

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

2003

7 May 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: []

SUBJECT : Uruguay's Grant of Asylum to Ex-President Arbenz
of Guatemala

REFERENCE : ID/P Memo to CMI dated 4 May 1957, same subject

1. The referenced memorandum directs this Division to take several steps to counter the impending return of ex-President Arbenz to this Hemisphere. In view of the fact that several of these steps have already been taken, together with the necessity that several desks participate in this activity, it is believed that the job would be easier if WH/PP were to act as the central reference point in the matter.

2. Accordingly, the ID/P's memo is broken down into the following tasks:

- (a) Utilize press assets in Uruguay to depict Arbenz as a sinister Communist with a mission from the Kremlin.
 - (b) Review sensitive materials in order that some of them might be "freed up" for use to this end.
 - (c) Release certain derogatory information about Arbenz through [], especially, in Brazil and Chile, and probably in Argentina.
 - (d) Use JFRIDATE assets.
 - (e) Arrange a reception committee in Montevideo which would provide "a welcome mat in reverse" and would capitalize on such themes as "Arbenz go home - - to Moscow".
 - (f) Reconstruct sanguinary photographs of Guatemalan tortures from PHOTODUSS files.
 - (g) Discuss with Senior PP Staff
 - (h) Solicit the views of selected Latin American stations.
2. It would be appreciated if the following officers report to WH/PP concerning the above-listed tasks as indicated:

Done Task a: [] assemble all cables to [] requesting that certain press plants be accomplished.

Task b: [] submit Arbenz' biography and results of INLACK research conducted with the aid of []

Task c: Branch chiefs, please submit oral opinion (by phone, if you wish) on the merits of using liaison channels to transmit derogatory information about Arbenz.

Done Task d: [] review cable instruction already sent to [] and recommend on further uses of PRIVATE assets.

Task e: [] *del. all.* prepare cable with aid of Mr. [] with suggestions for the [] on arranging a "reception" for Arbenz.

Task f: [] recommend concerning availability of such photographs and draw on assistance of []

Task g: The undersigned will handle discussions with PP Staff.

Done Task h: [] and the undersigned will review past cable traffic and recommend concerning need for additional cables.

3. When this information has been assembled, WH/PP will prepare a response to the DD/P.

[]
WH/PP

WH/PP:dm
Distribution:

Orig: Addes
cc: WH Branch Chiefs

[]
WH/PP