

MEMORANDUM FOR:

2 Aug 72

AC/WH/2

You will be getting copy
of memo I wrote to DDP
on the results of your own
deliberations on this case.
I hope that ends it, but
please keep these copies
in the event that memo is used
this comes up again

(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

TRANSMITTAL SLIP

DATE

-24-72

TO: AC/WH/D

ROOM NO. BUILDING

REMARKS:

~~he attached is a verbatim transcript of the section in the TV broadcast in which Mr. Richard M. Bissell comments on CIA's involvement in Guatemala in 1954.~~

FROM:

ROOM NO. 3B44 BUILDING Hqs EXTENSION 1805

FORM NO. 241 REPLACES FORM 36-8 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

2003

John Chancellor (C) Richard Bissell (B)

----C) Mr. Bissell, Guatemala, and what the United States and the CIA did there, came within your tenure at the CIA. Do you regard Guatemala as a success?

----B) I do.

----C) Can you tell me a little more about it ---why you regard it as a success? --

----B) Well, I'll give you first an answer which may be slightly bureaucratic in its tone: but that--in the case of that operation notably, as of other large operations, the whole policy-making machinery of the executive branch of the government was involved. By reason of its nature, the CIA had an assigned role, which was really a major role in that operation. . . and I say it's a success because the assigned role was carried out substantially as assigned. There was one sub-incident in that, which I don't wish to identify, in which an action was taken that went beyond the established limits of policy, and I mention it only because you can't take on covert operations---or overt for that matter--of this scope, draw narrow boundaries of policy around them, and be absolutely sure that those boundries ~~will~~ never be overstepped. The overstepping in the case of the Guatemala operation, the one case I am aware of, mercifully turned out to be of little significance and to do no political and minor financial damage to the United States, or to anybody else for that matter. So I say that it was, from the standpoint of an organization commissioned to do a job, just ~~an~~ unqualified success. *END*