

~~TOP SECRET~~
RYBAT/PBSUCCESS

lishing the "32" as a popular symbol of resistance to Communism, a program was outlined to the field and instructions provided for about two weeks or more of placing this symbol throughout the country in a conspicuous manner without providing any explanation whatever as to its significance. The purpose here was to create curiosity through suspense before following up with explanations. Despite the previous use of "32" it was believed that many people would not recognize its full significance in this instance.

The above silent campaign was initiated by the ESSENCE Group and all controlled publications about the second week in April. ESSENCE organized teams and sent them into all the provinces to contact the local cells or groups to start marking walls, buildings, bridges, etc. Inside Guatemala City several teams consisting mostly of university students, during the course of three night operations, covered the city with large and small "32's". Chalk, paint and crayons were used according to the object. By the second and third night the police increased their vigilance and were busy trying to eradicate the symbols as fast as they appeared. Several students were arrested during this period.

The press picked up the story almost at once and gave the campaign considerable publicity. In the provinces from San Jose to Puerto Barrios to Copan to Quezaltenango and points in between, anti-Communists took up the campaign and were marking bridges, telephone poles, signboards, private and public buildings, in general, successfully placing the symbol so that one could scarcely travel anywhere in Guatemala without seeing it. However, the police outside the Capital City acted more promptly and rigorously, arresting all persons caught in the act. Although originally the work was entirely done by organized anti-Communist elements, it was a very short time before it became a spontaneous matter with people placing "32" on their own homes and school boys painting it on their hats or jackets.

It was planned to follow up the silent campaign with various articles in "El Rebelde", explaining the significance of the symbol. The text was prepared carrying the theme that the "32" was for the Constitution, the Constitution was the nation, the nation was the people, and that unless this article of the Constitution was upheld, the people would fight. However, the articles were never printed due to the suppression of "El Rebelde", and were carried on the Voice of Liberation broadcast. The campaign proved very successful and resulted in a popular cause by anti-Communists throughout the country.

e) SOVIET SUBMARINE PLOT, WASHTUB
(See page 12, Final Report, Stage Two)

In February 1954, appropos of the report that Major Alfonso MARTINEZ Estevez, Director of DAN, had gone to Czechoslovakia to purchase arms for Guatemala, [] planted an article in "La Prensa" alleging that the arms were to be delivered by Soviet submarines. This article re-appeared in the Miami Herald newspaper and gave rise to the possibility of providing substance to this allegation. The value of such a propaganda incident would be twofold: To provide a cover story for counter-acting any charges that CASTILLO Armas was using Soviet rifles, which was the case; and to produce alarm over the danger of Soviet aggression in Central America.

In furtherance of the above a comprehensive plan of operation was prepared and forwarded to each Station concerned. Although

~~TOP SECRET~~
RYBAT/PBSUCCESS

~~TOP SECRET~~
RYBAT/PBSUCCESS

[] added a few local twists to the story, in the main the actual implementation of the plot followed very closely to LINCOLN's directive.

The following is a summation of what actually occurred:

(1) [] had stories planted in the local press about 1 April that unidentified submarines had been sighted off their respective coastlines. [] after a re-play of the above stories, obtained a statement from the 15th Naval District that no American submarines were in those waters at this particular time.

(2) [] a report from the Guardia Nacional of Nicaragua, which had been searching the coastal area for revolutionaries in connection with the recent political disturbances in Nicaragua; and that on 5 April 1954, two coastal residents had seen a periscope near a deep harbor known as Los Gigantes. The names were provided of the fishermen who also reported they had seen two periscopes two weeks previously in the same area. [] Guardia Nacional with cameras and increased the vigilance of this area.

(3) Appropos of the above release, LINCOLN provided [] with a photograph montage of a Soviet submarine at sea as if taken from off-shore. (The shore actually was [] the submarine photo was obtained from [] With this photograph re-taken through a small cheap box camera, an appropriate story was prepared explaining how the coastal patrol had sighted a submarine and photographed it in the above-mentioned area. On 28 April 1954 this story, with certain flourishes [] was published with the photograph of the submarine across the front page of the Managua official newspaper.

