

1

~~SECRET~~  
Security Information

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

22 April 1953

2003  
WHD FIELD MEMORANDUM NO. 50-53

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL LATIN AMERICAN FIELD STATIONS

FROM : Chief, Western Hemisphere Division

SUBJECT: KUGOWN Activities re. Guatemalan Communists

1. A cable has been sent to several SGRANGER stations. The contents were as follows:

"1. Until otherwise ordered, the following situation is to be given the highest priority in reference to KUGOWN action.

"2. The Guatemalan government withdrew from ODECA due to fear of a proposed anti-Communist resolution. It then presented spurious claims of foreign intervention to the United Nations, hoping for international communist support, rather than submitting claims to the Organization of American States, which would be the normal international instrument for handling claims of this nature. All Stations will stress the fact that the Guatemalan case is too weak for unbiased investigation by other Latin American States.

"3. Moreover, the Guatemalan govt claims, "The USSR does not interfere directly or indirectly in the internal affairs of Guatemala just as Guatemala does not intervene or attempt to intervene in, or disturb the peace of, any other country." Also, "The Guatemalan government has pursued an unwavering policy of respect for democratic freedoms (within Guatemala)." In refutation, Stations will stress the following themes:

A. The Communist controlled Guatemalan Labor Party leads the pro-government coalition called the Electoral Front. Of 56 seats in Congress, the opposition retains only 5. Even the Guatemalan Supreme Court has been packed with fellow-travelers. The Guatemalan Communists are very strong in the Secretariat of Propaganda and Official and Pro-Administration Press and Radio, in the National Agrarian Department, Institute of Social Security, Labor Courts, National Electoral Board, National Labor Federation, Congressional Committee on Agrarian Reform and Labor Code Revision, Railway Workers, and Teachers Unions.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~  
Security Information

B. The Guatemalan Congress observed a minute of silent tribute when STALIN was buried. Guatemala was the only SGRANGER nation to do so.

C. While Col Hubert Julian bragged of large scale arms procurement from Soviet Satellite countries for the Guat govt, that govt was accusing others of using foreign arms to intervene in their internal affairs.

D. Although the Guat govt has steadily claimed the Guat peoples are solidly behind it, and the Guat govt deplores armed intervention in the affairs of others, the Guats have built the largest army in Central America.

E. The Guatemalan govt is sending paid assassins throughout Central America. They are ordered to murder political refugees who fled from the terror of the Arbenz regime. It is interesting to note that their targets are all avowed anti-Communists. (This item will be given top priority KUGOWN treatment.)

F. Within Guatemala, political opponents of the Arbenz regime are being jailed and tortured to obtain false confesstions. Others are being murdered.

G. Meanwhile, in Salvador, paid Guatemalan political agitators are attempting the overthrow of the Salvadoran govt, and are also acting as "finger men" for the above mentioned Guatemalan Communist assassins.

" 4. The following are falsities of the Guatemalan Agrarian Reform:

A. The reformed land is only loaned to the recipients-- usually small farmers. They may retain the land as long as they plant crops demanded by the government, send their children to Communist line schools, and completely submit to a Communist type of regimented society. Any deviation from the govt planned social set-up brings eviction without appeal.

B. The Guatemalan Agrarian Reform grants no recourse to law. An example: The Guatemalan Agrarian Suprme Court, when it had the temerity to accept an individual application for injunction to halt illegal seizure was summarily dissolved."

2. The following pages contain material which may be used as background material in this campaign. Other materials will be forwarded via KMFORGET. Comments and suggestions will be welcomed.

[  
OLIVER G. GALBOND  
]

~~SECRET~~  
Security Information

I. HOW DOES THE GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT SUPPORT THE PROPAGANDA ACTIVITIES OF THE GUATEMALANS?

1. The Diario de Centro-America, a government newspaper has continuously supported the Communist Party Line.
2. The Diario de la Manana is financed by the Guatemalan government and its policy is frequently clearly pro-Communist and always generous in giving free publicity to Communist causes.
3. The Nuestro Diario also aids Communist causes. This newspaper is partially payed for by the Guatemalan government. It is possible that all its funds come from the government, inasmuch as no other funding source can be located.
4. The Unidad, a sporadic newspaper published by the Communist dominated CGPG, is financed through Guatemalan purchasing of ads.
5. The newspaper of the Communist Party of Guatemala, is published through the use of government printing facilities. (Octubre)
6. Radio Station TGW, the official radio Station of the Guatemalan government, has a pro-Commie manager and has been used as a frequent vehicle for Communist propaganda.

