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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

5 November 1951

2003

MEMORANDUM TO: Deputy Director, Plans
FROM : Assistant to the Director

At the White House on Friday, 26 October, Jimmy Lay, Executive Secretary, NSC, asked the Director to arrange for a [] [] to meet the appropriate people in CIA who had an interest in Guatemala. Mr. Lay was not certain what [] had to offer but believed he was acting as a spokesman for the United Fruit Company and wanted to arrange subsequent appointment for members of the Company to brief CIA on Communist activities in Guatemala.

[] arrived in Washington on Friday, 2 November, and asked for an appointment at 3:30 PM. Messrs. [] of Contact Division assembled representatives from OCI, OMR and OPC to talk with [] However, on arrival, it appeared that [] had no information to offer on Guatemala but simply was acting as an intermediary for Sam Zamurias (spelling uncertain), President of the United Fruit Company and Floyd Odlom, President of Consolidated Vultee Aircraft and part owner of Electric Bond and Share Company. It appears that these two organizations and a third company which I believe he referred to as the Intercontinental Railway (which I understand is largely owned by the United Fruit Company) wished to offer the use of their facilities and personnel to assist CIA in any program which we may contemplate for combating the growth of Communism in Guatemala. He stated that Zamurias and Odlom were greatly concerned about the situation in Guatemala and he stressed that they were willing to go to any lengths to assist the Government in anti-Communist operations.

Mr. Dulles talked to [] briefly and assured him that we were very much interested in his proposal and that he would ask Col. J. C. King to contact him in the near future.

[] stated that our initial contact should be with [] of the United Fruit Company in New Orleans. He added that [] knew nothing about this plan so far and that the contact should be made through him at his San Diego address, given below. [] said that he would accompany [] when and if they were called to Washington.

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[] is leaving for London on Friday afternoon but stated that he would be back in San Diego on Tuesday where he can be reached at the following address:

[]

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CC: Col. J. C. King