(4) The next step was carried out very quietly. A special arms cache was prepared by KUHOOK personnel from PBSUCCESS stocks in Nicaragua and turned over to [] for burial. When the story with the photograph of the submarine was released, SOMOZA stated he had ordered a close investigation of the entire area where this submarine had been sighted. Shortly after the secret burial of this arms cache, [] arranged to have it discovered, 5 May 1954, by workmen and brought to Managua.

(5) On 7 May 1954, SOMOZA called a press conference of the entire press and diplomatic corps. With dignity and seriousness SOMOZA displayed the arms cache to all present, explaining the chain of events which led to its discovery. The cache contained 40 Soviet rifles, 4 Soviet pistols, 2 Czech machine guns and 20 German hand grenades plus ammunition and a small quantity of Guatemalan cigarettes and candy wrappers. Everyone present appeared completely convinced including the American Ambassador who had not been cut in as of that time. The U. S. Army Attache identified the origin of the weapons. The French Minister who had served in Greece pointed out how the cache completely fitted the pattern of those in Greece. The British Ambassador was able to read the Russian markings and said he was going to send a cable to his government advising of the gravity of the situation. The final show of the arms under such formal and dignified conditions by SOMOZA, together with the careful build-up of events, served to make this otherwise fantastic tale

~~TOP SECRET~~
RYBAT/PBSUCCESS

~~TOP SECRET~~
RYBAT/PBSUCCESS

entirely palatable to most observers and reporters. Considerable publicity followed this event and the story is believed to have appeared throughout Latin America, the United States and Europe. Thus, the WASHTUB operation was judged completely successful and no security leaks or serious questioning have developed to date.

f) BLACK, CHARACTER ASSINATION, Colonel Rogelio CRUZ Wer

Although numerous false charges were leveled at various Guatemalan officials to sow discord and create divisionary activities, it was believed that a concentrated effort on one worthwhile target might have a more desirable effect. Colonel Rogelio CRUZ Wer, a vicious, cruel person, who ruled the Guardia Civil with a firm hand, was selected as the target as he was highly trusted by ARBENZ and had been overly zealous in his repression of anti-Communists. In the prevailing atmosphere of mutual distrust and among less sophisticated people like Guatemalans it was believed the following plan of operation would help break up the ARBENZ clique, divide et impera and serve to disturb the Army's placid attitude toward Communism.

KURIOT was requested to provide photostatic copies of an authentic membership card of the PGT, Guatemalan Communist Party, for the Pavel KORCHAGUIN Cell: one open-faced, one half-closed, in order to show the cover and the title. LINCOLN provided biographical data for the card.

Using available factual data and fabricating other information, LINCOLN prepared news stories of CRUZ Wer's personal life bringing in innuendos and flat statements of a derogatory nature. The stories stressed his opportunism coming from personal maladjustment and ambition which led him to accept Communism as a profitable personal venture. From this point the stories told of his maneuvering with Jaime DIAZ Rozzotto, Secretary General of RN and a well-known fellow traveler, to combine the latter's political support with his own control over the Guardia Civil, to join the Communists in order to seize the government from ARBENZ before the latter sold out to the reactionaries. The Communists were said to be capable of organizing a formidable partisan force and it was claimed this combination would be superior to the Army which was allegedly already divided.

The above news stories in various shadings, together with the photostats, were sent to []

[] The Guatemalan Station was cautioned against using the stories except in a rumor campaign abetted by the photostatic membership cards, of which 45 had been sent for this purpose. The news stories began to appear in the three countries during the first week in April 1954.

Meanwhile after ascertaining which []

cables for [] LINCOLN prepared notional cable offices on successive days between 11 and 25 April 1954. The cables were all directed to CRUZ Wer at his office and were signed by a Juan GOMEZ Alarcon, who allegedly was reporting on preparations for the shipment of arms quite obviously not intended for the Army. It was known that the Guardia Civil and the Army shared common communications channels, thus insuring that the cables would come to the attention of the Army.

~~TOP SECRET~~
14
RYDAT/PBSUCCESS