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| DISPATCH | | CLASSIFICATION SECRET | DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NO. HMMA-18949 -1850 |
| TO INFO | Chief, WH Division Chief, KUDESK/IGG Chief of Station, Guatemala City | Released under the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (44 USC 2107 Note) | |
| FROM | Chief of Station, Mexico City | DATE | 8 May 1962 NW 53217 6/20/67 |
| SUBJECT | Operational/Friction between LINLUCK, Victor Manuel GUTIERREZ, and Carlos ALVARADO Jerez | RE "43-3" - (CHECK "X" ONE) MARKED FOR INDEXING NO INDEXING REQUIRED | |
| ACTION REQUIRED | None; for information and files. | INDEXING CAN BE JUDGED BY QUALIFIED HQ. DESK ONLY | |

- REFERENCES
- A) HMMA-18861, 17 April 1962 (para 2, Comments) () (I)
 - B) MEXI 0437, 30 March 1962
 - C) MEXI 0428, 30 March 1962

SYNOPSIS

1. In a meeting 5 April between LINLUCK, Victor Manuel GUTIERREZ, and Carlos ALVARADO Jerez, LINLUCK reacted violently to (1) a summary by GUTIERREZ of a 28-page report LINLUCK had prepared which, in LINLUCK'S opinion, concentrated on "negative" security matters to the exclusion of the more important political considerations, experience, etc. concerning the ill-fated MORENO guerrilla group, and (2) GUTIERREZ' comments indicating that the PGT suspected June COBB of being the source of "leaks" and commented on LINLUCK'S lack of discretion in his relationship with her.

2. LINLUCK, during this meeting, made some ill-considered remarks (in the Station's opinion), again jumped to the defense of COBB, and verbally attacked both GUTIERREZ and ALVARADO Jerez, in effect, accusing the latter of cowardice. LINLUCK also threatened to drop out of the work he was doing in connection with arms procurement, etc., and indicated that he wanted nothing more to do with such responsibilities if he were not trusted. When the Station learned of this quarrel, LINLUCK was instructed (1) not to allow his relationship with June COBB to alienate GUTIERREZ, one of the few remaining friends he has in the PGT, under any conditions, and (2) to stop seeing COBB now that he had had ample proof of the danger she represented for him and the future of this operation, as we had told him before. LINLUCK agreed, allowed GUTIERREZ to calm him down again and get things back to an amicable relationship, and said that he would stop seeing COBB.

3. LINLUCK'S personal estimate of his position following the above-mentioned quarrel is that his position with both GUTIERREZ and with Carlos ILLESCAS has been strengthened and that the quarrel and aftermath contributed to the security of the operation. While the Station is not quite so sanguine re the strengthening and increasing of security of the operation, perhaps LINLUCK now has had impressed upon him the active danger which June COBB represents to the future of the operation due to the suspicion with which the PGT regards her. The Station has attempted innumerable times to point this hazard out to him and has instructed him to stop seeing her but to no avail until now.

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4. LINLUCK, on Station instructions, proceeded to attempt to offset the unfortunate effects of the quarrel and, apparently, has succeeded remarkably well.

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ACCOUNT OF DEVELOPMENTS

1. Victor Manuel GUTIERREZ, Carlos ALVARADO Jerez, and LINLUCK met 5 April 1962 at the home of Rafael SOLIS Barriles to discuss a resume of the report which LINLUCK had been asked by GUTIERREZ to

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prepare concerning the MORENO guerrilla expedition which had been captured in Guatemala (see Ref C). LINLUCK had prepared a 28-page report which he submitted previously to GUTIERREZ and GUTIERREZ had reduced the detailed report to a two-page summary, leaving out all political considerations and all discussion of experience and details concerned with the organization, outfitting, and dispatch of a group of guerrillas from Mexico. LINLUCK's 28-page report, a copy of which is in Station files, pictures GUTIERREZ as the one responsible for bureaucratism and lack of practicality since he did not offer cooperation to the degree requested by LINLUCK for the purchase of rifles when needed and, in addition, his refusal to allow the 13 November guerrilla group to use PGT contacts and routes for entering Guatemala clandestinely.

