

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
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AIR

2003

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Acting Chief of Station, Guatemala City

INFO: [ ]

(for MEGARTY)

LINCOLN

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PBSUCCESS, Headquarters

KUGOWN

Newspaper clippings regarding ALFHAM incident

1. We are forwarding herewith two newspaper clippings, both dated 22 May, one from the WASHINGTON POST, headed "Guatemalan troops rout Saboteurs", the other from the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, headed "Guatemala says Rail line blasted".

2. By the time these clippings reach you, it will be presumably too late to have them reprinted anywhere. Moreover, attribution to U.S. sources should in any case be used sparingly, if at all. Finally, we do not believe that the sabotage incident should be given any additional publicity by us.

3. Nevertheless, you might find the clippings useful background information and you are free to use them, as you see fit. Your special attention is invited to the last item in the MONITOR clipping, quoting the Swedish broker of the ALFHAM as stating that he would have never lent his ship if he had known for what purpose it was wanted: which adds to the evidence already on hand, that the entire arms deal was handled by the Guatemalan authorities as an illegal matter, even though they now try to describe it as an entirely legitimate exercise of their sovereignty.

[ ]  
JEROME C. LUNBAR

Attachments

JCD/EFL/a

29 May 1954

Distribution:

2 - GUAT (w/att)

2 - [ ] (w/att)

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