

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

MESSAGE CENTER

RECEIVED
DIA RDS-3B

OCT 12 1979

VZCZCHAY233
MULT
ACTION



ZYUW

78469

DIA:
DISTR

J5(02) J3:NHCC SECDEF(07) SECDEF: ASD:ISA(13) ATSD:AE(01)
ASD:PA&E(01) :DIA(20) NHIC NIDS
- CHC CC WASHINGTON DC
- CNO WASHINGTON DC
- CSA WASHINGTON DC
- CIA WASHINGTON DC
- SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
- NSA WASH DC
FILE

(044)

TRANSIT/2842145/2842252/001:07TOR2842246
DE RUESGTA #6795 2842145
ZNY
R 112121Z OCT 79
FM

TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC

~~RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC//DOB-SET//~~

RULPALJ/USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PN//SCJ2-105//
RUEAHQA/HQ USAF WASHDC//XOXXW//
BT

302 160 }
303 615 } GT, US
303 618 }

SUBJ: THIS IS IR [REDACTED] (U)
THIS IS AN INFO REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTEL

1. (U) COUNTRY: GUATEMALA (GT)
2. (U) REPORT NUMBER : [REDACTED]
3. (U) TITLE: GUATEMALAN/US MILITARY RELATIONS
4. (U) PROJECT NUMBER: --
5. (U) DATE OF INFORMATION: 791004
6. (U) DATE OF REPORT: 791010
7. (U) [REDACTED]
8. (U) [REDACTED]
9. (U) [REDACTED]
10. (U) [REDACTED]
11. (U) REQUEST EVALUATION: NO
12. (U) PREPARING OFFICIAL: [REDACTED]
13. (U) APPROVING AUTHORITY [REDACTED]
14. (U) SOURCE: [REDACTED]
15. (U) SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: DJRC-NO

223

PAGE 1



POOR QUALITY ORIGINAL 00131100
44/26

BT

PAGE 2

78469

(1)

16. SUMMARY: [REDACTED] EX PRESIDENT MAJOR GENERAL KJELL ((LAUGERUD)) EXPRESSED HIS DEEP CONCERN OVER THE COOLING OF US AND GUATEMALAN MILITARY RELATIONS WHICH HAS DEVELOPED TO A POINT THAT HE FINDS ALARMING.

22. DETAILS:

[REDACTED]

8. GENERAL LAUGERUD [REDACTED] HAS BEEN OBSERVING A BREAK DOWN IN US/GUATEMALAN MILITARY RELATIONS SINCE HE WAS MINISTER OF DEFENSE AND IN HIS OBSERVATION THE COOLING OF RELATIONS HAS DEVELOPED TO A POINT WHICH ALARMS HIM. HE RECALLED THE EXTREMELY GOOD RELATIONS WHICH HAD BEEN PREVALENT UNTIL THE EARLY OR MID-1970S AND THE GOOD COMMUNICATIONS THAT EXISTED BETWEEN GUATEMALAN MILITARY OFFICERS AND US OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO THE MILGP. HE CITED SPECIFICALLY THE "HAPPY HOUR" THAT WAS HELD EACH FRIDAY AFTERNOON AT THE MILGP AND HOW OFFICERS USED TO LOOK FORWARD TO THE OCCASION. GENERAL LAUGERUD [REDACTED] COULDN'T PIN POINT THE EXACT CAUSES FOR THE BREAKDOWN IN RELATIONS BUT ATTRIBUTED IT, AT LEAST IN PART, TO A GROWING DISTRUST AND LOSS OF CONFIDENCE IN THE US AMONG GUATEMALAN MILITARY OFFICERS. [REDACTED] A NUMBER OF US ACTIONS RELATING TO THE GUATEMALAN MILITARY OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS COULD BE AT LEAST PARTIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COOLING OF RELATIONS. [REDACTED] UNFORTUNATELY INFORMATION HAS A WAY OF FILTERING DOWN BY THE OFFICERS. HE CITED THE FOLLOWING AS CONTRIBUTING TO THE LOSS OF CONFIDENCE AND TRUST BY GUATEMALAN MILITARY OFFICERS IN THE US MILITARY:

