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12 May 1954

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Esterline

SUBJECT: Notes in Response to Questions in DIR 49887

2003

1. At the Wisner meeting on Tuesday, May 11, I gave some information in response to the questions set forth in the above reference. Most of this information was drawn from notes and I was asked to provide copies of these notes. Enclosed are three such copies. You will know who to give them to although I would recommend that one copy go to Dick Bissell who was particularly anxious to have it.

2. Let me reemphasize that the enclosures are only notes and should not be otherwise interpreted.

C. Tracy Barnes

Enclosures (3 sets of notes)

*hand carried on May 12  
by [ ]*

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ANSWERS TO REF CABLE

DIR 49887

1. A.

1) The organizers have been selected for each of the specific target areas and currently are in the process of being briefed as to their specific duties and modus operandi for their respective targets. It is anticipated that during the next two weeks all organizers will be in place and engaged in implementing their respective plans. Each organizer has a fairly detailed concept of the type of organization required, the identities of key civilian and military personnel plus specific target objectives and responsibilities assigned to each particular target. In the case of Guatemala City, 4 distinct areas have been designated for separate organization and development.

2) Only 4 shock teams are presently contemplated. The leaders are in Tegucigalpa presently being briefed on the details of their mission and should be ready within the next two weeks to start recruiting and forming their teams at the staging sites and commence training.

3) Special squad leaders (4) are presently in the Tegucigalpa area and during the next two weeks will be engaged in preparing their teams and firming up operational details.

4) Sabotage teams leaders ( ) are presently in Tegucigalpa being briefed on specific targets (30) and preparing formation of final teams.

5) Present status of RROs:

Seven operators are in various stages of readiness. One for Guatemala City is being readied to enter during the next two weeks, his agent set having been forwarded and should be there ready upon his arrival.

6) TROs. Presently have 5 operators at various stages of training. It is contemplated that one TRO will be established during the next two weeks period with CALLIGERIS providing him a message center (FCP).

7) Arrangements completed for first two comparatively large shipments of arms within the next two weeks. Some arms have been removed from the storage area but the exact amount is not known at this time.

8) Earliest date of completion of black flights is 19 May, latest and probable date is 23 May. Completion of black flights into Honduras should satisfactory arrangements be completed with Salvador within the next 5 days - it is contemplated that the balance would be flown to latter country or 10 to Honduras and 4 to Salvador.

9. Major movement of arms from storage to forward areas intended to begin in the latter part of the next two weeks. It is significant to comment herein that owing to development of improved rapid means of moving fairly large shipments of arms into target area it is contemplated if successful no appreciative delay will occur from the original plan.

B. 1. A total

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B.

1) A total of 89 tons would be shipped to Honduras in the event required. If Salvador opens up in time, then 8 tons will go to Salvador.

C. Answered in B above.

D. Latest report indicates that 250 men are presently in Honduras. Most of these men would be expected to re-enter Guatemala either before or during the operation.

E and F. Full report expected from Page within next week. Defection efforts concentrated on [ ] and Smilex and appear to have been moderately successful. Page's last report indicates not planning to leave Guatemala until 12 May. Full report due LINCOLN, 12 May.

G. Names of those arrested not known. WSBURNT station being queried.

H. Now that SEMANTIC and SECANT are in WSBURNT capital and secure communication lines are set up with station and with CALLIGERIS believed LINCOLN will be promptly informed of all significant moves of government. SEMANTIC has net of agents with good high level contacts in army and government. WSBURNT station agents who have high level connections and who are in position to provide info of value are ESSENCE, ESQUIRE, ESPERANCE and ESCROW. Believed that [ ] also will furnish valuable info once he is lined up. Capabilities government to meet PBSUCCESS moves difficult to determine as not known exactly how many officers will elect to actively back regime. However, plans include actions to disrupt communications and transport, cut off or sabotage arms and ammo, and put pressure on officers to join opposition on D-Day.

I. WSBURNT government is watching CALLIGERIS. However, aside from possible leak through Sierra it is not believed government aware present PBSUCCESS plans. Sierra has not had access to info of value for three weeks. Government is worried and uneasy. Available evidence indicates that it has little accurate info re PBSUCCESS and that no concrete plans have been laid to meet PBSUCCESS moves except possibly action manifested in Honduras in past few days.

J. It is not believed refusal or granting of military aid to LCPANGS would have any material effect on PBSUCCESS or upon position WSBURNT government. No evidence exists that WSBURNT expects or has sought assistance from LCPANGS and there are no indications that any such attempt will be made. The only possible interest would be in extent KMFLUSH military power would be offset, thereby reducing danger from that direction. However, WSBURNT government has indicated no fear of armed attack on part of KMFLUSH.

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A. Present state of readiness

The successful implementation of SHERWOOD and the 32 campaign has contributed materially to the conditioning of the target to a preliminary state of readiness and is believed to demonstrate a psychological capability to arouse anti-Communist elements to action in the manner contemplated for the operation. These psychological warfare assets are supplemented by other assets such as - press organs, leaflets, rumor campaigns and character assassination thus supplementing the foregoing capabilities.

The PM program having passed through its cadre training period is now in process of implementing its organizational plans based upon assets developed in meantime within respective target areas. Permitting allowance for minor set-backs in the whole there is every reason to believe that this program will be able to develop in manner contemplated.

Preliminary report on the K Program has indicated the successful development of new high level military assets which will be incorporated into current PBSUCCESS plans but at this date representing an encouraging potential thereby greatly strengthening the asset of SYNCARP.

The K Program appears to have increased the intelligence coverage of this project which together with other assets appear to be capable of providing sufficient intelligence coverage to meet requirements of this operation.

In conclusion, it is believed that PBSUCCESS has thus far successfully developed a capability to fulfill the objectives of this operation and may now be considered as having entered the preliminary state of operational readiness.

B. It is considered operationally feasible to be ready for final showdown during the period 9 to 23 June. During this period in order to derive maximum effect from national radio hookup, D-Day should be on either the 9th, 16th or 23rd of June.

C. We are planning for success and will not recommend any action be taken unless assured of success.

-Exception: Note particularly the excellent success of WASHTUB and its deception contribution to PBSUCCESS. Note also progress being made to implicate Venezuela, Dominican Republic and Cuba in addition to those already implicated; Nicaragua, Honduras and Salvador.

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RESUCCESS

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A. When black flights complete

earliest 19 May  
probable 23 May  
(14 more flights as of May 10)

When move arms to staging sites:

Category I gear (cache kits)  
Plan 2 in operation now  
Plan 1 in operation 12 May

Category II gear (for shock teams)  
now known as yet - latter  
part of May probably.

B.	<u>Tonnages</u>	<u>WSHOOFS</u>	(89 tons)
		If: DTFROGS not open	177,597 lbs
		DTFROGS open	(81) 161,597 lbs
	Tonnage to DTFROGS (if open)		(8) 16,000 lbs (Cat II)
	Total tonnage all black flights		(89) <u>177,597 lbs.</u>
	Total delivered to date (all to WSHOOFS)		115,243 lbs.

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