2. According to LINLUCK, GUTIERREZ' two-page summary concentrated, unnecessarily, on the negative security aspects which occurred; for example, during the trip to the Mexico-Guatemalan border, one of the guerrillas accidentally dropped his pistol and many passengers became aware that they were armed Guatemalans, (2) during their stay in Tuxtla Gutierrez two of this group communicated from one hotel to another with their short-wave radios, and (3) the matter of the 13 November group allowing itself to be pressured by Alfonso PRERA into rushing preparations in order to be in Guatemala on 28 February when a general Army uprising and intensive guerrilla action was expected according to PRERA's information. ALVARADO Jerez agreed with GUTIERREZ' resume.

3. The second point on the agenda at this meeting was GUTIERREZ' reference to some information which he had gathered concerning June COBB which indicated that she had been "thrown out of Cuba because of dealings with narcotics". GUTIERREZ also blamed LINLUCK for lack of discretion in taking COBB to the house of Carlos ILLESCAS on 19 March and suggested that COBB had been the source of "leaks" because of the fact that she had picked up a quantity of .38 Super pistol ammunition at LINLUCK's apartment when he was in Tuxtla Gutierrez and had taken it to her apartment for safe-keeping. ALVARADO Jerez attempted to prove by this that the whole guerrilla operation had been lacking in security because LINLUCK had placed its security in the hands of an American woman whose activities were suspicious.

4. LINLUCK rejected the above views concerning COBB which he considered as expressed "on the basis of lies and neighborhood gossip", and reminded GUTIERREZ and ALVARADO Jerez of previous rumors which had been proved false concerning COBB. He explained at length all he knew about COBB and insisted that a serious and considered opinion should be obtained from the Cuban authorities concerning her. (Note: LINLUCK of course, will insist that GUTIERREZ had already told him that he had requested a check on COBB from Cuba). LINLUCK emphasized that his only interest in her was her close relationship with Juan Jose AREVALO and pointed out that positive results already had been obtained as a result of this relationship. In answer to a question from ALVARADO Jerez, LINLUCK said, "You can be sure that if June COBB works for someone it is for us, first because of her love for Guatemala and then because of her editorial relations with AREVALO". He also explained that his sister and COBB were close friends and that his sister had introduced COBB to others in Guatemalan politics for whom COBB served as a bridge with AREVALO.

5. LINLUCK, when ALVARADO Jerez maintained his position stubbornly, "attacked with intentional violence" (his standard defense when he is under fire, as we have excellent reason to know). He pointed out that ALVARADO Jerez had never contributed anything positive but, rather, always acted as "general manager" to whom all others reported but that he

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never reported to anyone nor did he contribute to dangerous or important actions. LINLUCK took him to task for his "police-like" attitude within the PGT and indicated his (LINLUCK's) disgust with the fact that within the PGT they could still act on the basis of gossip and that selfish resentments should have such a great play at a time when in Guatemala people were being murdered by the police or falling in combat. LINLUCK also hinted that ALVARADO Jerez had never given proof himself of the integrity which he was demanding since five hours before ARBENZ' resignation in 1954, ALVARADO Jerez had recorded the magnetic tape which was to be broadcast on the radio and was making preparations for his exile while the PGT people, ignoring all this, were still fighting in the streets and exposing themselves to terrible danger". LINLUCK labelled ALVARADO Jerez' attitude as destructive and brazen and of being motivated by envy, even of his own brothers.

