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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
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2 March 1955

MEMORANDUM TO DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

VIA: **2003** ASSISTANT DEPUTY DIRECTOR (PLANS)

SUBJECT: Use of Documents Collected in Guatemala by United States Team After Establishment of Castillo Armas Government

1. In response to DCI's question as to the use made of such documents, the following recapitulation is respectfully submitted.

2. OIR (Department of State) has completed its research of the documents and within the next few days a general report summarizing the decade of communist subversion in Guatemala will be published. OIR advises that this 40-50 page document will provide general background on what transpired in Guatemala during the last ten years with particular attention to the last four years when communist activity reached a peak of organization. The purpose of this study is to answer the primary question of how communism came about in Guatemala.

3. Upon completion of this publication, OIR will commence preparation of a series of tables specifically utilizing the documents taken in Guatemala as examples which demonstrate the specific aspects of the communist take-over in all fields of Guatemalan government and society.

4. In addition, OIR has assembled and expects/make continuing use of the more than 50,000 documents that have been sorted out of the total taken in Guatemala. CIA will receive along with appropriate representatives of the Intelligence community copies of these publications. Incidentally, the OIR representative has stated that publication of the current study would have been impossible without the documents seized by the U. S. team.

5. It was originally agreed that State rather than CIA would undertake the total study of these documents. CIA's study of them for intelligence purposes was completed in the field. In addition to that, CIA day-to-day exploitation through the Guatemalan Comite and other outlets has been vigorously pursued and will be continued. (A history of this may be seen in WHD memorandum dated 11 January 1955, subject: PBHISTORY.)

6. Other manifestations of the uses made of these documents follow:

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*Branch III*

DIRECTOR

Page 2

- A. Department of State "Intervention of International Communism in Guatemala." (Attachment A)
- B. CIA Publication, subject "Documents Obtained in a Brief, Preliminary Sampling of the Documentary Evidence of Communist Infiltration and Influence in Guatemala". (Attachment B)
- C. Kersten-Hillings Committee report, subject "Report of the Subcommittee to Investigate Communist Aggression in Latin America". (Attachment C)
- D. CIA-USIS Publication, subject "El Libro Negro del Comunismo en Guatemala". (Attachment D)
- E. CIA Publication, subject "Terror en Guatemala". (Attachment E)
- F. Travels by Guatemalan Lecture Team with exhibits.
- G. Special articles in Vision.

J. C. KING  
Chief, WHD

Attachments:  
A through E as above listed

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