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Security Information

28 September 1953

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

2003

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, WH
ATTENTION : Mr. []
FROM : Chief, RQM/OIS []
SUBJECT : Operation FIBRE

1. Your informal request for intelligence on the order of battle of Guatemalan Armed Forces has been fulfilled insofar as possible. The material hand-carried to you on IOAN is the latest information concerning the military forces of Guatemala available within the U.S. Government.

2. All draft sections of NIS-71 on Guatemala ready for publication have been forwarded to you on IOAN. No chapter eight on the Armed Forces has been published, nor is one scheduled for publication or preparation in the near future.

3. Guatemala has received grants from U.S. Government agencies during the period 1940-1951 as follows:

a. Institute for Inter-American Affairs	\$3,077,000
b. Mutual Security, American Republics	464,000
c. Technical Assistance Program	1,141,000
d. Lend-Lease Program	3,083,000

4. The only U.S. assistance now being given is an FOA (MSA) grant. In fiscal year 1952-1953, a total of \$216,500 was granted. Of this amount, more than half, \$115,800, was earmarked for U.S. technicians, and the remaining \$100,700 for local costs. Roughly, 71% was appropriated for agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, and 29% for health and sanitation. The amount of assistance for fiscal year 1953-1954 has not yet been determined. A very tentative figure of \$192,600 is being discussed within FOA, but has not yet been given any official approval. Hence, the figure is for your information only, and should not be used as a firm amount. If the sum is approved, it will be allotted as follows: \$150,800 for agriculture, forestry, and fisheries; \$41,800 for health and sanitation.

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5. In reply to a query as to whether FOA funds allocated are always expended, the answer was affirmative.

6. Clearance for the exchange of secret information has been initiated for the following agencies:

Commerce (OIT) - Mr. Brooks Ryno
Agriculture (FAS) - Mrs. Ruth Wiley

If necessary, conferences with the above two individuals may be arranged in order to satisfy future requests concerned with Operation FIBRE.

7. A summary of the current economic situation in Guatemala was prepared by OCI on a rush basis and hand-carried to your office. An additional copy is attached for your information.

1 Enclosure
Summary of Current Economic
Situation in Guatemala