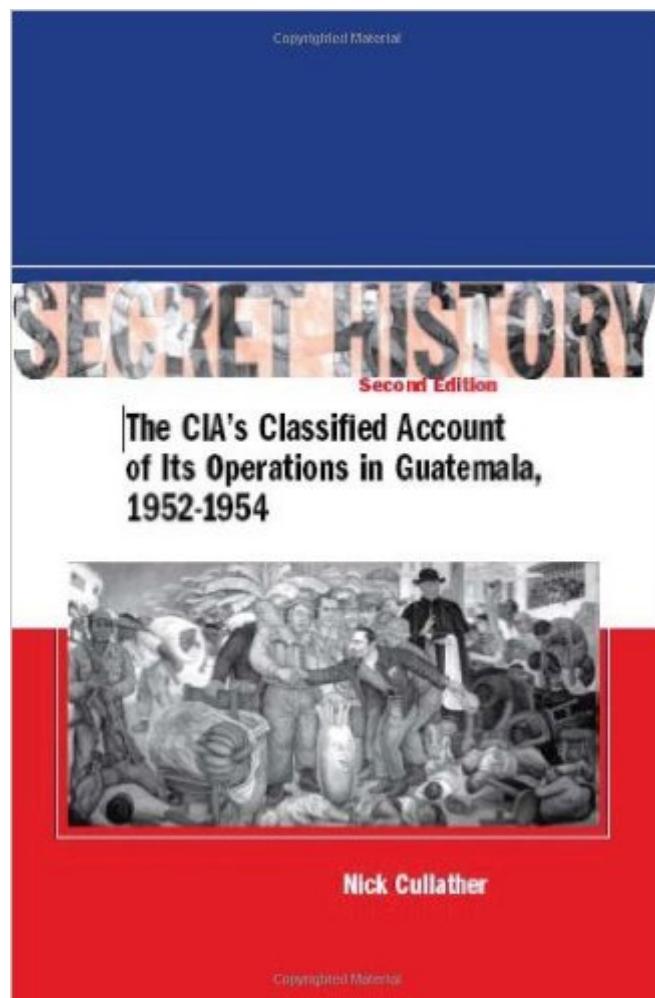


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# Secret History: The CIA's Classified Account Of Its Operations In Guatemala 1952-1954



## **Synopsis**

The first edition of this book, published in 1999, was well-received, but interest in it has surged in recent years. It chronicles an early example of "regime change" that was based on a flawed interpretation of intelligence and proclaimed a success even as its mistakes were becoming clear. Since 1999, a number of documents relating to the CIA's activities in Guatemala have been declassified, and a truth and reconciliation process has unearthed other reports, speeches, and writings that shed more light on the role of the United States. For this edition, the author has selected and annotated twenty-one documents for a new documentary Appendix, including President Clinton's apology to the people of Guatemala.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This is the reprint, Stanford also produced the original version, *Secret History: The CIA's Classified Account of Its Operations in Guatemala, 1952-1954*. I bought that one used and not only loved the speed of delivery, but the notes from the previous owner. My next review will cover *The CIA in Iran: The 1953 Coup and the Origins of the US-Iran Trade*. The two "successes" would both be condemned by history, but more pointedly, led to the CIA misadventures in Cuba, Chile, the Philippines, Viet-Nam, and so on. There is a great deal in this book that I was not aware of, and that is with 294 reviews tagged *Intelligence (Government/Secret)* at Phi Beta Iota the Public Intelligence Blog, all leading back to their page. In a nutshell, PBSUCCESS was a stunningly inept widely known endeavor penetrated across multiple points by the Guatemalan government, which succeeded only

because the Army lost its nerve and deposed their own elected President. Especially new to me were the US Navy blockage of the Guatemalan ports (one on each coast), and the failure of CIA-trained "saboteurs" to derail the shipment of arms from the port to the capital city that the President was able to procure despite a global US embargo on arms for Guatemala. This is a book I really appreciate and strongly recommend to anyone who wants to understand the nuts and bolts of "covert action" in close association with the idiocy and lack of ethics in the US Government then (and now).

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