

2003

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4 June 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: []

SUBJECT : Current Activities Concerning Arbenz - - for possible discussion with State on 4 June

1. Arbenz is still living inconspicuously in Montevideo, and the only sign of public activity is a lecture scheduled to be given by him at the University on 18 June under the sponsorship of the FEJU. Arbenz is under surveillance and continues to have visitors, many of them Guatemalan exiles. His closest companion is Manuel Galich, ex-Minister of Guatemala to Uruguay.

2. [] is looking into the possibility that Arbenz may be granted a visa to that country. Maria Arbenz and son are scheduled to fly to Montevideo from El Salvador on 11 June on PAA Flight No. 515. [] states that Arbenz' daughters are not in Salvador.

3. Arbenz does not have the category of visa given to asylees. He has a special visa granted by the Uruguayan Government to "persons of known respectability". The Guatemalan Minister in Uruguay claims to have seen a special decree granted this visa to Arbenz.

4. The First Secretary of the Guatemalan Legation in Montevideo (whose name is Palomo) told a reliable source that Guatemala may recall its Minister or close its legation in Uruguay.

5. Guatemalan Minister Chaluleu in Uruguay claims to have written the wife of President Castillo Armas asking that First Secretary Palomo be recalled on the basis of his being a potential turncoat.

6. According to a sensitive source, Guatemalan exiles in Mexico are disturbed by the campaign against Arbenz and have decided to mount a counter campaign utilizing recognized Communist fronts and including Lombardo Toledano. Through the use of an agent within these groups, we are endeavoring to cause a split within the major exiled organization (UPG), with the hope of dividing the Communist and non-Communist exiles. The groups which would fall into the non-Communist bloc would be the "20th of October Group" and the PARU.

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7. We are also endeavoring to use a new press mechanism against Arbenz. One journalist from this group will go within a few days to Montevideo where he will interview Arbenz and then will go to Guatemala where we have prepared the way for him.

8. A White Paper has been completed presenting in a dignified fashion the Guatemalan Government's case against Arbenz. The Paper carries as attachments photographs of incriminating documents and a few atrocity photographs. This Paper will be distributed through all diplomatic missions of Guatemala and will be given to the press by Castillo Armas. The propaganda office of the Guatemalan Government will mail the White Paper to numerous newspapers in the Western Hemisphere.

9. A series of atrocity photographs have been mailed from Mexico to newspapers in each country of Latin America. The group doing the mailing was the [

10. A psychiatrist of the Medical Staff of this Agency is preparing a study of Arbenz which might have been done by a psychiatrist after a series of interviews with him. We plan to surface this document as having come from a Czech defector. The idea behind this is to depict Arbenz as being unfit for public office.

11. Sensitive documents concerning Fortuny are being reviewed for the purpose of attaching further stigma to Arbenz.

12. Our activities continue in most countries of the Hemisphere, most of our work being done through the press. Attached as of possible interest are a few rough-draft cartoons which reveal the tack we are taking, especially, within Guatemala, i.e., that Arbenz is mentally, morally and spiritually ill and, therefore, completely unfit for public trust.

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Attachments:
cartoons

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