

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

DATE : 16 JULY 54

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ROUTING	
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TO : DIRECTOR
 FROM : GUATEMALA CITY
 ACTION: WH (PBS) (1-3)
 INFO : WH (4), DCI (5), D/DCI (6), DD/P (L)(7), SA/PC/DCI (8)

**CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
 RELEASE AS SANITIZED**

2003

CIAT 073 (IN 28546)

0149Z 17 JUL 54

PRIORITY
PRECEDENCE

TO: DIR

CITE: SQUAT

RYBAT PBSUCCESS INTEL

RE: DIR 08904 (OUT 61834)

MASTER

1. EVER SINCE CALLIGERIS ASSUMED PRESIDENCY OF JUNTA, THIS STATION HAS BEEN ENDEAVORING BRING ABOUT POSITIVE ACTION ON PART OF GOVT WITH RESPECT TO COMMUNISM. NOTHING DEFINITE HAS YET BEEN DONE AND CALLIGERIS FORCES ARE OPENLY EXPRESSING GRAVE DOUBTS AS TO STABILITY OF REGIME WHICH NOT FULFILLING PROMISES OF ACTION CONCERNING COMMUNISM.

DO NOT REMOVE

2. DO NOT WISH BE ALARMING BUT KNOWN COMMUNISTS OPENLY MOVING, HOLDING MEETINGS ETC WHILE GOVT AND CALLIGERIS TAKING VIEW THAT ALL IS WELL AND THAT ANY DOUBTS ARE BUT UNWARRANTED NERVOUSNESS. MEANWHILE UNCONFIRMED REPORTS INDICATE COMMUNISTS AND PRO ARBENZ ELEMENTS ARE TRAINING IN VARIOUS PARTS OF COUNTRY, ARMS WHICH IN COMMUNIST HANDS HAVE NOT BEEN COLLECTED, KNOWN ANTI COMMIES ARE FEARFUL AND SOME LEAVING COUNTRY, SITUATION DETERIORATING RATHER THAN IMPROVING. CALLIGERIS UNWILLING LISTEN TO [] OR OTHER ADVISERS AND SPENDING TIME PLAYING POLITICS.

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3. MEANWHILE NOTHING DEFINITE DONE CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MENTIONED GUAT 053 (IN 26825) AND GUAT 056 (IN 26835). EACH DAY NEW MEMBERS APPEARED NOT OF TYPE NEEDED AND WITHOUT CLEAR AUTHORITY TO ACT.

4. IN VIEW ABOVE, BANNISTER HELD CONVERSATION WITH CALLIGERIS NIGHT 15 JULY. THIS CONVERSATION WITH APPROVAL OF JMBLUG. THE FOLLOWING AGREEMENTS WERE REACHED:

A. ON 16 JULY A DECREE WILL BE ISSUED CREATING A COMMITTEE PROBABLY CALLED COMITE DE DEFENSA DE LA DEMOCRACIA AND WITH JURISDICTION OVER ENTIRE COUNTRY WHILE RESPONSIBLE ONLY TO CALLIGERIS. COMMITTEE WILL BE COMPOSED OF PRESIDENT, TWO OTHER MEMBERS AND TWO ALTERNATES. [

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B. A JUDGE WILL BE ATTACHED TO COMMITTEE WITH POWER ISSUE SEARCH AND ARREST WARRANTS FOR ANY PART OF COUNTRY.

C. A SECOND GROUP, SMALL AND MOBILE, WILL BE ASSIGNED TO WORK DIRECTLY UNDER ZPSEMANTIC AND WILL CARRY OUT ORDERS OF COMMITTEE.

D. FACILITIES FOR INTERROGATION WILL BE SET UP.

E. [

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F. CALLIGERIS PROMISED THAT GROUP WILL HAVE HIS FULL AND DECIDED SUPPORT AND ALL GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS WILL BE

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REQUIRED GIVE FULL COLLABORATION.

G. A DEFENSE OF DEMOCRACY LAW WILL BE PASSED.

5. POINT BROUGHT UP IS THAT GOVERNMENT BROKE AND WILL NEED ECONOMIC AID. BANNISTER POINTED OUT THAT DECIDED ANTI COMMUNIST ACTION ON PART OF GOVT WOULD PROBABLY ENABLE IT OBTAIN NEEDED LOANS FOR PAYING BACK SALARIES, OPERATION OF COMMITTEE ETC.

6. CALLIGERIS THEN STATED HE BEGINNING TO WORRY ABOUT COMMUNIST THREAT AND ESPECIALLY IN VIEW ALARMING INFORMATION CONCERNING PRO COMMUNIST MOVEMENT ALONG MEXICAN BORDER. GAVE INFO MENTIONED IN [] 1098 (IN 28219). SAID HE DESPERATELY NEEDS PLANES AND WANTED AID IN OBTAINING THESE.

7. RE DIR 08899 (OUT 61829): TO DATE NO FUNDS HAVE BEEN ADVANCED FOR FOLLOWING REASONS.

A. NO POSITIVE ACTION TAKEN AGAINST COMMIES BY CALLIGERIS.

B. [] AND OTHERS BEGGED THAT FUNDS BE WITHHELD UNTIL SUCH ACTION MATERIALIZED.

8. IN VIEW CALLIGERIS PROFESSED INTENTION TAKE LONG DESIRED POSITIVE ACTION, SUGGEST STATION BE AUTHORIZED ADVANCE OPERATING FUNDS NEEDED SET UP COMMITTEE AND GET IT WORKING.

9. REF DIR 08904: NO DATE AVAILABLE CONCERNING HOLDING ELECTIONS BUT CALLIGERIS APPARENTLY EXPECTS FILL OUT REMAINDER

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ARBENZ TERM.

10. STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT AS SOON AS COMMITTEE IS FUNCTIONING THAT BANNISTER BE CALLED HQS FOR OPERATIONAL DISCUSSION. BELIEVE OPERATIONAL NEEDS SHOULD BE DISCUSSED WITH HQ AUTHORITIES AND THAT WILL DEFINED POLICY LINES SHOULD BE LAID DOWN. BUDGET MATTERS SHOULD ALSO BE DISCUSSED.

END OF MESSAGE

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