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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : L. V. Boardman

DATE: 12/7/55

FROM : A. H. Belmont

CC: Mr. Botter
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Boardman

SECRET

- Tolson _____
- Boardman _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Harbo _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Sizoo _____
- Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

SUBJECT:

~~ALLEGED REVOLUTIONS IN COSTA RICA AND NICARAGUA~~
~~FOREIGN POLITICAL MATTERS - COSTA RICA AND NICARAGUA~~

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For review at FBIHQ by
HSCA re 1-10-76 request.
(See Bufile #52-117290)

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On 12/2/55 the following information received from [WF 232S], security informant of WFO:

Informant advised that 11/30/55 issue of Costa Rican newspaper quoted from "Latin-American Report" of 11/15/55 prepared by one William Gaudet which predicted revolution in Costa Rica within 60 days and further that Nicaraguan authorities expect invasion of that country on 12/7/55. Source advised Gaudet, who resides and works in New Orleans, has had remarkably accurate information in past. Source also furnished copy of report prepared by Costa Rican Ambassador to United States dated 12/2/55 concerning alleged preparations in Venezuela for invasion of Costa Rica. This report alleged that Jorge Maldonado, Venezuelan Consul, Los Angeles, acts as liaison man between Venezuela and Costa Rica and other nationals in Los Angeles; that head of rumored preparations in Los Angeles is Fernando Flores-Banuet, former Costa Rican Consul General in Los Angeles.

In past several weeks numerous reports received from other agencies re imminent revolutions in both Costa Rica and Nicaragua. CIA Information Report 11/2/55 reported that 4 individuals, including Maldonado, were involved in plans against present Costa Rican Government. From CIA report it appeared these individuals have been meeting in U.S. However, this fact not specifically established and CIA was requested to furnish further details by Bulet 11/21/55. At same time, LA instructed to institute investigation to determine if subjects now in US and, if so, whether their activities were within purview of Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938. By Buairtel 12/6/55 LA authorized to interview Lawrence Dewey Lee, Jr., who may be CIA's source and who has in past been associated with Costa Rican ~~oppositionist~~ elements.

Bufiles contain no subversive references identifiable with Maldonado, Fernando Flores-Banuet, or other individuals mentioned in CIA report of 11/2/55.

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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BOARDMAN

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RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Attached for your approval are letters to AAG Tompkins and to the State Department, cc CIA, ONI, OSI, G-2 and Customs, enclosing a memorandum summarizing pertinent information received from ~~WF~~ [232]S [C]

2. Also attached hereto is an airtel to Los Angeles, New Orleans and WFO. LA, which is cognizant of information furnished by ~~WF~~ [232]S [C] is being instructed to extend prior investigation involving Maldonado and others to include Flores-Banuet. WFO is being instructed to maintain close contact with its source. A lead is not being set out to have New Orleans interview William Gaudet since the information reportedly contained in his "Latin-American Report" is of a general intelligence nature and does not involve any violations within Bureau's jurisdiction. It is noted that Bufiles reflect that Gaudet was formerly head of the International News Service Office in New Orleans and was employed during World War II with the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs in Central America. (S)(u)

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Handwritten signature

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