

~~CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM, CONFIDENTIAL~~
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DD/P File

25 August 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT: Guatemala

1. At the Acting Director's meeting this morning, General Cabell mentioned a recent cable from our Chief of Station in Guatemala City (IN-39009), pointing out that this message raised in his mind the question of who has responsibility for the "follow-up" in Guatemala on PBSUCCESS. I stated to him that you had been making every effort to indoctrinate the State Department as well as our own people on the fact that the activities of the present Guatemalan Government are the responsibility of State and that CIA must draw back to its proper role as the provider of secret intelligence and psychological action in support of United States policy as determined by State. General Cabell agreed that this "follow-up" was State Department's job but said that he was worried as to whether or not State was fully mindful of the fact that we were drawing back and that this problem was essentially theirs. He kept repeating that he was afraid that the situation might "fall between two stools". Mr. Bissell tended to support General Cabell on the point that there might be a certain lack of clarity, while I kept emphasizing that you had been making yeoman efforts not only in long sessions with Ambassador Peurifoy but also with appropriate officials of the State Department to sort out the various responsibilities. At the end of the discussion, it was clear that General Cabell still feels that some sort of a paper should be sent by us to the State Department setting forth our precise role under current conditions.

2. I said that I would draw this problem to your attention immediately upon your return and that I was sure that you would get in touch with General Cabell to give him more precise details as to where this problem stood.

Richard Helms
Chief of Operations, DD/P

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