

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

Classified By: UNSPECIFIED
Classification Reason: UNSPECIFIED
Declassify On: X1

~~(S//NF)~~ **SUBJ: SITUATION REPORT AS OF 1000 HOURS LOCAL TIME**

Identifiers:

[Redacted]

(b)(3)

Dates:

[Redacted]

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

Coverage:

CIA Country Code: BOL
Region: AMERICAS, BOLIVIA

Publisher:

Agency Acronym: CIA
Office Name: NCS

[Redacted]

(b)(3)

Warnings: ~~(S//NF)~~ ----- CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE -----

(U) CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

(U) INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE REPORT CLASS S
~~SECRET~~-NOFORN DIST: 18 OCTOBER 2003

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(U) REPORT CLASS ~~S E C R E T~~--NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS.

[Redacted]

ALL

PORTIONS CARRY CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROLS OF OVERALL DOCUMENT. END OF MESSAGE ~~SECRET~~

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~~(S//NF)~~ 1.

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~~(S//NF)~~ 2.

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(S//NF) 3. AS OF 1000, THE MAIN ROAD TO THE EL ALTO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FROM LA PAZ WAS FREE OF PROTESTORS, ALTHOUGH REMNANTS OF BLOCKADES FROM THE LAST FIVE DAYS MAKE DRIVING SLOW. ROCKS, LAMP POSTS, BURNT VEHICLES AND BROKEN GLASS LITTER THE ROAD IN MANY PLACES. AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE CITY OF EL ALTO, PROTESTORS KNOCKED AT LEAST SIX RAILROAD CARS FROM A BRIDGE, AND TRAFFIC HAS TO PASS THROUGH ONE NARROW LANE. THE AIRPORT HAS NOT YET RESUMED CIVIL AVIATION OPERATIONS, ALTHOUGH LOCAL AIRLINES WILL TRY TO SCHEDULE LIMITED DOMESTIC FLIGHTS DURING THE AFTERNOON OF 18 OCTOBER. 4000-5000 PEOPLE WERE CONGREGATED IN THE PLAZA SAN FRANCISCO AREA OF LA PAZ, CELEBRATING WHAT THEY TERMED THEIR "VICTORY" AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT. MANY OF THESE MARCHERS PLANNED TO CONDUCT A PEACEFUL, CELEBRATOR(b)(1) MARCH TO THE PLAZA MURILLO, WHERE THE GOVERNMENTAL PALACE IS LOCATED(b)(3) THERE WAS NO POLICE PRESENCE IN DOWNTOWN LA PAZ. [Redacted]

(S//NF) 4. CARLOS MESA, BOLIVIA'S NEW PRESIDENT IS A CAREER JOURNALIST AND INTELLECTUAL. THE VICE-PRESIDENCY WAS MESA'S FIRST TIME IN ELECTIVE OFFICE, AND HE WAS PLACED THERE BY SANCHEZ DE LOZADA, WHO HAD SUPPORTED MESA AND THE TELEVISION STATION MESA OWNS. MANY BOLIVIAN OBSERVERS BELIEVE MESA WILL BE A WEAK AND INEFFECTIVE PRESIDENT. HE HAS NO POLITICAL BASE, AND WILL PROBABLY BE FORCED TO CALL EARLY ELECTIONS PRIOR TO THE NEXT SCHEDULED PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN 2007. ALTHOUGH MESA HAS NOT MADE ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS ON WHO WILL FORM HIS CABINET, HE DID STATE THAT HE PLANS TO PLACE INDEPENDENTS AND TECHNOCRATS IN SENIOR ADMINISTRATION POSITIONS, RATHER THAN POLITICIANS. [Redacted] MEDIA REPORTS.)

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Collection: CC

Creator:

Agency Acronym: CIA

Office Name: NCS

[Redacted]

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Description: (U) NONE

[Redacted]

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Language: en

Precedence: O

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Source:

Source Description: (S//NF) SEE BELOW.

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Source Context: (S//NF) See below.

(b)(3)

Subject: None

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