

1 APR 1954

AIR

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HGG-A-855

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

Lincoln

Chief of Station, Guatemala

INFO: Chief, WHD

Operational

ESODIC and ESODIC-1, Further Development

Reference: HULA-248

1. The report dated 25 January 1954 originating with this office and referred to in the above-referenced dispatch which stated subject (ESODIC) had been arrested on orders of the government was unfounded and Lincoln's inference is correct. ESODIC and reporting officer met and conversed a few days subsequent to the date of the report and at the time ESODIC emphatically denied he had even been questioned by the authorities. Until receipt of the reference dispatch, reporting officer was unaware that the original report had been prepared indicating ESODIC had been arrested.
2. We note in the "Personality Assessment" on ESODIC prepared at Lincoln by a now-departed officer of this station that ESODIC's date of birth is given as 1928. Further, the assessment report states he is dependent on [] for guidance and advice and that he is not believed to be of a strong character. Actually, ESODIC's date of birth is 1908. We have no reason to believe he is of a weak character and nothing to that effect is reflected in available files. Further, it is reporting agent's impression, gained after several conversations with both ESODICs, that the younger is not dependent on [] for guidance or advice. To the contrary, it now is apparent that ESODIC-1 looks to [] for moral support and advice during three-way conversations. In the "Area Background" of the Personality Assessment it is stated ESODIC is not known to have traveled extensively except in Guatemala. Actually, he has stated he has traveled extensively throughout Latin America and is well acquainted with the United States, especially Texas and Washington, D.C.
3. In view of the possibility that some confusion may exist concerning the ESODICs, we have examined the project carefully for the purpose of possible reassessment of the principals involved and their potential and our comments are set forth below.
4. On the night of 25 March 1954, reporting officer conducted a joint interview with both ESODICs. It is interesting to note that unless [] is present, neither of the ESODICs will enter into any involved conversation. ESODIC-1 was discreetly asked to describe the job which President ARBENZ had offered or would probably

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offer him. ESODIC-1 replied that in approximately April 1951, Alfonso MARTINEZ, currently head of the Departamento Agrario Nacional (DAN), told him he had been authorized by ARBENZ to offer ESODIC-1 a diplomatic position abroad; that if ESODIC-1 was interested he could probably have his choice of countries. MARTINEZ reportedly made no mention of whether ESODIC-1 would be named an Ambassador but simply offered a "diplomatic position." ESODIC-1 stated he refused the offer as he realized it was simply made for the purpose of removing him from the country.

Further along during this discreet conversation, reporting officer turned the questioning toward the ESODICs' knowledge and impressions of CALLIGERIS. ESODIC-1 stated the two are old friends and that he hears from CALLIGERIS at regular intervals. In answer to another question, ESODIC-1 stated correspondence between him and CALLIGERIS is carried by messengers. He volunteered the information that one of the messengers used by CALLIGERIS was the Carlos Enrique LORENZAN who was arrested in Guatemala City on 22 March allegedly in possession of letters destined for CALLIGERIS. ESODIC-1 stated the messenger at the time was carrying nothing but anti-ARBENZ propaganda. Both ESODICs were high in their praise of CALLIGERIS' professional competency and personal integrity. It is reporting officer's impression that ESODIC-1 was telling the truth when he stated he is well known to CALLIGERIS. Whether or not the ESODICs are already within the CALLIGERIS fold cannot be ascertained here without direct questioning of them which we consider highly out of line.

The ESODIC [] were told by reporting officer that we are looking in each military garrison for a military figure considered absolutely loyal and uncontaminated as far as previous associations with oppositional movements are concerned. Both were at first dubious as to whether they could supply names of such individuals as they both feel considerable travel on their parts would be necessary to obtain the desired information and for either of them to travel at this time might draw the unwanted attention of the local authorities. ESODIC-1 then suggested that he attempt to select one man whom he trusts completely from within the garrison in Guatemala City. Thereafter, provided we approve, he will have that individual travel for him and bring back names of individuals from the various garrisons. ESODIC-1 will then select one man from each garrison from the list provided by the original individual. ESODIC-1 was emphatically told that for the present all he needs must do is to supply the names of the individual and that no attempt to contact them is to be made until further notice. ESODIC-1 was perfectly agreeable to this.

It is requested that Lincoln advise whether or not it is deemed advisable to have a third person travel for ESODIC and [] in connection with this project. We will supply the name of the individual as soon as it is in our possession.

Both ESODIC [] were briefed on our interest in recruiting military personnel who can keep us abreast of top level military planning related to the exigencies of an internal uprising. They were told we attach much importance to spotting of recruitment prospects but that they were under no circumstances to go beyond spotting personalities for us. The ESODICs promised to keep their eyes and ears open and report the names and background of any individual who comes to their attention as being possible material. Reporting officer did not name those target areas in which we are desirous of developing sources as he intends to take this matter up at the next meeting with them.