6. According to LINLUCK, he was aware of the effect his words were producing and he continued by saying he was tired of the systematic attitude which members of the PC leadership assumed in his case and that, since he did not enjoy absolute confidence, he did not want to continue to be in charge of anything. "While some become friendly with really suspicious people and lead lives which they cannot explain even with sacrifices, actions, persecutions, because they only see in the CP an opportunity to travel or for other personal gain, there is no desire to recognize the efforts of others to gain advantages for the CP, even at the risk of acting with seeming duplicity toward people who offer their friendship and assistance without self-interest. Besides, you should take into account the fact that my wife also is a foreigner. Why do you always have to be suspicious of North Americans and not of women of my wife's nationality? My wife is not a CP member, she is a very devout Catholic, she has only bitter memories of her stay in Guatemala, and as a result she could be the object of more resentment than anyone else, particularly with your mentality, Carlos, and, in that manner, I decline the responsibility for tasks which have been assigned me. I don't want to know anything more about them. I was a patriot before I was a Communist and, if justice and the CP are confronted, I'll be on the side of justice, because we in the CP will no longer be representing truth and justice. What is said of justice and the CP could be said of truth, of the moral and political characteristics it has but in the moment of truth one sees that perfidy and intrigue win out. I have always been a patriot, I have proved this, proof which some others have not yet shown. I will continue to be patriotic with or without the CP and leave alone those who conspire not against the enemy in power but against the comrades who really want to serve the ideals which they profess. To tell the truth, it is painful to have evidence of all this and, believe me, to be certain of so much shame imbues my soul with profound sadness." At the end of this harangue, ALVARADO Jerez at first tried to defend himself against LINLUCK's charges by saying that he had been "insulted". LINLUCK, however, would not listen to him so he decided to remain silent. GUTIERREZ, at this point, appeared disconcerted and attempted to make a conciliatory speech but LINLUCK reacted coldly and during the rest of the meeting very pointedly ignored ALVARADO Jerez.

7. The next day, 6 April, GUTIERREZ called LINLUCK and tried to be quite friendly but LINLUCK continued to act indifferent and answered GUTIERREZ with monosyllables. GUTIERREZ invited LINLUCK to an important meeting which was to take place 9 April but LINLUCK refused to attend. GUTIERREZ made another attempt to see LINLUCK on 9 April but again was repulsed coldly. The Station, on learning of this violent quarrel and the reasons for it, cautioned LINLUCK not to carry his adamant attitude any further and to accept GUTIERREZ' peace overtures. We reminded LINLUCK that GUTIERREZ was one of the few remaining friends he has

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within the PGT leadership and he could ill afford to alienate him especially when the basic point of disagreement was his relationship with June COBB... a relationship which the Station had instructed him to end as far back as November 1961 due to the fact that she was suspect by the PGT and a continuation of the relationship with her made him subject, at the very least, to suspicion of indiscreetly talking too much about PGT affairs. The Station, of course, could not tell him how much proof we had of the extent of his indiscreet conversations with COBB but we tried by every means short of the truth to warn him of the danger of continuing this relationship so far as the PGT and the Soviets were concerned. LINLUCK, after the quarrel with GUTIERREZ and ALVARADO Jerez, finally seemed to realize the damage this relationship had done already and the jeopardy to the operation which continuation of the affair represented. He agreed to end the relationship immediately and finally. This is not the first time he has agreed to stop seeing COBB, however, and we will be alert to the possibility of more pillow talk.

8. On 10 April, LINLUCK visited Carlos Humberto ILLESCAS, at ILLESCAS' request through his wife, Norma. ILLESCAS seemed quite friendly but immediately began to scold LINLUCK for his quarrel with GUTIERREZ and ALVARADO Jerez. ILLESCAS repeated LINLUCK's own words to him, "You have always said that courage is the possibility of thinking while in danger, of acting coolly in the midst of violence, but I believe that this time you became confused and behaved like a hurt child rather than like an experienced politician who knows how to handle a situation, wield irony, and render his enemies helpless..." ILLESCAS added that GUTIERREZ sincerely was hurt and that even ALVARADO Jerez was seeking reconciliation. This discussion with ILLESCAS was held in his wife Norma's presence and they both tried to convince LINLUCK that ALVARADO Jerez is "without malice and is not really bad but just foolish", and that LINLUCK should not assign to him an importance which is undeserved by threatening to abandon the important task which has been assigned to him. They pointed out that such action on his part would subject him to continuing intrigues on the part of people like ALVARADO Jerez, Jose Manuel FORTUNY, and others. ILLESCAS praised COBB's loyal attitude vis-a-vis the Guatemalans and tried by every means to reassure LINLUCK who, apparently, had been deeply hurt by ALVARADO Jerez's attitude. ILLESCAS, taking advantage of Norma's temporary absence from the room, told LINLUCK, "You should realize that no one is more important than you within the CP in connection with a whole series of future projects. The Soviets have the greatest interest in you and that is the most important thing. Out of one hundred questions they ask, eighty have to do with you and reveal the enormous interest they have in you. This is strictly between you and me, please; not a word to Victor, who knows nothing about this since they know that he is not the proper person to handle certain matters about which he has doubts... You should know that the Soviets really have two "apparats", the one involving merely formal, friendly, protocol matters between the CPSU and the PGT, but the other "apparatus", which is much more secret, is for action, for active, direct revolutionary work. This latter "apparatus" is the one with which I have been in close contact - although also with the other one - but I have not been authorized to say anything about it. I am counting on your discretion. This action "apparatus" considers you an invaluable person and that is why I want to ask you to be tactful in your dealings with ALVARADO Jerez, who, by the way, will leave soon for Guatemala. I want to ask you to be very careful in all your dealings so that the confidence which the Soviets have will increase and when the time comes for action you will have full support. I beg you to trust me, since I make it my business to demonstrate that you are a determining factor within the PGT when a struggle is involved and I have also tried to convince them about the lies and intrigues which sometimes are directed against the more worthy comrades by those

