

~~CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM SECRET~~
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

2003

28 September 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Propaganda Exploitation of PBHISOTRY Documents

1. Documents were revealed to the local press in Guatemala at a series of news conferences designed to show the public the extent of Communist penetration in Guatemala, and to acquaint the people with various aspects of the insidious Communist conspiracy. Ninety special kits of documents, photos, explanations, and special articles were prepared by the Social Research Group and sent by the Guatemalan Government to Latin American and European newspapers. Documents were given to the Honduran government for a White Paper on Guatemalan Communist interferences in Honduras. Documents were furnished to Representative Hillings, Chairman of the Latin American sub-committee of the House Committee on Communist Aggression, headed by Representative Kersten.

2. A two-man Guatemalan good-will team went to Chile, Rio de Janeiro, and Montevideo to tell the story of communism in Guatemala and to distribute photos and documents to interested parties in the governments and to local newsmen.

3. A movie short was produced locally showing how the Communists flooded the country with propaganda. This was shown in Guatemalan theaters and sent via USIA for further Latin American distribution.

4. In Washington documents were distributed to State, USIA, Ambassador Lodge and the Kersten Committee. Copies of newspaper articles, photos, and documents were sent out to WHI field stations for propaganda purposes.

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Donald R. Horn