5. In our HGG-A-706, dated 3 February 1954, certain comments pertaining to some fifty-eight Army officers are set forth. The names of those Army officers were taken from an official list of officers prepared by the Estado Mayor del Ejercito. The list in question, which consists of more than 765 names, was given to the ESODICs approximately two weeks ago and at that time they were asked to make comments on each name they recognized or at least on each name they knew something about. On the night of 25 March 1954, ESODIC-1 returned the list to reporting officer with the comment that he had reviewed the list with GIVLOCH during November 1953, and that he had furnished all the information known to him at that time; that he and [] had reviewed the list again and could add nothing to the comments made to GIVLOCH except to furnish information regarding the various places of assignment of those named. For the information of Lincoln, there is set forth below a list of those officers previously commented on by the ESODICs and the places of their assignment as furnished by them.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Place of Assignment</u>
José Antonio Alonso Rodas	Cuartel General, S-3
Everardo Barrios Laparra	Estado Mayor
Julio Cesar Garcia Palma	Cuartel General, First Mobile Uni
Carlos Humberto Juarez Paredes	Cuartel General
Domingo Morales Lopez P.	Estado Mayor
Rafael Monendez Rios	Puerto Barrios
Alvaro Martinez Lopez	Puerto de San José
Enrique Peralta Azurdia	in Washington
José Ignacio Soto Lopez	Estado Mayor
Santiago Muñoz Dardon	Mil. Zone 1, Coban
Ricardo Porras	In Washington (Junta Defensa Pan- americana)
Victor Vicente Guilo Noriega	Estado Mayor, G-4
Francisco Samayoa Coronado	Escuela de Aplicación
Marco Antonio Soto V.	" " "

<u>Name</u>	<u>Place of Assignment</u>
Pedro Rodriguez Valenzuela	Escuela de Aplicación
Guillermo Solares Echeverria	Engineering Corps Hqs
José Antonio Tobias Estrada	Escuela de Aplicación
Alfredo Valdes Avendaño	Cuartel General, 2nd Mobile Unit
José Luis Cruz Salazar	Ministry of National Defense
Victor Morales Diaz	Cuartel General
Arturo Morales y Morales	Escuela Politecnica
Oscar Mendoza Azurdia	In Cuba
Hugo Enrique Mendoza y Mendoza	Armed Forces Hqs
Luis Urrutia de Leon	Air Force
Francisco Gomez Carranza	Escuela de Aplicación
Alfonso Giron Beteta	Air Force (In Italy)
Roberto Guzman Chinchilla	Air Force
Jorge Medina Coronado	In Washington
Roberto Paniagua Castillo	Cuartel General, S-1
José Ernesto Tobar Meza	Jutiapa- branch unknown
Enrique Valladares Morris	Air Force
Maximo Zepeda Martinez	Escuela Politecnica
Pedro de Jesus Granados Galicia	Air Force
Gerardin Mazariegos S.	Air Force
Dorindo Alarcon Cerna	Escuela Politecnica-Peten
Clemente Amado Barrios A.	Guardia de Honor
Arturo Coloma Aparicio	Escuela Politecnica
Leon Arnulfo Garcia Valle	" "
Nemesio Siguenza Rivera	Cuartel General
Luis Francisco Arriaza de Leon	Matamoros
Arturo Chur del Cid	Sport Nacional
Guillermo Mendoza V.	Air Force
Anibal Rene Sarmiento G.	Air Force

6. During the same conversation with them, ESODIC furnished a list of names of individuals with whom he is personally acquainted and who are members of the Aero Club de Guatemala. ESODIC stated that each individual is a civilian and each has access to a civilian plane (for the most part Cessnas). ESODIC stated he would trust his life to any of those listed and described them all as anti-ARENZ, anti-Communist and pro-democratic. He stated that if he asked any of the individuals to do anything or fly anywhere they would obey without question. For whatever purpose it may serve, the individuals are listed below. An asterisk (*) appearing immediately before a name indicates the individual is the owner of his own plane.

- * José Maria Valdes G. (family owns two fincas in different sections of the country)
- * Hector Nivaral P.
Salvador Oliva

- * Alfredo Delgado Y.
- * Raul David
- Carlos Lima (lives in Quezaltenango)
- * Escolastico Ortega
- * Dale Bland
- *** Clayton Coffey (has three planes)
- * Pedro Ciani (lives in Mazatenango)
- * Dr. Ricardo Novales
- Ferdinand Schupp (former Major USAF)
- * Roger Altenbach (lives in Coatepeque)

7. We hope Lincoln does not have an exaggerated opinion of the ESODIC [] capabilities or of their contacts throughout the Armed Forces here. The list of but fifty-eight individuals known to them would indicate they are not as popular as we in the past have been given to believe. In the ESODICs we have two retired Colonels [] of the two at times gives the impression of physical cowardice and the [] a devil-may-care attitude, either or both of which could prove detrimental to our operations in the future. Each has expressed a definite opinion in the past few weeks that he is under surveillance. We are now wondering if ESODIC-1 is putting out such a report for the possible purpose of attempting to impress reporting officer with his own importance.

In their favor, however, it should be kept in mind they are in fact former Colonels and as such must certainly have important contacts [] The fact they claim to know but fifty-eight of a possible 765 might indicate they are purposely vague. They are both unquestionably pro-FEPRIME and each claims to be well and favorably known to CALLIGERIS. This should be weighed by Lincoln and checked through that office's channels. The fact they claim to know but a handful of officers might indicate to the reader they have been instructed to be vague in this respect.

8. If they are in fact already within the CALLIGERIS fold and if Lincoln would prefer they work exclusively with CALLIGERIS, reporting station will either continue to develop the ESODICs or drop them depending on instructions from Lincoln.
9. In compliance with the request set out in the last paragraph of the dispatch of reference, we are attaching hereto one copy of the "Personality Assessment" on ESODIC.

Cyrus H. Burnette

Enclosure:

"Personality Assessment" as noted

1 April 1954

CEB/cmh

Distribution:

2-Linc w/att

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