

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET 27 April 1953

INSTRUCTIONS.—Officer designations should be used in the "TO" column. Under each comment a line should be drawn across sheet and each comment numbered to correspond with the number in the "TO" column. Each officer should initial (check mark insufficient) before further routing. This Record and Routing Sheet should be returned to Registry.

FROM:

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NO.

HGG - 137

DATE

TO—	ROOM NO.	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS
		RECEIVED	FORWARDED		
1. WH	Quarters Cye	4 MAY 1953	4 MAY 1953	lm	DISSEMINATED IN SO NOT DISSEMINATED FOR FOLLOWING REASONS CC detached for LINCOLN Station [] 17 Dec 53 DEFERRED EXTRACT INDEX DATE 1 MAY 1953
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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

2003

SECURITY INFORMATION

VIA: AIR
SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH

DISPATCH NO. HGG-137

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CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief, WHD
FROM : Chief of Station, Guatemala
SUBJECT: GENERAL - PBFortune
SPECIFIC -

DATE: 27 April 1953

1. Of possible interest to Headquarters is the attached copy of the last three paragraphs of a memorandum prepared by Ambassador Schoenfeld and dated 4 March 1953. The mentioned conversation took place shortly prior to the Ambassador's departure to Washington, D. C., for consultation.
2. The memorandum was called to my attention by the Ambassador on 24 April 1953.

[Vincent B. Ogden]

VEO/abk

Distribution:

Wash (2) w/att
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CLASSIFICATION

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EXTRACT:

Memo of Conversation Between Ambassador Schoenfeld and President Jacobo Arbenz on 4 March 1953 in Guatemala City

* * *

He was aware of the opposition of his program. There was the case of Colonel Castillo Armas. They had, he said, been fellow officers and friends. They had both been quite poor and had lived on their modest pay. As Minister of Defense, he had helped Castillo Armas obtain a grant to take a course in the United States. After his return, they had resumed their former relations. Suddenly he turned. He was now living in Honduras. From being quite poor, he had suddenly become well off, with money, a car and a stream of persons visiting him. One wondered where the money came from. He did not think it came from the Government of Honduras, or Nicaragua, or Costa Rica, or El Salvador.

I told President Arbenz I hoped the problem of American opinion and the things that gave rise to it would eventually be met. Basically there was every reason why the two countries should be friends: reasons of geography, of economics and of political destiny. If the disruptive elements which occupied certain key positions disappeared from those positions, I had no doubt that United States-Guatemalan relations would quickly take on a different aspect.

On leaving, President Arbenz wished me a good trip and said he would look forward to seeing me on my return.