SECRET  September 6, 1967

NOTE TO WWR

Walt -

These are the detailed accounts of the Bolivian success against the guerrillas.

\[\text{WGB}\]

Atts.

DECLASSIFIED

R.O. 12356 Sec. 3.4(b)

White House Guidelines, Feb. 24 1983

By GSA, NARA, Date 10-4-83
SECRET

DIST 5 SEPTEMBER 1967

COUNTRY: POLIVIA / CUBA

DATE: 31 AUGUST 1967

SUBJECT: THE ELIMINATION OF THE REAR GUARD OF THE BOLIVIAN GUERRILLAS


2. THE AFTERNOON OF 31 AUGUST 1967 FOUND A MILITARY PATROL, E0 13526 3.3(b)(1)

EO 13526 3.5(c)

SANITIZED

E.O. 13526, Sec. 3.5

By NL, NARA, Date 1-12-11

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UNDER THE COMMAND OF CAPTAIN VARGAS, AND THE REAR GUARD OF
GUERRILLAS, LED BY "JOAQUIN," PATROLLING OPPOSITE SIDES OF THE
RIO GRANDE, UNEKOWNST TO EACH OTHER. THE GUERRILLAS HAD BEEN
ORDERED BY ERNESTO "CHE" GUEVARA TO REMAIN SOUTH OF THE RIO
GRANDE BUT, BECAUSE OF THE SEVERE HARDSHIPS ENCOUNTERED, HAD
DECIDED, AFTER THREE MONTHS, TO RECONTACT THE MAIN GUERRILLA
GROUP, FARTHER NORTH.

3. THE GUERRILLAS, SEEKING TO CROSS THE RIO GRANDE, CONTACTED
A LOCAL PEASANT AND ASKED HIM TO SCOUT OUT A CROSSING POINT AND
TO MARK IT FOR THEM. A WHITE CLOTH WAS TO SIGNIFY A SAFE
CROSSING POINT AND A RED CLOTH WAS THE DANGER SIGN, IF DISPLAYED
ON THE OPPOSITE BANK AT THE FORD. THE PEASANT ACCEPTED THE
MISSION AND CROSSED THE RIVER, RUNNING INTO THE ARMY TROOPS ON
THE OTHER SIDE. HE WAS THEN PERSUADED TO PLACE THE WHITE CLOTH
AT THE FORD, AS THE ARMY TROOPS DEPLOYED AN AMBUSH ON BOTH SIDES
OF THE RIVER. THIS WAS NEAR THE VADO DEL YESO, ABOUT 19028,
16°48'

4. AT 5:30 P.M., THE GUERRILLAS ARRIVED AT THE MARKED FORD AND
BEGAN TO CROSS. WHEN ALL WERE IN MID-RIVER, THE ARMY OPENED
FIRE, KILLING OR WOUNDING ALL IN SHORT ORDER. THE GUERRILLAS

SECRET

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S. THE BODIES OF THE FOLLOWING GUERRILLAS WERE RECOVERED AND BROUGHT TO VALLE GRANDE: "JOAQUIN," "ALEJANDRO," "BRAULIO," "MOISES GUEVARA," "PALO" AND "WALTER." FREDI ERNESTO MAIMURA HURTADO AND JOSE CASTILLO CHAVEZ ("LOCO") WERE TAKEN ALIVE, BUT MAIMURA DIED OF HIS WOUNDS ON HIS WAY TO OR AT VALLEGRANDE.

"NEGRO" AND "TANIA" WERE BELIEVED KILLED BUT THE BODIES WERE NOT RECOVERED, HAVING BEEN WASHED DOWNSTREAM. COMMENT: ACCORDING TO THE PRISONER, CASTILLO, WHO CROSSED THE RIVER IN FILE DIRECTLY BEHIND "TANIA," "TANIA" WAS WOUNDED BUT COULDN'T DISENGAGE HER KNAPSACK. HE SAW HER BEING CARRIED DOWN THE RIVER BY THE CURRENT.


"BRAULIO" HAS YET TO BE IDENTIFIED, BUT IS KNOWN TO BE A CUBAN.
MOISES GUEVARA is a former member of the Central Committee of the Pro-Chinese Communist Party of Bolivia. "Palo" was identified by USEBIO TAPIA ARUNI as ANTONIO QUINAO QUISPE and "WALTER" as WALTER ARANCIBIA AYALA, both Bolivians. FREDI MAIMURA HURTADO is a Bolivian of Japanese descent who received his medical training in Cuba, returned to Bolivia in early 1967.

7. FIELD DISSEM: STATE, ARMY, AIR, CINCSO

REPORT CLASS SECRET
JOSE CASTILLO CHAVEZ, a Bolivian born 4 February 1936 at Uyuni, joined the guerrillas during February 1967, having been previously recruited in November 1966 by Moises Guevara Rodriguez, a former Central Committee member of the pro-Chinese Communist Party of Bolivia and expelled for his advocacy of guerrilla warfare. Guevara met Castillo through Paul Quispaya, now also with the guerrillas. Castillo left Oruro on 10 February 1967 with Guevara and other guerrilla recruits, while in Oruro the guerrillas lived with a Dr. Toro. They went to Cochabamba, Sucre, Camiri, and finally arrived at the guerrilla camp on 18 February.
2. WHEN THEY ARRIVED IN THE NANCABAUZU CAMP, THERE WERE ONLY
"ANTONIO," "CAMBA," "ARTURO," "EL CHINO," "RUSTAQUIO" AND "COCO"
PRESENT. THE EIGHT NEW GUERRILLAS WERE WELCOMED BY "ANTONIO,"
AND TOLD THAT "RAMON" ("CHE" GUEVARA) HAD LEFT ON A MISSION IN
THE RIO GRANDE REGION AND WOULD BE BACK IN 30-45 DAYS. THEIR
ONLY TRAINING IN THE NANCABAUZU CONSISTED OF DAILY LONG HIKES.

3. WHILE THE NEW GUERRILLAS WERE WAITING FOR THE RETURN OF
"RAMON," JULES REGIS DEBRAY AND CIRO ROBERTO BUSTOS ARRIVED IN
THE CAMP, BROUGHT BY "TANIA" (LAURA GUTIERREZ BAUER DE MARTINEZ).
DEBRAY WAS CALLED "DALTON" AND BUSTOS, "CARLOS." COMMENT:
CASTILLO HE HAD SEEN DEBRAY AND BUSTOS
CARRY GUNS AND THAT DEBRAY HAD BROUGHT MAPS AND LETTERS TO THE
CUBANS.

4. "RAMON'S" ARRIVAL WAS PRECEDED BY THREE DAYS BY THE ARRIVAL
OF "MARCOS" AND THE VANGUARDIA GROUP. "RAMON" ARRIVED LATER
WITH ABOUT 30 MEN. "RAMON" WAS VERY ANGRY WITH "MARCOS" AND,
RELIEVED HIM OF HIS COMMAND, NAMING "MIGUEL" TO REPLACE HIM AS THE
VANGUARDIA LEADER.
GAVE A SPEECH IN WHICH HE SAID THE STRUGGLE IN BOLIVIA WOULD PROBABLY LAST FOR TEN YEARS.
Read related article:

Che Guevara and the CIA in the Mountains of Bolivia

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