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who are without merit. . . " Later that same evening, both ILLESCAS and Norma tried to show LINLUCK that ALVARADO Jerez was not his enemy and that ALVARADO Jerez was quite upset because he felt that he had provoked LINLUCK to a point which could have unfortunate consequences for the very important work which the PGT is doing at present.

9. LINLUCK, as a result of the Station's instructions not to alienate GUTIERREZ and as a result of ILLESCAS' intercession, began to soften his position toward GUTIERREZ and ALVARADO Jerez. The next time GUTIERREZ called LINLUCK, on 11 April, LINLUCK tried to be more agreeable and told GUTIERREZ that he had a package of "Victor" cigarettes for him which Francisco AMADO had brought back from Guatemala. LINLUCK, knowing that the PGT often sends confidential messages inside these packs, had carefully opened this one and learned of the small message which warned GUTIERREZ about one "Sagastume", from Chiquimula, a poet who apparently had revolutionary beliefs who was arriving in Mexico. The note warned GUTIERREZ that this fellow was employed by the Dirección Investigaciones Especiales (DI. E.), YDIGORAS' police. The other part of the note said that a letter addressed to Carlos SOLLIZ, Aparatos Ortopedicos, Medellin #112, was about to arrive. (Note: "Aparatos Ortopedicos" is the place where Rafael SOLIS Barrios works). LINLUCK carefully resealed the pack of cigarettes with the note inside before turning it over to GUTIERREZ when GUTIERREZ arrived at LINLUCK's apartment that same morning.

10. LINLUCK, at this meeting with GUTIERREZ, again brought up the COBB issue by showing GUTIERREZ some documents of COBB's concerning relations with important Cubans just before she left Cuba and proving to GUTIERREZ how some information which he (GUTIERREZ) had obtained from Marta TORRES was discredited when she, herself, offered a written retraction. This discussion of COBB provided a basis for discussing LINLUCK's attitude at the 5 April meeting. LINLUCK used this opportunity to say, "I am not so much concerned with ALVARADO Jerez's attitude as with yours. You, whom I have always respected for your moral qualities, want to deal with me in the same shameful manner which you told me was accorded you in Guatemala by Alfredo GUERRA Borges and Jose Alberto CARDOZA". GUTIERREZ did not agree with this and attempted to explain to LINLUCK that he raised the issue due to the fact that ALVARADO Jerez insisted on the security aspect and that he (ALVARADO Jerez) was a person loaded down with resentment. GUTIERREZ said that he desired the matter discussed openly but that, unfortunately, LINLUCK became violent and refused to accept ALVARADO Jerez' explanations. LINLUCK then repeated his accusation that GUTIERREZ was trying to diminish the PGT's responsibility toward the guerrilla group and trying to shove all the blame for their failure on him (LINLUCK). GUTIERREZ explained to LINLUCK that his position was free of ill-will and stated that "under no circumstances would that 5 April discussion be forwarded to Guatemala and that no conclusions had been reached". GUTIERREZ insisted that none of them (ALVARADO Jerez, ILLESCAS, or he himself) mistrusted LINLUCK and that, on the contrary, they thought highly of his work. He continued that LINLUCK should understand that he was only trying to halt the disloyal attitude he had noted on ALVARADO Jerez' part since ALVARADO Jerez seemed to "have become tangled in his own lines and wanted to explain his attitude fully to those in charge of the PGT in Mexico". GUTIERREZ agreed with LINLUCK that it is possible that what is bothering ALVARADO Jerez is that he wants to feel superior to everyone because he is an alternate member of the Central Committee of the PGT. GUTIERREZ said that ALVARADO Jerez now considers his own position as negative in view of the importance of the present tasks. GUTIERREZ asked for assurance that LINLUCK would not abandon the work he was doing. He also asked for more explanations as to just how and

