

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
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16 September 1953

2003

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Tofte

SUBJECT: Notes re Interim Progress Report for DCI Meeting 18 September.

1. Re. B I (your notes) [] and Seekford were established in a nearby Maryland safe house on 10 September with guards, transportation and housekeeping personnel provided by I & S. Messrs. King, [] and [] have conferred with [] and Seekford regarding operational facilities in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua and have engaged in joint planning for psychological and economic warfare.

2. Re. B II: J. C. King met in New York on 14 September with the following individuals:

Mr. Gordon B. Michler, Standard Oil Company of New Jersey
Mr. James Drumm, formerly Vice President of the National City Bank, now retired, and a partner of Abbink & Drumm, investment counselors. Mr. Drumm is also President of the Henry Clay Foundation.
Mr. Joshua B. Powers, President and owner of Joshua B. Powers, Inc. publishing and advertising firm dealing with Latin America.
Mr. Godfrey MacDonald, Vice President of the Grace Line, in charge of freight and passenger service.
Mr. Douglas M. Moffat of the law firm of Sullivan and Cromwell.

[] explained that we are in need of the best business brains in the country for planning purposes and possibly subsequent action against Guatemala in the economic field; that we wished to explore all possible covert means of embarrassing the present government by economic pressures. Certain courses of action involving [] were discussed.

[] pointed out that such measures called for policy decisions by the Boards of Directors []

3. Re B IV: [] now has two associates available in New York for consultation regarding economic measures. One of these gentlemen is [] and both are active and influential in business and industry. They will be contacted in due course for comments and recommendations.

4. Re B V: [] Chief of Station, Guatemala, has been called to Headquarters for a period of TDY consultation and is presently scheduled to arrive on 16 September. Mr. [] under []

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[] cover has also been called and should reach Headquarters by 20 September.

5. Re. B VI: [] is at present in Washington and has been briefed by CWH regarding support activities required in that area.

6. Re B IX: Regular meetings of the working group, including CWH, CPP, C-OPS-PP, and Messrs. Leddy, Berry and [] have been held for planning, coordination and progress reporting.

7. Re B XI: The Guatemalan Anti-Communist Comit  Pro-Liberacion de Guatemala operating in Mexico under [] now publishes approximately 2100 copies of its Bulletin bi-weekly. These are sent to 300 newspapers throughout the hemisphere and the remainder to a selected mailing list of individuals throughout Latin America. The RUFUS group in Honduras reproduces and directs the clandestine distribution of up to 10,000 copies of each issue. The Comit  has also prepared, published and shipped into Guatemala 30,000 copies of three anti-Communist comic books, 10,000 of each. In addition, they have introduced 60,000 assorted pamphlets, handbills and posters into the country. Over 500,000 reproductions of these items were made within the country. Future planning for the Comit  includes initiation of regular clandestine radio broadcasts beamed into Guatemala from neighboring countries. Negotiations for procurement of broadcast facilities are progressing favorably. Production of the Bulletin, comic books, posters and handbills will be increased immediately. The Comit  may also be used for overt procurement of newspaper space and radio time in countries other than Guatemala and Mexico.

8. Re. B XIII: All WH Stations have been directed to step up activity on reproduction and distribution of anti-Guatemalan propaganda. This action has been initiated in a number of areas.

9. Two basic plans for overall psychological warfare have been prepared by [] and by WH independently. These plans are now being merged and where possible production of required psych war materials has been initiated.

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