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Program Office

July 10, 1969

Foster Knight, Chief, PAD

Monthly Progress Report (Customs - June 1969)

1. Customs collections for the month of May, 1969 at 04,479,597 were 0808,463 over those for the month of May, 1968. The increase was mainly attributable to a sustained rise in coffee exports and to the 30% surcharge on duties levied on commodities originating outside the Central American area.
2. Shipments of Loan-Financed Commodities. The last two orders of loan-financed commodities comprising 8 Mosler safes and 6 MAMCO forklifts have arrived in the port of Santo Tomás and should be sent to Guatemala City in the next few days.
3. Plans for the New Buildings at Santo Tomás de Castilla (Matias de Silver) and Champerico. The Mission approved the plans for the construction of the customs building at Champerico and so advised the Ministry of Finance on June 20, 1969. Plans for the building at Santo Tomás had been earlier approved and the Ministry notified. Before publishing an Invitation for Bids, the Ministry has to have copies of these plans in hand to give out to bidders as the basis for submission of offers. The Directorate of Public Works furnished copies of the Champerico plans to the Ministry last week, but copies of the Santo Tomás plans have not been delivered. (The Consulting Engineers office is making them).
4. Construction of New Buildings at Valle Nuevo and El Carmen. The customs stations at Valle Nuevo and El Carmen are nearing completion although construction has been delayed due to unforeseen terrain conditions and labor problems. The Ministry of Public Works has given the Contractor a 30-day extension to finish the work. Completion date should be sometime in August.

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