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when COBB received the ammunition which she took from LINLUCK's apartment to her own. He seemed satisfied when he was given the details of his matter and LINLUCK took advantage of the opportunity to throw in the little dig, "Why didn't you or ALVARADO Jerez come for that ammo? None of you can be found because of all the mystery you shroud yourselves in, and the people who help are always subject to criticism". According to LINLUCK, he realized that GUTIERREZ was trying to assuage his anger and allowed himself to be convinced that there was no lack of trust, etc., and that the important thing to be considered was the work being done by him. As soon as GUTIERREZ left, LINLUCK tried through Norma ILLESCAS to get in touch with ALVARADO Jerez in order to reach an understanding with him on the grounds that they both realize that the CP interests are above everything else. He did not succeed in contacting ALVARADO Jerez at this time.

11. LINLUCK's estimate of his own position following his quarrel with ALVARADO Jerez and GUTIERREZ is that his personal position seems to improve within the CP in spite of the fact that his enemies are active in every way possible to weaken his position. LINLUCK feels that now GUTIERREZ thinks, because he went along with ALVARADO Jerez, he may lose the close relationship with LINLUCK, sacrificing for a somewhat mediocre comrade, the work and friendship of LINLUCK or, even worse, provoking him into a break with the PGT which would be an enormous responsibility for GUTIERREZ in a situation where all the moral reasons support LINLUCK and there are many reasons which reflect against the PGT and against GUTIERREZ in particular. LINLUCK also considers that his position with ILLESCAS and the Soviets has been strengthened. He points out, also, that the Cubans have asked for a Guatemalan to travel to Cuba to take charge of the military matters concerned with activities in Guatemala and that Osmia FERNANDEZ Concepcion told him his name was among the ones recommended for this job. LINLUCK tends to dismiss as unimportant the machinations of ALVARADO Jerez and believes that ALVARADO Jerez was frightened by LINLUCK's violent reaction to the charges of indiscretion, etc. LINLUCK considers that he has demonstrated his sincerity and his dedication to the tasks imposed on him and that his violent reaction placed both ALVARADO Jerez and GUTIERREZ very definitely on the defensive and contributed to the security of the operation.

12. The Station warned LINLUCK against allowing his personal feelings to jeopardize the operation and told him to patch up his differences with both GUTIERREZ and with ALVARADO Jerez. He agreed and (at a meeting held in his apartment 18 April for the purpose of discussing a political report on the present Guatemalan situation sent by the PGT leadership in Guatemala) made a concerted effort to be courteous to ALVARADO Jerez. A few days later GUTIERREZ and Carlos ILLESCAS, who were the other participants at the 18 April meeting, both commented with satisfaction on the attitude LINLUCK had assumed toward ALVARADO Jerez. They both told LINLUCK that they had been worried by his violent attitude which had made quite an impression on ALVARADO Jerez, who had stated his unhappiness at having "unjustly hurt" LINLUCK and how pleased he was that LINLUCK's attitude toward him had changed "for the good of the CP". LINLUCK commented in his report of this meeting that he took pains to prevent ALVARADO Jerez' resentment from deepening the differences between the two of them. It should be noted that Carlos ILLESCAS later told LINLUCK, "I was really worried, because I couldn't understand your assuming such a radical attitude toward your work due to ALVARADO Jerez' provocation, at a time when there is so much to do and so much activity is open to you. I will tell you again that of all the PGT people you are the one who interests the Soviets the most, every time they see me they ask me about you, what you are like, your behavior, your leanings and opinions..." LINLUCK took all of this as a sincere compliment as, no doubt, ILLESCAS intended it to be but we cannot overlook

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the possibility that the interest of the Soviets may extend deeper and be concerned with a thorough security check of LINLUCK before deciding to use him in anything sensitive. LINLUCK reported that he had the distinct impression that GUTIERREZ organized this 18 April meeting to "force" LINLUCK to continue to attend the meetings of the four "leaders" in Mexico and to prove to him that none of the other three, (GUTIERREZ, ILLESCAS, or ALVARADO Jerez) had any bad feelings toward him as a result of the violent discussion above.

