

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

2003

11 August 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Leddy, Department of State

Documents have now all been made known to the Comite de Defensa Nacional Contra el Comunismo. The regime is anxious to receive favorable publicity from the release of these documents and has given a green light to overt and other exploitation of them. The Comite is a Guatemalan Government group assaying records of the Arbenz regime in order to study the methods of obviating future Communist operations. It is suggested that any releases in Washington do not stress Commie-hunting of the document research effort too much in order to avoid the gestapo label. The Comite will reveal and reward anti-Communists, and will provide a background for the fight against Communism in other countries.

We have told the Comite that the Gray booklet documents were sent to the United States 7 August for preparation for overt release. This is approved by the regime.

It is suggested that Washington releases be timed with the local press conference to be held 12 August. Washington release should be 12 August for 13 August publication. At that time documents and themes will be given local and international press. We will advise of the exact local release.

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