BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: On October 16, 1967, the High Command of the Bolivian Armed Forces released the following communiqué, together with three annexes, on the death of Che Guevara:

"1. In accordance with information provided for national and international opinion, based on documents released by the Military High Command on October 9 and subsequently, concerning the combat that took place at La Higuera between units of the Armed Forces and the red group commanded by Ernesto "Che" Guevara, as a result of which he, among others, lost his life, the following is established:

a) Ernesto Guevara fell into the hands of our troops gravely wounded and in full use of his mental faculties. After the combat ended, he was transferred to the town of La Higuera, more or less at 8 p.m. on Sunday, October 8, where he died as a result of his wounds. His body was transferred to the city of Vallegrande at 4 p.m. on Monday, October 9, in a helicopter of the Bolivian Air Force.

b) Two medical doctors, Dr. Moises Abraham Baptista and Dr. Jose Maria Cazo, director and intern respectively of the

Enclosures:
1. Annex 1 (Death Certificate)
3. Annex 3 (Argentine Police Report)
4. Communique of Argentine Embassy
5. Spanish texts of above (clippings)
Knights of Malta hospital, certified the death (Annex No. 1) and recorded the autopsy ordered by the military authorities of Vallegrande (Annex No. 2).

c) With regard to the identification of the deceased and the authentication of the diary that belonged to him, the government requested the cooperation of Argentine technical organizations, which sent three experts, one handwriting specialist and two fingerprint specialists, who verified the identity of the remains and certified that the handwriting of the campaign diary, captured by our troops, coincides with that of Ernesto Guevara (Annex No. 3).

d) The campaign diary and the book of doctrine (libro de conceptuaciones) are documents that contain an account of activities, from the date of his entry (into the guerrilla area) until October 7, and (justify) the judgments that this chief of subversion, the members of the guerrilla bands, and the people, both in this country and abroad, who collaborated with them, deserved. As a consequence, they are documents exclusively for the use of the military.

2. By this means the Military High Command considers complete all information relating to the death of Che Guevara. La Paz, October 16, 1967. END UNCLASSIFIED.
We doubt that the communique will satisfactorily answer these questions and are inclined to agree with the comment by Procesia columnist Politicus that these discrepancies, now that the identity of the body is generally accepted, are "going to be the new focus of polemics in the coming days, especially abroad." END CLASSIFIED.

HENDERSON
Annex No. 1 - Death Certificate

The death certificate signed October 10, 1967, by Drs. Moises ABRAHAM Baptista and Jose MARTINEZ Cazo, Hospital Knights of Malta, Vallegande, Bolivia, indicates that on October 9 at 5:30 p.m., there arrived DOA an individual who military authorities said was Ernesto GUEVARA Lynch, approximately 40 years of age, the cause of death being multiple bullet wounds in the thorax and extremities. Preservative was applied to the body.

Annex No. 2 - Autopsy Report

The autopsy report signed October 10, 1967 by Drs. ABRAHAM Baptista and MARTINEZ Cazo, indicates that the body recognized as that of Ernesto Guevara was 40 years of age, white race, approximately 1.73 meters in height, brown curly hair, heavy curly beard and mustache, heavy eyebrows, straight nose, thin lips, mouth open, teeth in good order with nicotine stains, lower left pre-molar floating, light blue eyes, regular physique, scar along almost whole left side of back. A general examination showed the following wounds:

1. Bullet wound in left clavicular region egressing through shoulder blade.

2. Bullet wound in right clavicular region fracturing same, without egress.

3. Bullet wound in right side, without egress.

4. Two bullet wounds in left side, with egress through back.

5. Bullet wound in left pectoral between 9th and 10th ribs, with egress on left side.

6. Bullet wound in lower third part of right thigh.

7. Bullet wound in lower third part of left thigh in seton.

8. Bullet wound in lower right forearm with fractured ulna.

The thorax cavity when opened showed that the first wound lightly injured the apex of the left lung.
The second injured the sub-clavicular vessel, the bullet lodging itself in the second vertebra.

The third transversed the right lung lodging itself in the 9th rib.

The left lung was slightly damaged by bullet no. 4.

Wound no. 5 transversed the left lung in a tangential trajectory.

Thoracic cavities, especially the right, presented abundant blood collection.

The opened abdomen showed no traumatic lesion, only expansion due to gases and citric liquid.

The cause of death was the thorax wounds and consequent hemorrhaging.

Annex No. 3 - Argentine Police Report

On Saturday, October 14, 1967, three officials of the Argentine Federal Police (Investigations), one a handwriting expert and the other two fingerprint experts, at the request of the Bolivian Government, visited Bolivian military headquarters in La Paz to collaborate in a matter of identification. They were shown a metal container in which were two amputated hands in a liquid solution, apparently formaldehyde.

The fingerprint experts tried the "Juan Vucetich" system used in Argentina of making papillary sketches of the fingers, but the liquid caused the fingertips to wrinkle making tracing impossible. They then proceeded to take fingerprint impressions on polyethylene sheets and in some cases on pieces of latex, these to be sent to the Identification Department of the Argentine Police for further examination.

The experts then compared the fingerprints with the copy of the prints made from Guevara's Argentine identity record No. 3,524,272, establishing beyond doubt that both prints were from the same person. Also checked were prints taken from Guevara at Vallegrande on October 9, with the same result.

