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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM EYES ONLY  
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

6 April 1954

2003

MEMORANDUM FOR: CWH

SUBJECT : Progress Report - PBSUCCESS for the Period 30 March - 5 April 1954

I. Operational

The following events of operational significance occurred during the reporting period:

A. On 1 April 1954 [ ] travelled to Headquarters from Lincoln to assist in the debriefing of Maj. Manuel J. Chavez, USAF, former Air Attache in Central America where he was accredited to five republics. Maj. Chavez' information on personalities in Central America will be useful to [ ] on his defection mission in Guatemala. [ ]

B. [ ] will resign from [ ] effective 1 May 1954, after which time he will proceed to El Salvador where it is planned that he will enroll as a student at the Autonomous University of El Salvador.

C. The fourth black flight was completed into Nicaragua the night of 3-4 April 1954. This flight completed the movement of the Sherwood gear. At present the Air Unit is awaiting an all clear for the implementation of Plan Three.

D. It was reported on 5 April 1954 that President Somoza of Nicaragua has declared a state of seige in Nicaragua because of rumors that an assassination attempt will be made on his life, coupled with the fact that arms are being smuggled into Nicaragua from Costa Rica with the full knowledge of Costa Rican officials.

E. [ ] reported a successful trip to Central America with the exception of El Salvador where he was unable to contact President Osorio. There is evidence of strained relations between U.S. representatives in El Salvador and the Salvadoran Government; this matter is being given high level attention here in Washington.

F. All Scranton and Sherwood personnel are now on hand [ ] the remainder having arrived there on the black flight of 3-4 April 1954.

G. Lincoln reports that [ ] requires that all Sherwood Program gear be in [ ] before he divulges the site location.

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H. Approval from [ ] for black flights into Honduras is expected after 6 April 1954; [ ] agrees that [ ] [ ] field should be utilized for this purpose.

## II. Administrative/Support Activities

### A. Personnel

1. [ ] FI Operations Officer, reported for TDY duty at Lincoln on 5 April 1954.
2. Three clerical personnel reported for duty to Station Lincoln during the past week.
3. There are four outstanding personnel requirements for the field as follows:
  - a. a cut-out for Guatemala to replace [ ] who will be transferred to [ ] the latter part of the month. [ ] a case officer from [ ] is being made available to fill this requirement.
  - b. The additional secretary-stenographer for Guatemala is awaiting clearance from the Department of State to proceed. Liaison Control Branch has been repeatedly requested to expedite this matter.
  - c. Two additional clerical personnel will complete their processing and will proceed to Station Lincoln on or about 12 April.

### B. Logistics

The matter of contaminated sausages shipped as part of the rations to FJHOPEFUL has been reported to the Inspector General, Logistics, and the Security Office for appropriate action. Lincoln advised Headquarters that thirty days required for replacement of the sausages was too long and that they would devise a suitable substitute at FJHOPEFUL.

### C. Finance

1. The Comptroller has informed the Administrative Officer, PBSUCCESS, that the \$3,000,000 allotted to the Project are available for use in the new fiscal year beginning 1 July 1954, provided that the funds are withdrawn from Finance and advanced to the field prior to 30 June 1954.
2. Budget requirements for the new fiscal year are being developed in the event that the project is continued beyond the present planned termination date.

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Jacob D. Esterline