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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE IN FULL

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22 January 1954

TO: CHIEF, WH

FROM: SEEKFORD

SUBJECT: Letter from CALLIGERIS to "Supreme Jefe of Group", i.e., Director.

1. CALLIGERIS has asked SEEKFORD to transmit the attached letter to the "Top" Commander of Group. As per request, SEEKFORD asks that letter be brought to the attention of Director.

/s/ J.R.S.

Regucigalpa, D.C. 21 de enero de 1954.

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Senor Jefe
de los amigos de "EL GRUPO".

~~RYBAT~~

Distinguido amigo:

Aunque en otras ocasiones he deseado dirigirme a Ud. para exponerle nuestros problemas, me habia abstenido de hacerla para no quebrantar las normas establecidas por la organizacion.- Sin embargo, ahora la enorme responsabilidad que tengo ante Uds. por resultado de nuestros planes, ante mi pueblo entero y especialmente ante las numerosas personas que han venido colaborando lealmente con nosotros durante largos anos de lucha, me hace presentarle directamente una breve exposicion de mis puntos de vista frente a la situacion que confrontamos, así:

- 1.- Es imposible continuar en el plan de espera en que hemos venido durante ano y medio por mas tiempo del estrictamente necesario.-Yno es precisamente por las innumeraras dificultades que trae consigo mantener nuestra organizacion en secreto y al mismo tiempo en capacidad para actuar, sino porque a nadie de nuestros amigos que componen esa organizacion podria yo convencer de que no soy farsante despues de que termine este verano sin que hayamos podido hacer nada.-Decir otra cosa seriaa ponernos al margen de la verdad.-
- 2.- Estimo que ha habido una apreciacion general de la situacion fuera de la realidad.-Algunos factores propios y del enemigo se han super estimado, y por el contrario, otros han sido menospreciados.-Entre los primeros puedo citar el plan de propaganda y el quipo y capacidad de combate del enemigo.-
- 3.- Por la trascendental importancia que tendra, considero que las conferencias que dentro de pocos dias vamos a celebrar se realicen en el mas alto nivel posible, a fin de hacer una revision provechosa de la actuado y concretar los pasos que deben darse para el desarrollo de la fase final de nuestros planes, dentro del plazo mas corto que sea factible.-
- 4.- No pueden pasar inadvertidos en estos breves comentarios los sufrimientos de toda indole que han venido padeciendo nuestras genetes, los cuales han soportado con estoicismo por la seguridad que han abrigado de que nosotros estamos proximos a devolverles la libertad perdida, pero no es posible esperar que tal estado de animo continúe indefinidamente, ante la cruda realidad de la desastrosa situacion que viven, sin que nosotros podamos ayudarles en nada.-200 hombres fueron movilizadoss hace diez meses, abandonando hijos, esposas y hogares porque tuvieron fe en nosotros, en el valor de nuestra plabra empenada; todos ellos aumentaron sus penas con esta situacion por la perdida de tiempo, por la mayor vigilancia de que fueron objeto los que regresaron, y por la desorganizacion familiar de los que prefirieron quedarse.-En ambos casos ha sido indispensable ayudarlos economicamente para no dejarlos perecer moral y fisicamente.-
- 5.- No obstante que presupuestos han sido elaborados dentro de la mayor economia posible y aprobados oportunamente, se ha venido propezando siempre con demoras de graves consecuencias, pues la comida y atencion de la gente y ejecucion de una infidad de trabajos, resultan inaplazables.-Dentro de nuestros mas firmes propositos esta el de la devolucion de todos los fondos y gastos que ahora se nos proporcionen.- Pues es obvio que una empresa de tan enormes proporciones como la que estamos llevando a cabo, no puede realizarse si no es a base de una fuerte inversion economica.-

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6.- Tengo fe, y como you todos los guatemaltecos, que esta vez nuestros planes no van a sufrir otro atraso.-Pues, por las experiencias obtenidas en las dos veces anteriores, considero que un tercer aplazamiento seria de irreparables consecuencias, tanto mas ahora que ya hemos trasladado un nucleo de nuestros hombres hasta Nicaragua, admas de los que tenemos en El Salvador y Honduras.-

