

8 February 1972

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sub
GE

RNR 147
ALTMANN

LA PAZ, F BOLIVIA, FEB. 8, REUTER-GERMAN-BORN BUSINESSMAN
ALTMANN HAS BEEN SUMMONED TO APPEAR BEFORE A TRIBUNAL CHECKING FRENCH
ALLEGATIONS THAT HE IS REALLY THE WANTED NAZI WAR CRIMINAL KLAUS
BARBIE, JUDICIAL SOURCES SAID HERE TODAY.

THE OFFICIAL SUMMONS WAS HANDED TO THE 56-YEAR-OLD ALTMANN WEDNESDAY
AS HE WALKED ACROSS A SQUARE IN LA PAZ ACCOMPANIED BY A BODYGUARD.

IT CALLS ON HIM TO APPEAR AT AN EARLY DATE, STILL TO BE FIXED,
BEFORE THE LA PAZ DISTRICT SUPERIOR COURT -- THE TRIBUNAL APPOINTED
BY THE BOLIVIAN JUSTICE MINISTRY TO CONSIDER A FRENCH GOVERNMENT
REQUEST FOR ALTMANN'S EXTRADITION.

THE ALTMANN-BARBIE CASE HAS BEEN HANGING FIRE SINCE LAST MAY,
WHEN A BRAZILIAN NEWSPAPER QUOTED ALTMANN AS ADMITTING
IN A SERIES OF INTERVIEWS THAT HE WAS BARBIE, BUT DENYING THAT
HE TOOK PART IN WAR CRIMES IN FRANCE.

ALTMANN, WHO ARRIVED IN BOLIVIA ABOUT 20 YEARS AGO, IS NOW
A BOLIVIAN CITIZEN AND RUNS AN IMPORT-EXPORT BUSINESS.

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAS PRESENTED THE BOLIVIAN JUDICIARY
WITH DOCUMENTS IT CONTENDS PROVE BEYOND DOUBT ALTMANN IS REALLY
BARBIE, KNOWN AS THE "BUTCHER OF LYONS" FROM THE TIME HE WAS
GESTAPO CHIEF THERE, AND CONDEMNED TO DEATH IN ABSENTIA FOR
THE MURDER OF FRENCH RESISTANCE FIGHTERS INCLUDING MAQUIS
HERO JEAN MOULIN.

REUTER JW/JK 1822

sub- Altman

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SERIES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2000 2000

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