

WT. 23 APR 73

B O L I V I A

G 1

KLAUS BARBIE INTERVIEWED BY BRAZILIAN PAPER

Paris AFP in English 0220 GMT 23 Apr 73 C--FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 22 April (AFP)--Klaus Altmann, accused by French authorities of being a wartime German Gestapo chief, Klaus Barbie, said he would do it all over again 1,000 times if he had the chance.

In a copyrighted interview appearing today in the newspaper O GLOBO, Barbie, now in prison in La Paz pending France's extradition request, admitted he had tens of thousands of French deported or shot between 1940 and 1945 and said that was normal for wartime.

Barbie, who looked on Hitler as a genius, was quoted as saying he was proud to have commanded a group of supermen and added, I am a soldier, a member of the SS (elite military security troops), and I was trained [word indistinct].

An SS man is a sort of superman.... A fighter who has had four generations of blood analysed in order to be (a member) of this unit.

Do you think anyone can be an SS man? I studied law, [words indistinct] he told O GLOBO.

Barbie explained: In a war everyone kills. There are no good or evil men. I am a determined Nazi... I would do it all over again 1,000 times--for Germany or for Bolivia.

Barbie denied direct participation in the extermination of 6,000,000 Jews and said, I had nothing to do with the concentration camps or the gas chambers.

I commanded a special corps trained to wipe out resistance fighters. You can't compare me to a Bormann or a Mengele, (leaders of the Jewish extermination programme), he said.

Barbie (told) O GLOBO he was sure Bolivia would not extradite him to France and that he expected to end his days peacefully in Bolivia.

But he added that making money and living in peace are not adequate goals for him.

701-ALTIMAN

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2000 2006

1072

23 apr 73

W