II. THE GUATEMALAN CONGRESS PAID TRIBUTE TO THE ATHEIST STALIN

1. On the motion of Communist Deputy Victor Manuel GUTIERREZ, the Guatemalan Congress observed a minute of silence in honor of STALIN. The motion was supported by 29 other Deputies - more than a whole majority of the Congress - thus indicating the thoro infiltration of Communism in the Congress.
2. Several members were in opposition and walked out in order not to be present during the minute of silence. Opposition deputies said, "Stalin had joined Hitler in unleashing the most frightful conflict in the history of the world" and, "Guatemala had once sent a Minister to Soviet Union and that he had to return after eight months because the USSR, with much greater resources

than...

~~SECRET~~

Security Information

-2-

than Guatemala, had failed to reciprocate the courtesy." Furthermore, it was said, "Vishinsky had scornfully rebuffed a motion by the Chief Guatemalan delegate to the UN to observe a minute of silence in memory of the dead in Korea."

3. But as always with Communist puppets, the Guatemalan Communist Congress, perhaps thinking of possible coming purges, voted for the motion and at 6:45 the Guatemalan Congress rose and stood in silence with bowed head paying their minute of silent tribute to the atheist ex-God of Communism.

IN WHAT OTHER INSTANCES HAS THE GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT AIDED AND ABETTED THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST CAUSE IN GUATEMALA?

1. The government, through its propaganda facilities, aided the celebration of first anniversary of the founding of the Communist newspaper, Octubre. This was the first open meeting of the Communist Party in Guatemala. Held with government permission and support.

2. The formation of the Communist controlled CGTG, an affiliate of the CTAL, was done with the support of the Guatemalan government. The CGTG newspaper is supported, in part, through government subsidy.

3. The President of Guatemala personally reviewed the Communist inspired and dominated Labor Day parades.

4. The Government of Guatemala has provided government owned building for the meetings of Communist front groups such as the Guat Pro-Peace unit and also for a Commie inspired tribute to STALIN which was held two days after the Guat Congress had paid its official tribute.

5. In addition the Guat Government has instituted the terroristic measures against anti-Communists which were mentioned in DIR 49992 which have served to help Commies consolidate their position and further dominate the local scene.

~~SECRET~~

Security Information

~~SECRET~~  
Security Information

-3-

IV. THEMES FOR USE IN CARTOONS, POSTERS OR HANDBILLS:

1. Soviet Union can always count on Guatemalan support in the United Nations. Even though the USSR rebuffs the Guatemalan representatives, the Guatemalans are always there licking the boots of the USSR.
2. The Guatemalans are now on their knees before the USSR delegates in the UN begging the USSR and its Sats to support Guatemalan lies.
3. A two headed Guatemalan government - at one time stating that the USSR has no influence in Guatemala, and at the same time, persecuting anyone who happens to be anti-Communist.
4. The Guatemalan Congress talking about how religious they are while bowing their heads before the bier of STALIN - the greatest atheist of them all.
5. The Guatemalan Government gives money and facilities to all Communist organizations and imprisons, tortures or executes anti-Communists.
6. Why didn't the Guatemalan Government support ODECA? Because all of those who paid tribute to Stalin - a clear majority of the Guat Congress - knew that they would be prime targets if the ODECA resolution to fight Communism was approved.
7. Do Communistx atheists govern the Guatemalan Congress? No? Then why did they pay tribute to the atheist Stalin.
8. The Guat Congress has motioned a resolution of solidarity with the North Korean people, given government owned halls to show USSR and Chinese propaganda and other wise supported the USSR/Chinese position re Korea.
9. As the Guatemalan government quietly waged its illegal extermination of anti-Communists, the Guat Congress dancing on the strings of Moscow, sponsored a petition calling for the release of the CP atomic spies - the Rosenbergs.
9. The Guat government has issued passport and encouraged, with money, travel to the various commie front meetings in Europe and Asia.
10. Guatemalan Communists are worried over purges of Stalinists on the one side and growing western world indignation on the other.

~~SECRET~~  
Security Information