MEMORANDUM

TO: 303 Committee - Mr. Jessup

FROM: INR/DDC - William C. Trueheart

SUBJECT: Handling of Documents Relating to Cuban Intervention Captured in Bolivia

The 303 Committee, prior to its 8 September meeting, concurred by telephone in the recommendation made in the ARA/State memorandum of September 5 on the handling of documents relating to Cuban intervention captured in Bolivia; that is, that we ask the Bolivian Government to announce that it has captured certain documents and had requested the USG and other governments to analyze the significance. (See paragraph 6 of 303 minutes dated 12 September.)

The Bolivian Government subsequently decided to present the documents to the twelfth meeting of the OAS Foreign Ministers on September 22. The Bolivian Government has informed other governments that it has the documents and plans to make them public. We were not able to persuade the Bolivian Government to seek prompt evaluations from other governments essentially because the Bolivian Government did not want to turn the documents over to another government. Moreover, it felt that it could not obtain a useful evaluation of the documents from another government before the 17th NAM. The Department therefore has obtained the concurrence of Defense and CIA in a proposal to furnish an evaluation of the documents to the Bolivian Foreign Minister in Washington in time for his use before the 12th NAM. Ambassador Henderson in La Paz will give the Bolivian President the same evaluation. The Foreign Minister has agreed that the GOB will accept full responsibility for the evaluation.

This procedure is one that the Department would have been content to recommend to the Committee had it believed that...
the Bolivian Government would accede to it. The risk that we may have to acknowledge that we gave the Bolivians our evaluation of the documents is regarded as acceptable.