

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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2 APRIL 53

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

IN 12451

TO: DIRECTOR, CIA

FROM: SR REP GUATAMALA CITY

PRIORITY

ACTION: WH (1)

0100Z 3 APRIL 53

INFORMATION: DCI (2), D/DCI (3), DD/P (4)

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

2003

GUAT 813

TO: PRIORITY DIR

INFO: PRIORITY [

CITE: SEUA

PBFORTUNE

RE: WASHFG 34250 (OUT 78595), GUAT 810 (IN 11703)

1. NEWSPAPER LA HORA REPORTS BROTHER AND BROTHER-IN-LAW OF JUAN CORDOVA CERNA PERSONALLY REPORTED TO ITS OFFICES THAT ON ORDERS OF JUDGE OF COURT, 14 POLICE SEARCHED HIS HOUSE ON 1 APR 1100 HOURS, ARRESTED HIM AND REMOVED HIM TO UNKNOWN DESTINATION; THAT CORDOVA CERNA HAD KNOWN THAT HIS HOUSE WAS BEING WATCHED SINCE 31 MAR BUT DID NOT CONSIDER IT IMPORTANT BECAUSE NOT ENGAGED IN POLITICS. COMMENT: AS YET NO CONFIRMATION BUT CONSIDERED PROBABLY TRUE.

2. AMONG INDICATIONS SALAMA INCIDENT WAS PART OF LARGER PLAN:

A. STATEMENT BY CHIEF OF CIVIL GUARD THAT OTILIO FIGUEROA, IMPORTANT LEADER OF THE GROUP WHO WAS CAPTURED AT SALAMA, HAD SAID HE WAS SURE THAT GROUP WOULD RECEIVE REINFORCEMENTS OF ALL TYPES BY PLANES FROM NICARAGUA AND MEXICO.

B. INSURGENTS HAD INSIGNIAS (REPORTEDLY EXHIBITED TO PRESS) REPRESENTING GUAT FLAG, ONE BY THREE INCHES, WORDS "ANTI COMUNISTA"

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

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GUAT 813

PAGE TWO

IN 12451

GUATEMALA" AND TWO SMALL QUETZAL BIRDS MOUNTED ON THE LETTERS E AND C PRESUMABLY REPRESENTING "EJERCITO CHRISTIANO" (CHRISTIAN ARMY).

C. INSURGENTS HAD TEXAS STYLE HATS AND KHAKI UNIFORMS. PRESS-DOCUMENTARY. COMMENT: SEVERAL NEWSPAPERS CONFIRM.

END OF MESSAGE

~~SECRET~~