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Case Number: 200102877

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RELEASED IN PART  
B1, 1.5(D)

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	IRM-00	DSCC-00	SAS-00	SWCI-00	/006R		

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SOURCE: KODAKC.029089  
DRAFTED BY: INR/IAA:STAFF -- 12/29/99 7-2229  
APPROVED BY: INR/IAA:JEBUCHANAN  
INR/IAA:JEBUCHANAN  
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION:  
WHA

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R 292113Z DEC 99  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
INFO WESTERN HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS DIPL POSTS  
DIRNSA FORT GEORGE G MEADE MD  
DIA WASHDC  
CIA WASHDC 0000  
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E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/29/09  
TAGS: PINR, HO, NU, PE  
SUBJECT: (U) INR INTELLIGENCE BRIEF AND ASSESSMENT

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CLASSIFIED BY: JAMES E. BUCHANAN, INR/IAA, DEPARTMENT OF  
STATE. REASON: 1.5 (C) (D).

1. (U) THE FOLLOWING INR INTELLIGENCE BRIEF AND  
ASSESSMENT ARE PROVIDED FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND COMMENT.

I. BRIEF

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: MELVIN E. SINN  
DATE/CASE ID: 13 JUN 2002 200102877

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(U) HONDURAS/NICARAGUA: PEACE DIVIDEND  
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## II. ASSESSMENT

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(U) PERU: FIFTEEN YEARS OF FUJIMORI?  
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6. (C) PERUVIAN PRESIDENT FUJIMORI'S DECEMBER 27  
ANNOUNCEMENT THAT HE WILL MAKE A CONTROVERSIAL BID FOR A  
THIRD TERM, TO CONTINUE REFORMS AND ERADICATE REMAINING

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VESTIGES OF TERRORISM, SURPRISED NO ONE; HE WAS ALREADY THE FRONT-RUNNER FOR THE APRIL CONTEST. THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE, CONTROLLED BY FUJIMORI'S INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY GURU VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS, IS INTIMIDATING PRESS CRITICS AND OPPOSITION CANDIDATES.

7. (C) PERU'S 1993 CONSTITUTION, DRAFTED IN THE WAKE OF FUJIMORI'S 1992 "SELF-COUP," ALLOWS PRESIDENTS TWO TERMS.

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IN 1996 A FUJIMORI-FRIENDLY CONGRESS PASSED LEGISLATION ALLOWING HIM TO RUN FOR A THIRD TERM IN 2000, ARGUING THAT HIS 1995 REELECTION PRODUCED ONLY HIS FIRST TERM UNDER THE NEW CONSTITUTION. WHEN THREE MEMBERS OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL TRIBUNAL FOUND THE LAW UNCONSTITUTIONAL, CONGRESS REMOVED THEM. FUJIMORI'S CANDIDACY WILL BE CHALLENGED AGAIN, THIS TIME BEFORE THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS TRIBUNAL, WHICH PROBABLY WILL DECIDE IN HIS FAVOR.

8. (C) STACKING THE DECK WITH TOO MANY ACES. RHETORIC ABOUT MEDIA FREEDOM ABOUNDS, BUT UNSCRUPULOUS MANIPULATION REMAINS THE NORM IN THE FUJIMORI CAMP. A LOCAL NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION (NGO) REVIEWING MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE CANDIDATES CALCULATED THAT FUJIMORI APPEARED 78 PERCENT OF THE TIME ON TV NEWS IN OCTOBER, COMPARED WITH 11 PERCENT FOR LIMA MAYOR ANDRADE AND 5 PERCENT FOR LUIS CASTANEDA, FORMER HEAD OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY INSTITUTE. SEVERAL EDITORS FROM TWO TABLOIDS QUIT THEIR JOBS, ALLEGING OWNERS WERE PAID BY THE GOVERNMENT TO PRINT SLANDEROUS HEADLINES ABOUT OPPOSITION CANDIDATES; IN NOVEMBER THREE MEDIA OUTLETS REFUSED TO RUN PAID ADS BY ANDRADE. EVIDENCE OF DISRUPTIVE ACTIVITIES ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL INCLUDES ROADBLOCKS, ROCK THROWING, POWER OUTAGES, AND AN UNSCHEDULED PERFORMANCE BY A POLICE MARCHING BAND DURING A SPEECH BY CASTANEDA.

9. (C) THERE IS SOME EVIDENCE THAT MONTESINOS'S MACHINATIONS AND FUJIMORI'S TRADEMARK DISDAIN FOR DEMOCRATIC NICETIES ARE DAMAGING THE PRESIDENT'S CAUSE. IN A MID-DECEMBER POLL 50 PERCENT OF LIMA RESPONDENTS OPPOSED A THIRD FUJIMORI TERM, CITING MISUSE OF STATE FUNDS FOR

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REELECTION ACTIVITIES AND HARASSMENT OF OPPOSITION CANDIDATES.

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10. (C) FORMER ARMY COMMANDER AND PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ (1975-80) RESURFACED CONCERNS ABOUT FUJIMORI'S RELIANCE ON MILITARY SUPPORT BY PUBLICLY CRITICIZING MONTESINOS THIS MONTH FOR FAVORING CLASSMATES AND RELATIVES IN THE RECENT ROUND OF ARMY PROMOTIONS. OF 12 KEY ARMY COMMAND POSTS, NINE ARE HELD BY MONTESINOS'S FORMER CLASSMATES AND ONE BY HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW. MORALE IS ERODING AMONG ARMY OFFICERS WHO DO NOT BENEFIT FROM PATRONAGE AND IN THE LOWER RANKS OVER FUJIMORI'S IMPASSIONED DEFENSE OF MONTESINOS IN THE FACE OF MORALES'S CRITICISM.

11. (C) UNIFIED OPPOSITION? FUJIMORI MAY BE INDULGING IN OVERKILL--CASTANEDA AND ANDRADE ARE SEEN AS LACKLUSTER CANDIDATES WITHOUT STRONG AGENDAS. RECENT POLLS SHOW BOTH RUNNING UNDER 20 PERCENT, WITH FUJIMORI AT AROUND 40 PERCENT. FUJIMORI'S CHALLENGERS HAVE AVOIDED ATTACKING EACH OTHER, SAVING THEIR HARSHTEST CRITICISM FOR THE PRESIDENT.

12. (C) RALLYING AROUND A SINGLE OPPOSITION CANDIDATE WILL BE NECESSARY, THOUGH PERHAPS NOT SUFFICIENT, TO DEFEAT FUJIMORI. A COALITION OF 14 OPPOSITION PARTIES SIGNED A STATEMENT THIS MONTH IN AN EFFORT TO AROUSE VOTER INTEREST IN POST-FUJIMORI DEMOCRATIC REFORMS. PUBLIC STATEMENTS

SUGGEST THAT IF EITHER ANDRADE OR CASTANEDA ESTABLISHES A CLEAR LEAD, THE OTHER WILL DROP OUT TO UNIFY THE OPPOSITION.

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