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Document Number: 1994LIMA08633

[REDACTED] AL

PAGE 01 LIMA 08633 01 OF 02 191725Z
ACTION DS-00

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-05	ACDE-00	AID-01	AMAD-01	ARA-01	A-01
	CA-02	CCO-00	CG-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00	OASY-00
	DODE-00	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	EB-01	FAAE-00	FBIE-00	IMMC-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	INSE-00	L-02	ADS-00	M-00	NRCE-00
	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIS-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01
	SCT-03	SSO-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01
	PMB-00	DSCC-00	G-00	/023W			

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R 191728Z SEP 94
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9638
INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

[REDACTED] SECTION 01 OF 02 LIMA 08633

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DEPT ALSO FOR DS/OP/ARA, DS/DSS/ITA, DS/OSAC
SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD
MONTEVIDEO FOR LEGATT

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TAGS: ASEC, PTER, AMGT, PE
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[REDACTED] AL

PAGE 02 LIMA 08633 01 OF 02 191725Z
SUBJECT: SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF GUZMAN CAPTURE
- PASSE QUIETLY; FUJIMORI ADMITS
- TALKS WITH GUZMAN CONTINUE

1. (C) SUMMARY: THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE
SEPTEMBER 12 CAPTURE OF SENDERO FOUNDER ABIMAE L
GUZMAN PASSED WITH NO SIGNIFICANT SENDERO
ACTIVITY, LEADING FUJIMORI AND COMMENTATORS OF
ALL POLITICAL STRIPES TO CELEBRATE ALL THE MORE
SENDERO'S "VIRTUAL DEMISE." PRESIDENT FUJIMORI
CALLED FOR THE "REMNANTS" OF SENDERO TO
SURRENDER AND PROMISED THE IMMINENT CAPTURE,

Current Class: [REDACTED] AL

Current Class: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
 Current Handling: n/a
 Document Number: 1994LIMA08633

Page: 2

Channel: n/a

DEAD OR ALIVE, OF COMRADE FELICIANO, HEAD OF THE SENDERO GUERRILLAS STILL AT LARGE. DESPITE THE CALM, SENDERO WATCHERS WARNED AGAINST COUNTING SENDERO OUT AND LOWERING ONE'S GUARD. FUJIMORI ALSO ADMITTED THE GOP MAINTAINED "CONTACT" WITH GUZMAN AND OTHER SENIOR JAILED SENDERO LEADERS TO PRESSURE THEM INTO OBLIGING THE FREE CADRE TO LAY DOWN THEIR WEAPONS AND FIRMLY REJECTED THIS AMOUNTED TO NEGOTIATIONS OF ANY KIND. SENDERO WATCHERS AND OPPOSITION OBSERVERS WERE SKEPTICAL OF THESE LATTER CLAIMS. END SUMMARY.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF GUZMAN CAPTURE QUIET

2. (U) THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE SEPTEMBER 12 CAPTURE OF SENDERO LUMINOSO (SL) FOUNDER ABIMAEEL GUZMAN PASSED WITH NO SIGNIFICANT TERRORIST ACTIVITY REPORTED IN LIMA OR THE

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 PAGE 03 LIMA 08633 01 OF 02 191725Z
 COUNTRYSIDE. COMMENTATORS JOINED PRESIDENT FUJIMORI IN CELEBRATING WHAT THEY CALLED, OPTIMISTICALLY, THE NEARLY COMPLETE DEMISE OF SENDERO. TELEVISION AND RADIO NEWS SPECIAL REPORTS RELIVED THE CAPTURE, HEAPED PRAISE ON THE COUNTER-TERRORISM POLICE (DINCOTE) AND ITS THEN-COMMANDER POLICE GEN. KETIN VIDAL, AND GENERALLY RECOGNIZED THE FEAT AS THE FUJIMORI ADMINISTRATION'S MOST IMPRESSIVE SUCCESS. SENDERO WATCHERS NEVERTHELESS WARNED THE GOP TO KEEP UP ITS FIGHT AGAINST SENDERO AND NOT TO UNDERESTIMATE SENDERO'S EFFORTS TO QUIETLY REBUILD ITS STRENGTH.

