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WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM
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EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)-25Yrs
(C)

~~SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

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

COUNTRY BOLIVIA

SUBJECT: COMMENTS OF RENE BARRIENTOS ORTUNO ON THE CURRENT POLITICAL
SITUATION

[REDACTED]

DISTR. 5 NOVEMBER 1964
REF NONE

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

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: JAN 2001

ABROX FROM QUICK COPY

1. ON THE EVENING OF 4 NOVEMBER 1964
RENE BARRIENTOS ORTUNO MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ABOUT THE CURRENT
POLITICAL SITUATION:

A. BARRIENTOS PLANS TO BE A CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY,
BUT WILL NOT BE A MEMBER OF THE MILITARY JUNTA.

B. WALTER GUEVARA ARCE, HEAD OF THE AUTHENTIC REVOLUTIONARY
PARTY (PRA), RICARDO ANAYA, HEAD OF THE STALINIST COMMUNIST
PARTY (PIR), NUFLO GONZALES AND OTHER POLITICAL LEADERS HAVE
CONFERRED WITH BARRIENTOS AND HAVE BEEN TRYING TO EXPLOIT THE MILITARY
TAKEOVER FOR THEIR OWN PARTISAN ENDS; HOWEVER, THEY WILL BE FORCEFULLY
CONTROLLED. BECAUSE OF ITS DETERMINED AND DEDICATED OPPOSITION TO
VICTOR PAZ ESTENSSORO, THE FALANGIST PARTY (FSB) PROBABLY WILL PLAY
A PROMINENT ROLE IN THE NEW GOVERNMENT.

C. GENERAL ALFREDO OVANDO CANDIA, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE
ARMED FORCES, HAS THE CONFIDENCE AND ADMIRATION OF THE ARMED FORCES
AND THE PEOPLE IN GENERAL, BUT HE HAS A LACKLUSTER PERSONALITY AND
LACKS PATIENCE.

D. COLONEL ERNESTO GUZMAN WILL BE THE NEW CHIEF OF THE AIR
FORCE. GENERAL JAVIER CERRUTO, THE PRESENT CHIEF, WILL NOT BE A MEMBER

OF THE MILITARY JUNTA. IT IS NOT YET KNOWN WHO WILL BE THE NEW CHIEF
OF THE NATIONAL POLICE; HOWEVER, GERMAN LEMA ARAOS, A FORMER CHIEF,
IS NOT A LIKELY CONTENDER FOR THE POSITION. BARRIENTOS' RAPPORT WITH
THE POLICE IS EXCELLENT.

E. BARRIENTOS PLANNED TO FLY TO LA PAZ ON 5 NOVEMBER. HE
IS ANXIOUS TO COOPERATE WITH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, AND STRESSED
THAT THE ARMED FORCES WERE CAPABLE OF GOVERNING FORCIBLY AND IN A MANNER
CONSISTENT WITH THE DESIRES OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

2. [REDACTED] COMMENT: SINCE THE RECENT REVOLT THE ARMED FORCES
HAVE NEITHER SHOWN THEMSELVES TO BE FORCEFUL IN SUPPRESSING VIOLENCE
OR ACTING IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH THE DESIRES OF THE U.S. GOVT).

3. [REDACTED] DISSEM: STATE ARMY CINCSOUTH.

GP-1
410

~~SECRET~~

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