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DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM

MFG. 1-72

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USCINCSO FOR POLAD
SUBJ: ALTMANN/BARBIE
REF: LA PAZ 1268 (NOTAL)

1. IN CONVERSATIONS OCTOBER 6 WITH EMBOFFS MININTERIOR SUB-SECRETARY FOR JUSTICE ANGEL BALDIVIESO STATED THAT ALTMANN CASE WAS PRESENTLY IN HANDS OF THE LA PAZ DEPARTMENT SUPERIOR COURT FOR COURT DETERMINATION ON IDENTIFICATION OF ALTMANN/BARBIE. BALDIVIESO SAID THAT ALTHOUGH "EVERYONE KNEW THAT ALTMANN WAS BARBIE", FOR LEGAL PURPOSES A COURT DETERMINATION OF IDENTITY HAD TO BE MADE BEFORE PRESENTATION OF AN EXTRADITION CASE TO THE BOLIVIAN SUPREME COURT. BALDIVIESO, WHOSE MINISTRY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COURT SYSTEM, OPINED THAT A FINAL DECISION IN THE CASE WOULD NOT BE RENDERED FOR AT LEAST "ONE TO ONE AND HALF YEARS".

2. ON THE LIKELY OUTCOME
HE OF THE COURT DECISION BALDIVIESO STATED THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO LEGALLY EXTRADITE ALTMANN/BARBIE AS THERE IS NO EXTRADITION TREATY BETWEEN FRANCE AND BOLIVIA, AND THE CRIME FOR WHICH BARBIE IS CHARGED IS PRESCRIBED UNDER THE STATUE OF LIMITATIONS. HE SAID THE LIKELY SOLUTION TO THE CASE WOULD BE FOR A TOP LEVEL SECRET AGREEMENT BETWEEN BOLIVIA AND FRANCE UNDER WHICH ALTMANN/BARBIE WOULD VOLUNTARILY LEAVE BOLIVIA AND PRESENT HIMSELF TO THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT TO CLEAR HIS NAME AND ANSWER

FOR COORDINATION WITH State

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201-ALTMANN

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CHARGES AGAINST HIM.

3. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE REQUEST, AS RECENTLY REPORTED IN LOCAL PRESS, BY THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT FOR THE EXTRADITION OF ALTMANN TO GIVE TESTIMONY IN A CASE INVOLVING A NATURALIZED PERUVIAN OF GERMAN EXTRACTION CHARGED WITH ILLEGAL FINANCIAL UNDERTAKINGS, BALDIVIESO SAID THAT HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY SUCH OFFICIAL REQUEST. SIRACUSA

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