The handwriting expert then examined two notebooks in good condition. The title page of one read "1967" and its reverse "Carl
UNCLASSIFIED

Klippel - Kaiserstrasse 75 - Frankfurt a. M. and "Harstellung Baler & Schröder - Neilkreuze A.N." This book shows handwriting beginning under the date of January 1, 1967 and continuing until October 7, 1967. Considering the period of the writing, the writing itself, and the "signatures," the expert decided they were suitable for formal extrinsic and intrinsic comparisons in the handwriting identification system. The expert also examined statistically the handwriting characteristics of the notebook inscribed "Elba 66500" containing 44 pages of handwriting. There was sufficient regularity of characteristics to determine that they were the same as those reproduced in the identity record. Copies of the material will be forwarded to the Argentine Police for further study.

Signed by Esteban Belzhexweizer and Juan Carlos Delgado.

Enclosure No. 4

COMMUNIQUE OF THE ARGENTINE EMBASSY AT LA PAZ

The technical commission detailed by the Argentine Government at the request of the Bolivian Government to prove the identity of the remains of Ernesto Guevara has proceeded to make a comparison of the items that were provided by the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces with those that were in the hands of Argentine police authorities. From the fingerprint and handwriting skill practiced by the technicians, in accordance with scientific procedures currently in use, it develops that the items compared correspond in an irrefutable manner to Ernesto Guevara, thereby agreeing with the report issued by the Bolivian authorities.

La Paz, October 16, 1967.

UNCLASSIFIED
Las FF. AA. cierran el caso Guevara

El Che cayó gravemente herido y en pleno uso de facultades mentales

El Comandante en Jefe de las FF. AA. manifestó en un comunicado, que los documentos encontrados en el cuerpo del Che, son documentos de uso exclusivamente militar. En consecuencia, el Alto Mando Militar, da por certificada toda información relativa a la caída del Che Guevara. 2 de octubre, en el exterior, considerándose al Che Guevara como tal, no tiene poder de nuestras tropas gravenmente herido y en uso pleno de sus facultades mentales. Después de haber estado en el combate, fue trasladado a la población de La Higuera, y almorzó en horas 20000 del día domingo 8 de octubre donde falleció a consecuencia de sus heridas.

El traslado del cadáver a la ciudad de Vallecito se efectuó a horas 18.00 del día lunes 9, en un helicóptero de la Fuerza Aérea Boliviana.

Los médicos, Dr. Motes, Obispo e José María Caso en su calidad de director e interino del hospital General de Malvinas, respectivamente, certificaron la muerte (Anexo 1) y protocolizaron la autopsia, ordenada por las autoridades militares de Vallecito, en el documento Nº 2 que se acuerda...

Con relación a la identificación del cadáver y la evidencia, el diario que le entregó, es una constante que la verdad le indicó, y dieron a la causa de los bienes que se hallaban en el periódico, una estampación y dos distinciones, igualmente, que se hicieron públicos del tono periodístico, uno estampísticamente y dos distintivos, que fueron confirmados por nuestros tropas, comandadas por el de Ernesto Guevara. El anexo Nº 2 muestra el acta correspondiente.

El diario de campaña y el libro de consignaciones son documentos que confirman la relación de actividades, desde la fecha de su ingreso hasta el 2 de octubre y las fechas que merced a este hecho, subvertieron los miembros de las bandas constituidas y los ciudadanos que los colabo-
Anexos 1 y 2.

Protocolo de autopsia y certificado de defunción

Los siguientes son los certificados de defunción y el protocolo de la autopsia del cadáver de Guerra:

Certificado de Defunción
Los médicos que asistieron, Doctor del Hospital "Señor de Matías" y Médico Interno, certifican que: al día de hoy 3 del presente mes, a las 6:30, fue trazado el cadáver de un individuo que se presentaron al hospital con ciertos signos de muerte cerebral y a consecuencia de un golpe en la cabeza, con múltiples heridas de bala de fuego y extremidades. Se procedió luego a la formalización de dicho cadáver.

Vallegrand, 13 de octubre de 1953.
Fdo. Dr. Abraham Bapista
Fdo. Dr. José Martinez Cane.

Identificación por parte de policías de la Argentina

En la ciudad de la Patagonia, República de Chile, hoy día, al día de octubre de este año, fueron presentados a la policía dos cadáveres, una mujer y un hombre, que fueron identificados por el policía local como habitantes de la ciudad. A tales fines, se procedió a un examen detallado de los cuerpos, que reveló que uno de ellos tenía heridas de bala en la cabeza y el otro tenía varias heridas en el cuerpo.

ACTA

Firma: Policía Patagónica

Comandante en Jefe de las Fuerzas Armadas y el señor Mayor Roberto Quintana, del Ministerio de Gobierno. Los cuerpos presentados son habitantes de la ciudad y fueron identificados por el policía local como habitantes de la ciudad. A tales fines, se procedió a un examen detallado de los cuerpos, que reveló que uno de ellos tenía heridas de bala en la cabeza y el otro tenía varias heridas en el cuerpo.

Firma: Policía Patagónica
**Comunicado de la embajada argentina**

La embajada argentina entregó el siguiente comunicado:

"La comisión de funcionarios designada por el gobierno argentino a pedido del gobierno boliviano para formular la fecha de las reuniones que se llevarán a cabo se oficieron a que las Fuerzas Armadas con aquellos que sean en poder de autoridades políticas argentinos.

De la presencia de funcionarios y autoridades que sean presentes para formular la fecha de los encuentros, se realizará este asunto entre el lunes y las autoridades bolivianas.

La Embajada de Argentina en Bolivia, 10 de octubre de 1947."