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MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

October 14, 1968

FROM: Ambassador Charles W. Adair, Jr.

SUBJECT: Arias Political Activities in the Canal Zone

1. I informed Assistant Secretary Oliver (and/or Vaky and Sanders) by phone at Operations Center in the State Dept. about the following activities:
2. Arias' manifesto calling the public into the streets to fight for the overthrow of the GN installed provisional government. The manifesto was evidently distributed by hand. We have no evidence yet of its having been voiced over the clandestine radio, although we presume it was taped by Arias.
3. Meeting of a large number of the National Assembly in the Zone, at which time it is reported they issued a National Assembly resolution.
4. A plan, reported to me by Randy Perry of ITT, to install a radio transmitter in the Zone. Perry said he had been told by Arias and Nicosia that Geneen of ITT had promised to send urgently a radio transmitter to the Canal Zone. Arias planned to set up the transmitter, to be known as Radio Soberana, in a building in the Canal Zone, which the Canal Zone Government had promised to make available for the purpose. Perry was being urged to expedite the shipment of the transmitter.
5. After checking with Governor Leber, through Col. Hartline, I told Perry the Canal Zone had not and would not make a building available for an Arias radio transmitter nor would such a transmitter be permitted to be installed or to operate in the Canal Zone. Perry said he would tell his people in New York to stall on grounds of non-availability of equipment.
6. Subsequently, Secretary Oliver phoned back to state that Secretary Rusk had instructed him to insist to Arias that he cease and desist from political activity while in the Canal Zone. He cannot attempt to run the GOP from the Canal Zone.

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