

~~SECRET~~

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Intelligence Information Cable

PRIORITY
SMITH
BATOR
BANK
LOWMAN
136

COUNTRY BOLIVIA

DISTR: 8 OCTOBER 1964

SUBJECT

AWARENESS OF PRESIDENT VICTOR PAZ OF PLOTTING BY VICE-PRESIDENT BARRIENTOS

EO 12958
3.4(b)(1)-25Yrs
(C)

SAUNDERS
REF

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)-25Yrs (C)

1.

CIRO HUMBOLDT BARRERO, THE

MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT, SAID THAT HERE HAS BEEN A COMPLETE BREAK BETWEEN PRESIDENT VICTOR PAZ ESTENSSORO AND VICE-PRESIDENT RENE BARRIENTOS ORTUNO AND THAT SOONER OR LATER BARRIENTOS WOULD ATTEMPT TO TAKE OVER THE PRESIDENCY BY MEANS OF A COUP D'ETAT OR ANOTHER METHOD. BARRIENTOS ALSO WAS IMPLICATED IN PAST PLOTTING AGAINST PAZ.

BY PAST PLOTTING HUMBOLDT IS BELIEVED TO REFER TO THE HUNGER STRIKE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT DURING THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS ON 31 MAY 1964 AND THE RECENT PLOT INVOLVING FORMER PRESIDENT HERNAN SILES ZUAZO

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

~~SECRET~~

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

STATE/INR DIA ARMY/ACSI NAVY AIR JCS SECDEF NSA NIC AID USIA OCI ONE OCR ORR OO
AD/CI 2 EXO

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: JAN 2001

EO 12958
3.4(b)(1)-25Yrs
(C)

~~SECRET~~
(When Filled In)

CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

PAGE 2

AND MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL LEFTIST REVOLUTIONARY PARTY.)

2. HUMBOLDT SAID THAT BARRIENTOS IS SURROUNDED BY PERSONS WHO COULD BE CONSIDERED ENEMIES OF THE GOVERNMENT. ONE OF HIS ADVISORS IS EDIL SANDOVAL MORON, WHO IS VERY INTELLIGENT, POLITICALLY ASTUTE, BUT AN ENEMY OF PAZ AND TIED-IN WITH SILES. BARRIENTOS HAS BEEN IN CONSTANT CONTACT WITH THE POLITICAL OPPOSITION THROUGH MANY PERSONS INCLUDING GUSTAVO CHACON SANCHEZ. THE OPPOSITION REALIZES THAT THE ONLY POSSIBLE WAY OF OVERTHROWING PAZ IS THROUGH BARRIENTOS. BARRIENTOS WILL ONLY SERVE AS THE INSTRUMENT. IN PARTICULAR THE GREAT HOPE FOR SANDOVAL AND SILES IS BARRIENTOS. [REDACTED] COMMENT: CHACON WAS ARRESTED IN 1961 FOR PLOTTING AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT. HE WAS A FORMER MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DURING THE GOVERNMENT OF GUALBERTO VILLARROEL.)

3. ACCORDING TO HUMBOLDT, BARRIENTOS HAS ALWAYS RESENTED THE OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESSIDENT BEING LABELED AS THE FIFTH WHEEL OF THE AUTOMOBILE, AND THUS HAS TRIED TO DEMONSTRATE THAT HE DOES NOT OCCUPY A USELESS POSITION BY USING EVERY MEANS OF EXERTING HIS INFLUENCE AND CONTROL.

4. [REDACTED] DISSEM: STATE ARMY AIR CINCSO.

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs
(C)

END OF MESSAGE

CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

~~SECRET~~