there should be a thorough investigation. Action: [] []

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9. Mr. Wisner referred to a recent cable from Guatemala City reporting the arrival of 500 armed men from the interior for use by the Arbenz forces. He asked that a check be made on this report and [] Barnes replied that a cable of instructions had already been sent by LINCOLN to the Station.

10. LINCOLN situation report was read by []

11. [] submitted a plan to accuse the Soviets of having cached arms off the coast of Nicaragua by Soviet submarine. Plan was approved. If the operation succeeds, as a second step Mr. Leddy is to ask Mr. X what he may know about such caches in Guatemala.

12. [] presented the political program which had been requested at a previous meeting. He said this program had as its slogan "The Cross and the Quetzal". It was built around Roman Catholicism in Guatemala and gave the people something to be FOR. There was not time to read this program at the meeting. Mr. Wisner instructed Mr. Barnes to give a copy to Mr. Leddy so that it would be cleared by State before finally approved.

This completed report by Col. King. Mr. Wisner then said that he had seven points on his list, several of which had been at least partially covered, but that he would like to enumerate them anyway.

(1) Santa Fe. Is there anything at this level which might be done to assist [] in laying on the arrangement with CAA and the Weather Bureau? Action: Barnes to []

(2) The political program. Be sure to check it with State. Action: Barnes to Leddy.

(3) [] There should be a full-dress presentation of his mission on his return to Washington.

(4) Deception. Plans should be submitted for deception as to the time of the operation. A document, for example, might be prepared which would mislead the Guatemalans. Decoy: We should think of having a sitting duck, such as Trujillo.

(5) Guatemalan Ambassador to [] The approach this Ambassador made while in Washington should be followed up by an unwitting agent in [] who could cultivate and develop friendship with the Ambassador. Action: []

(6) [] Is he in hand?

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(7) We should consider flow of questions that might be prepared through Luddy to Mr. X.

[] then brought up several items for discussion and approval.

(1) An appropriation of \$10,000 for the purchase of arms from Trujillo which will be brought in via Nicaragua for eventual distribution inside Guatemala. Objective - to pin the operation on Trujillo.

(2) Another decoy and sitting duck, [] in New Orleans and his hero, Col. Roberto Barrios Pena. [] have submitted a plan which would involve them with the Guatemalan Government. Plan approved.

(3) Because [] seems to have gone overboard in supporting Ydigoras Fuentes and is no longer objective about him, it was agreed that [] could be given all the rope necessary to encourage Ydigoras Fuentes. The purpose is to spotlight Ydigoras and as a smoke screen for RIFUS.

(4) Mr. Wisner thought it might be a good idea to cry wolf several times before D-Day.

(5) Messages from Willauer to Wisner may be sent by [] info LINC and a copy for SWL. It will not be necessary to tell Ambassador Willauer of this action. Action: King.

(6) [] said he was having trouble getting a senior VI officer to replace [] and []. He asked for [] Col. King said it would be much easier if [] would merely state his requirements without indicating a special individual. Mr. Wisner said that it is better to merely state requirements so that the selection may be Agency-wide rather than limited to WH Division. Col. King said he would assume the responsibility for getting an officer who would meet [] specifications, but that it would not be possible to assign []

(7) [] brought up the advisability of replacing [] in El Salvador. It was stated that this might be a subject for discussion with the new Assistant Secretary of State, Holland.

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