13. Later, at a meeting between GUTIERREZ and LINLUCK on 21 April, GUTIERREZ gave LINLUCK some paternal advice concerning the internal struggles within the leadership of the PGT and stated his interest in seeing LINLUCK "through his own actions and responsibilities regain his position within the PGT leadership". GUTIERREZ then referred to the disagreement with ALVARADO Jerez and criticized as "not good" the statements made by LINLUCK to the effect that he could practice his patriotism even without the CP. GUTIERREZ said that it is better to continue to struggle for unity within the PGT without paying attention to those who intrigue. He added that he was alarmed by LINLUCK's attitude re practicing patriotism outside the PGT "since that would be a tremendous blow to the PGT's existence". LINLUCK soothed GUTIERREZ's concern and promised to behave himself and work on the tasks assigned him as long as the PGT had full trust in him. GUTIERREZ said that they had full trust in him and said that was why he had emphasized in the report at the previous meeting "the congratulations which Bernardo ALVARADO Menzon expressed to LINLUCK due to the magnificent work in the organization of the guerrilla group, the risks you face, and important contributions made". LINLUCK then discussed his military work with GUTIERREZ and asked GUTIERREZ categorically to "again consult the PGT leadership about his (LINLUCK's) returning to Guatemala to contribute with his efforts and experience to the military effort". GUTIERREZ was pleased but they agreed that the extensive work assigned LINLUCK in Mexico took precedence at this time but that the PGT leadership would be asked to consider LINLUCK's request when they thought his return would be "opportune and determining".

COMMENTS

1. The Station considers this quarrel as an unfortunate outgrowth of LINLUCK's stubborn refusal to recognize - up to this point - the danger June COBB represents for him and for the future of the operation. He has been instructed by the Station numerous times to stop seeing COBB and we have pointed out to him what should have been evidence enough to convince a man of his intelligence that she is dangerous for him. However, due to his strong belief that she is a direct and valuable link with Juan Jose AREVALO and, for that reason, should be cultivated assiduously, he repeatedly ignored our instructions even while agreeing verbally to our insistence that she represented a serious danger to him so far as the PGT was concerned. Even when GUTIERREZ, shortly after his arrival from

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still has not admitted to GUTIERREZ the justice of his concern over the LINLUCK-CORB liaison as the possible source of "indiscretions" on LINLUCK's part, he has succeeded, apparently, in reestablishing his good relations with GUTIERREZ following the abovementioned quarrel.

2. While, as stated above, the Station is not quite as sanguine as LINLUCK concerning the "strengthening of the security of the operation" through the manner in which he handled the situation, LINLUCK, apparently, has succeeded in smoothing the ruffled feathers to a remarkable degree. As Headquarters is aware, LINLUCK is a strong believer in the policy of attack as the best defense and the weaker his position the more violent his attack. Fortunately, in this case, there are some indications that the relative positions of GUTIERREZ and ALVARADO Jerez re support of the captured guerrilla group were lacking in the decisive qualities needed to enhance the chances of success of this group by ordering the full support of PGT assets during the border crossing and the trip to the mountains of Guatemala. While, in the Station's opinion, the probably personal feelings of vulnerability by GUTIERREZ and ALVARADO Jerez on this point may have aided LINLUCK's cause at this time, his violent, highly emotional rejection of the valid comments concerning his lack of discretion with CORB plus his implied charge of cowardice against ALVARADO Jerez (even if true) certainly can do nothing to strengthen the security of the operation in the long run. While ALVARADO Jerez, according to LINLUCK, has never been one of his friends, GUTIERREZ is one of the few remaining leaders of the PGT who can be considered so... and LINLUCK cannot afford to alienate him. LINLUCK is acutely aware of his need to retain GUTIERREZ' friendship and has made a concerted and apparently successful effort to smooth over the effects of the disagreement.

Willard C. Curtis
Willard C. CURTIS

4 May 1962

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