

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

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2003

30 August 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, BQM

SUBJECT: Coordinated Intelligence Requirement for
PBHISTORY

1. It is requested that you develop a coordinated intelligence requirement for PBHISTORY to include the attached requirements which were previously submitted.

2. The orientation statement for other offices and agencies may be given as follows:

Shortly after the fall of the Arbens regime in Guatemala, about 100,000 documents became available for possible exploitation. These documents were from the following places:

- a. CNCG - Confederacion Nacional de Campesinos de Guatemala
- b. CGTG - Confederacion General de Trabajadores de Guatemala
- c. PGT - Partido Guatemalteco del Trabajo (The Communist Party)
- d. PRG - Partido Revolucionario de Guatemala
- e. STEG - Sindicato de Trabajadores de Educacion de Guatemala
- f. CTG - Confederacion de Trabajadores Guatemaltecos
- g. A file for Correspondence and records of Maria V. de Arbenz

3. The documents represent what these organizations left in their files after an apparently hurried selection and destruction of some papers. They are not complete records in any sense, but a search of the material might unearth specifically required information.

J. C. King
Chief, WHD

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Needs of CIA/OCD with reference to Guatemalan Documents Collection

1. Industrial Register

Interested in any data pertaining to individual industrial plants, import organizations or research operations.

2. Biographic Register

Interested in biographic information on all foreign scientists and technological personalities.

3. Graphic Register

Interested in photographic coverage on coasts, beaches, transportation, villages, public gatherings, and significant personalities.

4. Library

Would be interested in foreign publications that may be available.

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MEMORANDUM FOR: OIR - Mr. [] for CIA, Mr. []

SUBJECT : Categories of Documents which State wants Reproduced
for Transmittal to the Department

1. Correspondence of PGT, CNCG and CGTG with each other and with the following:
 - a. Foreign groups and individuals
 - b. Government officials
 - c. Other labor unions and political parties
 - d. Other groups interested in agrarian reform
 - e. The Frente Universitario Democratico (FUD)
 - f. The Alianza Femenina Guatemalteca (AFG)
 - g. The Alianza de la Juventud Democratica Guatemalteca (AJDG)
 - h. The Comite Nacional de Partidarios de Paz
 - i. The Consejo de la Proteccion de la Infancia (CPI)
 - j. Intellectual and professional organizations --
Saker-Ti and Sindicato Nacional de Periodistas (SNP)
2. Minutes of executive sessions of the PGT, CGTG, and CNCG
 - a. Also minutes of certain local committee meetings
3. Documents dealing with the following aspects of Communist activity:
 - a. Organization
 - b. Leaders
 - c. Policies
 - d. Tactics
 - e. Front groups
 - f. Infiltration of non-Communist organizations
 - g. Connections with parties, groups and individuals outside of Guatemala in both Communist and non-Communist countries.
 - h. Pressures on the Government re Guatemala's domestic policies and international relations.
 - i. Relations with Indian groups and individuals, particularly through CGTG and CNCG
 - j. Plans for underground operations.
4. In screening the documents for biographic information special notice should be taken of the following:
 - a. All lists of Communists, whether or not they are actually members of the party and whether or not they appear to be

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Communists of small significance. Information on the top Communists is of the greatest value.

- b. All documents containing information about any of the persons listed in the CIA document entitled "Revised Check Lists of Guatemalan Communists", dated 3 July 1954
- c. All documents which contain information about Communists from countries other than Guatemala and their connections with the Communist movement in Guatemala. Of particular interest in this regard are any documents which throw light on the direction given to the Guatemalan Communist movement by Vicente LOMBARDO Toledano of Mexico and Pablo NERUDA of Chile.
- d. All membership lists or other documents containing material of a biographic nature about the members of the CGTG and all other Communist fronts in Guatemala.
- e. All documents referring to diplomats of Guatemala and other countries.
- f. All documents which throw any light on the association between Communists and officials of the former Guatemalan government.
- g. All documents pertaining to anti-Communists.

Mr. Miron Burgin
DRA

OIR/DRA: JBarager: jng

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1. Identities of U. S. citizens who collaborated, or were associated with Communists or Communist supporters. Available details regarding the background and activities of such individuals.
2. Information concerning Soviet espionage operations. The very proximity of Guatemala to the United States would indicate a strong possibility of links with Soviet agents in this country.
3. Evidence that the Communist Party USA has used Guatemala as a safe haven or any other evidence connected with underground operations of the Communist Party USA.
4. Evidence of correspondence between Communists in Guatemala and individuals in the United States.
5. Evidence of cryptographic material used by Communists or espionage agents.
6. The nature of the liaison between the Communist Party in Guatemala and Communist groups in other countries.
7. Pertinent data concerning any specialized training on the part of the Communists in the fields of sabotage, riot instigation, and the manufacture and use of arms and ammunition.
8. Any data concerning operational methods and techniques of Soviet espionage agents.
9. Any evidence of pertinent financial transactions between Communists in Guatemala and the United States.

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MEMORANDUM FOR: CIA - Mr. []

SUBJECT : Needs of USIA with reference to Communism in Guatemala.

1. In order to educate public opinion, especially in Latin America but also in other areas of the world where Communist propaganda has apparently strong influence, with regard to the nature of the Arbenz regime and the reality of Communism in Guatemala, the Information Agency has the task of demonstrating that (1) Communist strategy in Guatemala was directed from abroad for the purposes of a foreign power, and therefore constituted intervention in American affairs; (2) Communism in Guatemala with Government backing, was pursuing expansionist plans; (3) The Arbenz regime was in opposition to the will and the real interests of the people.

2. While the State Department "white paper" and the expose which the new Guatemalan Government is expected to produce will be of great value, they cannot constitute sufficient ammunition to enable the Agency to pursue its task effectively: first, because they will not be ready for a matter of months and it is now, while Guatemalan news is still timely throughout the world, that we should be disseminating a steady flow of materials to correct misconceptions and establish the correct final impression; secondly, because these documents will necessarily present the evidence in a condensed form, devoid of the circumstantial detail that is frequently most effective in stimulating popular indignation.

3. To support the above themes, therefore, the Agency urgently needs the following categories of evidence:

- a. Directives to the Party or to any Front organization from abroad. Letters or memoranda discussing such directives in fairly plain language.

Material bearing on travel, i.e., travel documents that can be photographed to prove a point, discussions of the choice of delegates, etc.

- b. Anything revealing Communist planning for the future: i.e., on collectivization of expropriated farms, plans for the University, the judiciary, etc.
- c. Material indicative of active subversion in other countries. (Training of visiting Communists, reports, any correspondence

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that might be made public. Any reliable evidence of subversive activities on the part of Guatemalan diplomats.

- d. Documentation of tactics, i.e., planning concerning any Front Congress that actually took place; labor planning of the mid-40's involving the WFTU and CTAL; records of significant meetings.
- e. Documentation of the campaign against anti-Communists, i.e., measures involving the press and radio, evidence of persecution of individuals dating back before the last days of the regime; any evidence of discrimination in administration of the Agrarian Law, etc.
- f. Also important to the Agency would be any material that could be released concerning key individuals: hard evidence linking Arbenz to Communism; compromising material on Arevalo; identification of well-known Communists throughout Latin America with Guatemalan Communism.
- g. Any photographs showing manifestations of Communist association with the Government, i.e., Communist symbols on government buildings, Cabinet members at Communist demonstrations, etc. etc. Also material that could usefully be photographed, such as an Agrarian lease, a significant passport, a Party card, a striking collection of propaganda.

Ralph Hilton
IOP/A

IOP/A:KKeany:mdr 7/28/54

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