

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

18 JUNE 52

CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION

N 12698

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TO:

OPERATIONS

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

FROM:

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RELEASE AS SANITIZED ROUTINE

RI (1-2-3)

2003

01437-20 JUNE 52

INFORMATION:

RI (4-5-6) AD/PC (7) CAL (4-8) AD/PC (9) OPS (10) STC (11)
PLANS (12) RQM (13-14) S/C (15-16-17) DDP (18) PY (19-20)

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TO: WASHFG

CITE: []

1. TENSENESS OF POLITICAL SITUATION HAS BEEN INCREASING SINCE PRESIDENT PROPOSED HIS AGRARIAN REFORM BILL ON 10 MAY (WHICH BECAME LAW 17 JUNE). OPPOSITION DEPUTIES WALKED OUT PRIOR TO FINAL VOTE PROTESTING THE STEAMROLLER TACTICS WITHOUT ADEQUATE DEBATE AND FAILURE OF MAJORITY TO OBSERVE RULES OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE. ADDITIONAL FACTORS CAUSING TENSENESS AND INDICATIVE THEREOF ARE: DISTURBANCES IN SEVERAL INTERIOR VILLAGES IN OPPOSITION TO IMMINENT PASSAGE OF "COMMUNIST, TOTALITARIAN LAW" WHICH BEGAN 6 JUNE WITH APPROXIMATELY SIX DEATHS AND SOME ARRESTS; ATTEMPTS ALLEGEDLY BY ANTI-COMMIE STUDENTS TO SABOTAGE POWER LINES WITH RESULTING ARRESTS; PRESS REVELATION OF PERSECUTIONS OF STUDENTS; JOINING OF PAR, RN, FPL AND SOCIALISTS INTO NEW PARTY CALLED PARTY OF THE GUATEMALAN REVOLUTION WITH THE OBVIOUS PURPOSE OF CENTRAL CONTROL OF CIVILIAN EFFORTS TO DEFEND THE GOVERNMENT; PROPAGANDA ATTACKS BY ASSOCIATION OF FARM OWNERS (AGA); REFERENCES IN PRESS TO POSSIBLE CIVIL WAR; ANNOUNCEMENT BY CARLOS MANUEL PELLEGER ON 14 JUNE OF THE ORGANIZATION OF DEFENSE

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COMMITTEES BY GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF LABOR TO FIGHT WITH ARMY AND POLICE FOR THE GOVERNMENT; PRESSURE BY GOVERNMENT TO PREVENT ANTI-COMMIE RADIO PROGRAMS; ORDER REVOKING ALL FIRE ARMS LICENCES; SEARCHES OF CARS AND THEIR OCCUPANTS ON THE ROADS; ORDER PROHIBITING DISTRIBUTION OF HAND BILLS FROM VEHICLES; RUMORS DENIED BY GOVERNMENT IT WAS ARMING FARM LABORERS.

2. LEAFLETS DISTRIBUTED 18 JUNE BY MARKET WOMEN CALLING FOR CLOSING OF ALL BUSINESS HOUSES 20 JUNE IN PROTEST DETENTION FOUR STUDENTS. PRESIDENT TO ADDRESS NATION NIGHT 20 JUNE.

3. CONSIDERED POSSIBLE, NOT PROBABLE, DISSIDENT WILL REVOLT; HAVE NO INFO THEY WILL; FOLLOWING FROM [] 18 JUNE: HEADS OF MILITARY ESTABLISHMENTS IN GUATEMALA CITY BEING CHANGED TO FOIL ANY ATTEMPT AGAINST GOVERNMENT. DISTR EMBASSY.

* DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION

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