

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
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CONFIDENTIAL

SEP 10 1954

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Chief, Western Hemisphere

Chief of Station, Guatemala []

MINISTOY

Visit of Representative Patrick J. Hillings

References: DIR 14659
DIR 15754

1. Subject arrived with his consultant Patrick McMahon at 1000 hrs 3 September 1954. After a series of interviews, he departed alone on 8 September at 1230 hrs for Santiago, Buenos Aires and Rio, leaving his consultant in Guatemala City. Subject stated that the purpose of his visit to Guatemala was to verify the extent of the Soviet domination over the Arbenz government and to learn what the new Castillo Armas government was doing to eliminate Communism. Furthermore, as a member of a congressional committee which would make recommendations on any loans to Guatemala, he was interested in learning about the necessity of such a loan and of any other assistance which the United States government might be able to provide.

2. In order to establish the connection between the Soviet Government and the Arbenz regime Representative Hillings was particularly interested in finding documents which originated in Russia and were sent to the Communists in the Government here. MYLRES advised him that no such documents had been found to date, primarily because the Communists had had plenty of time to destroy their top secret material. However, Representative Hillings was advised to ask all those whom he would interview about the possibility of obtaining such documents since it was conceivable that the Comite had not been given all the Communist documents; he asked all those interviewed with success.

3. Representative Hillings, in his endeavor to learn what the new Government is doing to oust the Communists, asked each one whom he interviewed what had been done in their specific field. In virtually all cases he was told that the Communists were being eliminated but that it was a slow process because the selection was intended to be a fair one; in many cases ex-commie sympathizers or low level members were now pleading that they had only become associated with the Communist cause in order to maintain their financial position.

4. In a personal interview with CALLECRIS Hillings discussed Guatemala's needs in order to strengthen the country economically so that it could resist Communist-backed political pressure; MYLRES acted as the translator in this interview.

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5. In summarizing the meetings and interviews it is believed that although Representative Hillings, because of time limitations, received only a broad brush picture of the current scene, he did carry away several facts which should make him more personally acquainted with the Communist menace as it existed.

6. On the final day of his visit Hillings assigned his consultant the task of preparing a CALLIGRAPH tape recording broadcast to be used at his hearing. The consultant will also make a tape of the testimony of Liberation Radio leaders regarding the effectiveness of an anti-communist clandestine radio.

7. The attachments contain further material relating to this trip:

- a) Attachment A contains Hilling's schedule and a short note on each interview;
- b) Attachment B contains questions submitted to Castillo Armas by McMahon on behalf of Hillings, ~~██████████~~
- c) Attachment C consists of one photo, two copies: left to right — McMahon, Hillings, Castillo Armas. (Two copies with captions have been mailed to Hillings and ten have been given to local Guatemalan dailies.)

Francis T. MYLKES

sgw

Attachments: as noted.

- attach C in special attachment folder PBH

9 September 1954

Distribution:

3 - Wash
2 - files

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ATTACHMENT A

Friday, 3 September 1954

- A.M. 1000 hrs. Arrival at Airport. Met by Mylkes and Embassy official.
- 1100 hrs. Visit with Ambassador.
- P.M. 1500 hrs. Interview with Enrique Novella, re: background of the Communist maneuvers in taking over the Government and Communist labor organization in Novella's plants; elimination of Communists from labor groups and possibilities of forming anti-communist labor unions.
- 1700 hrs. Visit to TGM and interview with Jose Toiron Barrios re activities of the clandestine radio and a re-broadcast of the last program.

Saturday, 4 September 1954

- A.M. 1000 hrs. Visit to CENSA Headquarters and interview with Mario Lopez and Lionel Sianiega re: activities of their group prior to and during revolution; efforts to eliminate Communists from the educational system.
- 1100 hrs. Visit to Solola Department.

Sunday, 5 September 1954

Return to Guatemala City

Monday, 6 September 1954

- A.M. 1030 hrs. Interview with Jose Bernabe Linares, Chief of the Guatemalan Secret Police, re: details of the legal action and arrests of Communists; methods of torture used by Communists; information on the whereabouts of ~~Top~~ Communists; elimination of Communists from the police and efforts to prevent infiltration.
- 1430 hrs. Interview with Liberation Army leaders and soldiers. Account of action, background and current activities of Liberation individuals.
- 1530 hrs. Protocol visit to FORMIN -- Carlos Salazar.
- 1630 hrs. Visit with President. Discussion of the ideological reasons for the President's anti-communist career; discussion of the need to continue the fight against communists; finally, discussion of the need for permanent plans, ~~for~~ for *THE COMITE* ~~to Hillings~~ (acting on Mylkes previous suggestion to Hillings). President agreed to make tape recording, answering Hillings previously prepared questions. President agreed to send Mario Lopez to Washington to testify for Hillings along with Monzon.
- Preview of Comite film in President's private projection room.

Monday, 6 September 1954: continued

Hillings supplied with much Communist propaganda and documentation.

1730 hrs. Visit with Attorney General, Manrique Rios. Obtaining documented cases Communist torture, killing of anti-Communists. PBHISTORY autostated more than 1000 pages of this testimony for Hillings.

Tuesday, 7 September 1954.

0900 hrs. Visit with U.S. A.M.B.
1000 hrs. Arrangements made to send three mailbags.
1200 hrs. Departure.