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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

11 OCT 1967

1. Rostow  
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MEMORANDUM FOR: The Secretary of State  
The Secretary of Defense  
Mr. Walt W. Rostow  
Assistant Secretary of State  
for Inter-American Affairs

SUBJECT : Capture and Execution of  
Ernesto "Che" Guevara

1. You are aware of the published accounts concerning the death of Ernesto "Che" Guevara which were based in essence on the Bolivian Army press conference on 10 October attributing Guevara's death to battle wounds sustained in the clash between the Army and the guerrillas on 8 October 1967. Guevara was said to be in a coma when captured and to have died shortly thereafter, the heat of battle having prevented early or effective treatment by Bolivian soldiers.

2. [redacted] contrary information from [redacted] the Bolivian Second Ranger Battalion, the army unit that captured Guevara. According to [redacted] Guevara was captured on 8 October as a result of the clash with the Cuban-led guerrillas. He had a wound in his leg, but was otherwise in fair condition. He was questioned but refused to give any information. Two Bolivian guerrillas, "Willy" and "Aniceto," were also captured.

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3. At 1150 hours on 9 October the Second Ranger Battalion received direct orders from Bolivian Army Headquarters in La Paz

SANITIZED  
E.O. 13526, Sec. 3.5

By *nlj* NLJ 09-214  
NARA, Date 7-10-11

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to kill Guevara. These orders were carried out at 1315 hours the same day with a burst of fire from an M-2 automatic rifle. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was an eye witness to Guevara's capture and execution.

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[s] Richard Helms

Richard Helms  
Director

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NSF: C. L. Am, b. e, f. "Bolivia v. 4 (3 of 3)."



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