(1) WHEN HE WAS MOD, GUATEMALA REQUESTED TO BUY 500 (FIVE HUNDRED) M-1 RIFLE BARRELS. THE REPLY WAS THAT THE US ARMY DIDN'T HAVE ANY. [REDACTED]

(2) SHORTLY AFTER GUATEMALA HAD PURCHASED A-37B AIRCRAFT FROM THE US, ONE AIRCRAFT CRASHED AND WAS DESTROYED. GUATEMALA ASKED TO BUY A REPLACEMENT AND WAS TOLD THAT THE PLANT PRODUCING THE PLANE HAD STOPPED PRODUCTION OF THE A-37B. [REDACTED] ABOUT THREE (3) WEEKS LATER, EIGHTEEN (18) A-37B AIRCRAFT BEING FERRIED TO [REDACTED] STOPPED OVER IN GUATEMALA AND GUATEMALAN AIR FORCE

PAGE 2

00101100

5

PAGE 3

78469

(GAF) OFFICERS HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO THE FERRY PILOTS. THEY WERE TOLD THAT WHEN THE FERRY PILOTS LEFT THE PLANT A FEW DAYS EARLIER, A-37BS WERE STILL COMING OFF THE ASSEMBLY LINE.

(3) GUATEMALA TRIED TO BUY M-16 RIFLES FROM THE US AND COULDN'T GET AN ANSWER UNTIL THEY FINALLY DECIDED TO BUY THE GALIL RIFLE [REDACTED] AS SOON AS THE DEAL [REDACTED] HAD BEEN FINALIZED THE US OFFERED TO SELL GUATEMALA M-16S.

(4) GUATEMALA FINALIZED A PURCHASE OF 105MM HOWITZERS FROM [REDACTED] AND WHEN THE SHIPMENT WAS READY TO BE MADE THE [REDACTED] CANCELED THE DEAL. THEY SENT A FACTORY REPRESENTATIVE TO GUATEMALA TO EXPLAIN THAT PRESSURES FROM THE GOVERNMENTS OF UK AND THE US HAD RESULTED IN [REDACTED] GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION TO STOP THE SHIPMENT.

(5) [REDACTED] THERE ARE MANY MORE SIMILAR SITUATIONS, SUCH AS THE ATTEMPT BY GUATEMALA TO PURCHASE C-47 AIRCRAFT FROM THE US EVEN TO THE POINT OF PAYING FOR THE PURCHASE ONLY TO HAVE THE US DELAY DELIVERY AND FINALLY CANCEL THE PURCHASE. C. [REDACTED] EXPRESSED TO GENERAL LAUGERUD HIS CONCERN AND INTEREST IN RESTORING THE PREVIOUSLY GOOD COMMUNICATIONS AND RELATIONS WITH GUATEMALAN MILITARY OFFICERS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] INFORMED GENERAL LAUGERUD THAT INITIATIVES TOWARD IMPROVING RELATIONS COULD NOT BE A ONE-WAY EFFORT. HE AGREED AND SAID HE INTENDED TO ADDRESS THIS ISSUE AT THE NEXT REGULAR MONDAY LUNCH MEETING WITH OFFICIALS OF THE HIGH COMMAND AND COMMANDERS. GENERAL LAUGERUD SAID HE HOPED TO BE ABLE TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO THINK IN TERMS OF WHAT THEY CAN DO TO STIMULATE BETTER COMMUNICATIONS AND IMPROVED RELATIONS.

[REDACTED] GENERAL LAUGERUD'S FORTHRIGHT EXPRESSION OF CONCERN OVER THE COOLING OF US/GUATEMALAN MILITARY RELATIONS SEEMED GENUINE. REASONS GIVEN AS POSSIBLE CAUSES FOR ATTITUDE AMONG MILITARY OFFICERS, WHILE DIFFERING IN SPECIFICS, ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE SURFACED RECENTLY [REDACTED]

REVM
BT
#6795
ANNOTES
DG 117

PAGE 3

00171100

NNNN
112252Z

44