

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
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Report No. 35

Date of Report: 12 June 1953

Date of Inform: 6 June 1953

TO : Chief, WH  
FROM : SEEKFORD  
SUBJECT : Report on Roberto Barrios Peña  
SOURCE : CALIGERIS

1. According to General Trujillo, Subject on 16 May 1953 visited Colonel Oscar Osorio of El Salvador. While talking to Col. Osorio, Subject received a long distance phone call from the United States, supposedly Washington, D. C.

2. According to the CALIGERIS intelligence organization, Barrios Peña did not speak with Colonel Osorio en El Salvador. Before his last trip to the United States he had arranged for an interview with Osorio, through the Dominican Ambassador, but this interview never took place. The Dominican Ambassador, at the request of Barrios Peña, has arranged another interview with Osorio, to take place after Barrios Peña returns from the United States, which should be Friday, the 5th of June.

3. Barrios Peña was apparently called to the United States by a lawyer, on Monday, 18 May. The following day Barrios Peña left San Salvador via TAN for Miami. Wednesday the 20th he flew to New Orleans, where he stayed at the St. Charles Hotel.

4. Immediately upon his arrival in New Orleans Barrios Peña got in touch with [redacted] who lives in the National City Bank of Commerce Building.

5. [redacted] asked Barrios Peña if he was ready to visit the New Orleans FBI offices to identify himself so the FBI could investigate him. [redacted] told Barrios Peña that if the results of said investigation were favorable, everything else would work out fine, since there was a powerful company ready to give a million dollars to the movement which he, Barrios Peña, headed. Barrios Peña agreed to go to the FBI, saying that their investigation would most certainly result favorably, for they would not be able to find anything derogatory against him.

6. At the FBI offices Barrios Peña was introduced to a [ ]  
[ ] who questioned him.

7. As soon as Barrios Peña left the FBI, he and [ ] went to see a Mr. [ ] principal lawyer in the firm of Dumber and Company. This law firm has offices in several cities in the United States, and in New Orleans represent the United Fruit Company.

8. [ ] told Barrios Peña that the United Fruit Company was ready to give him, Barrios Peña, a million dollars, or more, providing the FBI and State Department investigations proved satisfactory. [ ] said that the ESSO Company was also willing to help, and added that in Guatemala there were only two men capable of undertaking a revolutionary movement, and one of those two men was Barrios Peña.

9. On Saturday the 23rd, Barrios Peña and [ ] visited the air base near Ponchatrairie (?), where a Capitan [ ] showed them two large transport planes. They went aboard the planes and on the inside of each plane were two recoilless rifles, with two projectiles. The rifles were of cal. 75. [ ] told Barrios Peña that there he had what had been promised him, and that he, [ ] could arrange for Barrios Peña to get the planes out of the country.

1. Field Comment: Can an investigation be run on Capitan [ ] and the aircraft?