

AIR

RYBAT/PBSUCCESS

WCC:WJG  
HCG-A-830

~~SECRET~~

Chief, Lincoln

30 March 1954

Chief of Station, Guatemala

INFO: Washington

Operational

Cover of Eliot P. RAZMARA

Reference - GUAT 147

1. Enclosed is a self-explanatory memorandum from Eliot P. RAZMARA in which he describes a recent conversation with his ostensible superior in the cover company.
2. Particular attention is invited to paragraphs 7, 9 and 10 in which RAZMARA suggests the need for backstopping his cover. Please take whatever action you deem necessary and advise.
3. At this time we wish to repeat our request for information relating to any existing plans for replacement of RAZMARA (see para. 4 of reference).
4. RAZMARA's present tourist card expires on or about 26 April 1954. Possibly he could have it renewed here, but that would necessitate filing an application at the Ministry of Foreign Relations in which he would have to state his reasons for desiring an extension. In our judgment RAZMARA would be dangerously exposed in doing so. (NOTE: His name is already a matter of record in government files due to his previous residence here as a student and his visit here in January 1954 on a visa.
5. Accordingly, RAZMARA probably will have to travel to an adjoining country before 26 April 1954 and obtain another tourist card. Although we see no reason why he cannot obtain a card and return here, a denial of re-entrance could be disastrous to the ESSENCE operation if a replacement was not readily available.
6. Please advise.

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

George L. Tranger

Encl. as noted

30 March 1954

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2003

25 March 1954

SUBJECT: Meeting Between [ ]  
and ALBERTO ]

1. [ ] stopped off yesterday in Guatemala on his return trip from Los Angeles, California to Costa Rica. He telephoned ALBERTO and asked ALBERTO to drop around to his hotel as he wanted to talk to him.
2. The following is the gist of the conversation between [ ] and ALBERTO as they walked around town.
3. [ ] wants ALBERTO to leave Guatemala as soon as possible. [ ] understands from various reports that have reached it that the government of Guatemala is preparing new complot charges to be released within the next couple of weeks - the purpose of these new charges is a) break up any new revolution which may be brewing; b) provide the excuse for cracking down on the independent press; and c) present proof and support for Toriello's Caracas stand.
4. [ ] stated that [ ] cannot afford to get its name mixed up in any more complots, since it has reactions not only in Guatemala ~~and~~ but also in the other countries where [ ] operates. He stated that at the present moment there are two countries which are causing [ ] more trouble than Guatemala (at least more worry) - [ ]
5. [ ] suggested that ALBERTO go to the United States and resign from [ ], and then return to Guatemala. ALBERTO pointed out to him that it was an illogical step since there would be nothing to bring him back to Guatemala (no reason), and that the purpose of the whole operation was that of securing cover from [ ]

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6. [ ] then stated that he thought he could get a job for ALBERTO with one of the news services (INS, I think). ALBERTO stated that this switching around, particularly into the newspaper business, would probably draw more attention to ALBERTO than desirable.

7. After more conversation, it finally came out that what is really bothering [ ] is that he is responsible for ALBERTO, that he is not sure the company big shots (especially or at least the president, [ ] know anything about the set-up, and should something happen in which ALBERTO is mixed up, with blame rebounding onto [ ] and the [ ] in particular, he, [ ] will be blamed for the whole deal, with possible loss of job.

8. ALBERTO assured [ ] that there was little to worry about on this score - that he was not mixed up in any complots [ ] was worried about the SEAFORD business) nor was there any incriminating proof of same, etc.

9. [ ] agreed to hold up the matter until he heard from someone concerning this matter. ALBERTO believes that if [ ] receives assurance that [ ] is going to be satisfied, he will subside.

10. [ ] will be in San José, Costa Rica until 2 April, and will be in [ ], shortly afterwards. It is necessary that word be gotten to him as soon as possible to prevent him taking some unnecessary and risk involving action while he is meeting with [ ]

11. This meeting occurred Wednesday night, 24 March.

[ ]

ALBERTO