Como no es posible discutir en todas sus partes estos aspectos y muchos otros mas que no fueron ni siquiera mencionados en esta ocasion, espero llevar conmigo cuanta documentacion sea necesaria, con el deseo de exponer con absoluta franqueza, y dentro de la sinceridad y honrades conque siempre hemos procedido, cuanto sea necesario para que por ningun motivo se pueda posponer mas el mas grande dia de mi vida: LA LIBERACION DE MI PATRIA, y con ella la extirpacion del cancer comunista de este Continente.-

CCA/

Signed: RUFUS

~~SECRET~~ RYBAT

Tegucigalpa, D.C., 21 January 1954

Translation

Director of the friends of "The Group."

Distinguished Friend:

Although on other occasions I have desired to direct myself to you in order to explain our problems, I have abstained from doing it in order not to hinder the established standards of the organization. However, now the enormous responsibility that I, as a result of our plans, have before you, before our entire nation, and especially before the many people who have been loyally collaborating with us during the many years of our struggle, forces me to present directly a brief statement of my points of view regarding the situation we confront, as follows:

- for any longer than is absolutely necessary
1. It is impossible to continue/in that plan of waiting which we have been following for the last year and a half. And it is not precisely because of the innumerable difficulties which I have personally carried in order to maintain our organization in secret and at the same time in a capacity to act, but rather because I could not convince any of our friends who compose the organization that I am not a pretender if after the end of this summer I had not been able to accomplish anything. To say anything else would exceed the margin of truth.
 2. I judge that there has been a re-evaluation of the situation in addition to the reality. Some factors apropos of our situation and of the enemy have been overly estimated, and on the other hand, others have been under-appreciated. Among the first I can cite the enemy's propaganda plan and its equipment and capacity for combat.
 3. Because of the transcendental importance of a general estimate of the situation, I consider that the conferences in which we shall take part within a few days will realize on the highest possible level a valuable revision of the actual and concrete steps that must be taken in order to develop the final phase of our plans within a shorter time than is feasible.
 4. In these brief comments the sufferings of every kind which our people have been enduring cannot pass unnoticed. These things have been endured stoicly through the secure knowledge which they have nutured that we are close to returning to them their lost liberty, but it is impossible to expect that such a state of mind will continue indefinitely in the face of the crude reality of the disastrous situation in which they live, without our being able to help them in any way. Two hundred men were mobilized ten months ago, abandoning children, wives, and homes because they had faith in us, in the value of our pledged word; all of them have seen their sufferings increased with the loss of time, with the greater vigilance imposed on those who returned, and with the disruption of the families of those who preferred to remain/ ^{with us} in both cases it has been indispensable to aid them economically in order to prevent them from suffering physically as well as morale-wise.

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5. Although the expenses have been drawn up with the greatest possible economy and promptly approved, they have always been followed up with delays of grave consequences for the food of the people and the execution of an infinity of tasks have had unfortunate results. One of our most firm intentions is the return of all of the funds and expenditures that we now have. For it is obvious that an enterprise of the enormous proportions as that which we are carrying out cannot be realized if it does not have a strong economic base.

6. I have faith, as do all of the Guatemalans, that this time our plans are not going to suffer another failure. Thus, through the experiences obtained in the previous two occasions, I consider that a third failure would have irreparable consequences, even more so now that I have transferred a nucleus of our men to Nicaragua, in addition to those we have in El Salvador and Honduras.

As it is not possible to discuss these aspects in their entirety and many others that were not even mentioned on this occasion, I hope to take with me as much documentation as may be necessary for the purpose of explaining with absolute frankness and the spirit of sincerity and honor with which we have always proceeded how necessary it is that that great day of my life, the liberation of my country and with it the extirpation of the Communist cancer in this continent, not be postponed for any reason.

/s/ RUFUS