FUJIMORI SAYS GOP CLOSING ON FELICIANO (AGAIN)

3. (U) PRESIDENT FUJIMORI PUBLICLY CALLED ON THE "LAST STRAGGLING REMNANTS" OF SENDERO TO GIVE UP AND TURN THEMSELVES IN. (LAST WEEK FUJIMORI CALLED ON SENDERO CADRE TO SHOOT THEIR LEADERS IF THEY WERE HINDERING THEIR TURNING THEMSELVES IN.) HE TOLD THE MEDIA THAT THE SECURITY FORCES WERE CLOSING IN ON OSCAR ALBERTO RAMIREZ DURAND (AKA COMRADE FELICIANO), LEADER

Current Class: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Page: 2

Current Class: [REDACTED]
Current Handling: n/a
Document Number: 1994LIMA08633

Channel: n/a

OF THE STILL-FREE SENDERO LUMINOSO, IN FELICIANO'S LAST LAIR SOMEWHERE IN THE EASTERN PERUVIAN JUNGLE ENE AND HUALLAGA RIVER VALLEYS. FELICIANO'S CAPTURE, DEAD OR ALIVE, WAS IMMINENT. ONE TELEVISION REPORT PURPORTED TO SHOW A CONVERSATION OVER THE RADIO BETWEEN A

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PAGE 04 LIMA 08633 01 OF 02 191725Z
DEFIANT FELICIANO AND AN ARMY OFFICER ON OPERATIONS IN THE ENE VALLEY.

FUJIMORI KEEPS "CONTACT" WITH GUZMAN

4. (U) FUJIMORI TOLD THE PRESS ON SEPTEMBER 11 THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS IN "CONTACT" WITH ABIMAEEL GUZMAN AND THE OTHER JAILED SENDERO LEADERS AS A MEANS TO KEEP THE PRESSURE ON THEM

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PAGE 01 LIMA 08633 02 OF 02 191725Z
ACTION DS-00

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-05	ACDE-00	AID-01	AMAD-01	ARA-01	A-01
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-----73D7BF 191928Z /38

R 191728Z SEP 94
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Current Class: CO [REDACTED] SIAL

Current Class: [REDACTED]
Current Handling: n/a
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PAGE 02 LIMA 08633 02 OF 02 191725Z
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AND OBTAIN THE SURRENDER OF THE REMAINING
SENDERISTAS ACTING OUTSIDE OF JAIL. THE
PRESIDENT ADMITTED THAT GUZMAN HAS BEEN ALLOWED
VISITS BY OTHER SENIOR JAILED SENDERISTAS,
INCLUDING OSMAN MOROTE. THE PRESIDENT WAS
ADAMANT THAT THIS CONTACT NOT BE MISTAKEN FOR
NEGOTIATIONS OR "TALKS" WITH GUZMAN. "THE
OBJECTIVE OF THIS (THE CONTACT) IS FOR (THE
TERRORISTS) TO ONCE AND FOR ALL DECIDE TO LAY
DOWN THEIR ARMS."

5. (C) COMMENT: SENDERO TRIES TO MARK
IMPORTANT ANNIVERSARY DATES WITH INCREASED
TERRORIST ACTIVITY, WHICH DID NOT MATERIALIZE.
THE GOP AND COMMENTATORS OF ALL POLITICAL
TENDENCIES SAW THIS AS A GOOD OMEN AND EVIDENCE
OF SENDERO WEAKNESS. WHETHER SENDERO LEADER
FELICIANO IS TRAPPED IN A JUNGLE HIDEOUT OR NOT,
HIS FALLING OUT WITH GUZMAN OVER POSSIBLE PEACE
ACCORDS WITH THE GOP MAY ALSO EXPLAIN A LACK OF
ENTHUSIASM FOR SL OUTSIDE THE JAILS TO CARRY OUT
ATTACKS IN HONOR OF THEIR APOSTATE FORMER
LEADER. SENDERO WATCHERS WISELY PLEAD THAT THE
GOP NOT LOSE SIGHT OF SENDERO'S EFFORTS TO
QUIETLY REBUILD AND ARGUE THAT SL INACTION,
WHILE A VERY GOOD SIGN, DOES NOT MEAN THE BEAST
IS DEAD OR EVEN DYING.

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PAGE 03 LIMA 08633 02 OF 02 191725Z

Current Class: [REDACTED] IAL

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: [REDACTED] L
Current Handling: n/a
Document Number: 1994LIMA08633

Page: 5
Channel: n/a

6. SENDERO WATCHERS QUESTION THE VALUE OF FUJIMORI CONTINUING "CONTACTS" WITH GUZMAN, POINTING OUT THERE WAS LITTLE GUZMAN CAN OFFER IN RETURN FROM JAIL. IN THEIR VIEW, GUZMAN PROVIDES ONLY LIMITED RESIDUAL LEVERAGE OVER CADRE STILL AT LARGE EXCEPT FOR THE VALUABLE DISRUPTIVE SCHISMATIC EFFECT OF HIS PENDING SURRENDER. OPPOSITION COMMENTATORS ARE LIKELY ALSO TO WARN, CORRECTLY, THAT THE REAL AIM OF FURTHER GOP-GUZMAN CONTACT AT THIS TIME IS A FORTUITOUS ELECTION-ENHANCING "GUZMAN SURRENDER" EVENT DESIGNED TO BOOST FUJIMORI FOR THE APRIL ELECTIONS. ADAMS

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Current Class: [REDACTED] L

Page: 5

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