

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ACIC Counterintelligence Notes:

(U) Peru's National Intelligence Service Disbanded

Information cutoff: 21 December 2000

Publication date: 16 January 2001

(U//FOUO) On 11 November 2000, former President Alberto Fujimori delegated Peruvian intelligence matters to the Armed Forces Joint Command (CCFFAA) until the National Intelligence Center (CNI) could be formally installed. This interim action was undertaken until the Peruvian Congress could approve the law creating the CNI. Presently, the National Intelligence Service (SIN) is being disbanded, and its chief, Vladimiro Montesinos, and three top Army colonels within the SIN have fled the country. Approximately 1,200 SIN policemen, including a staff of 200 captains and majors, will be reassigned to the National Police, which will relocate them.

(U) Analyst Comments

(U//FOUO) The dissolution of the SIN will negatively impact Peru's national-level intelligence collection ability. The SIN most likely will follow the same path as Chile, Argentina, and Brazil, which have unsuccessfully attempted to replace their disreputable national intelligence services with accountable and professional organizations. Over the past few years, the SIN has been illegally wiretapping and intimidating independent and opposition figures in an effort to ensure Fujimori's reelection. During Fujimori's term in office, when the SIN was fighting the Shining Path and Tupac Amari Revolutionary Army guerrillas, the SIN's budget and personnel increased significantly with little oversight. The SIN has been accused of participating in at least two massacres of alleged civilian terrorists. The SIN was also alleged to have strict control over the armed forces and influence in the judicial branch, through the appointment of judges. Fujimori has admitted to directing a small SIN cell at its headquarters, which was headed by Montesinos. Montesinos' weapons scandal with Colombian guerrillas eventually led to Fujimori's resignation. Montesinos also was involved with narcotics traffickers, and \$22 million has been discovered in at least five of his Swiss bank accounts.

(U) ACIC POC for this article is Mr. [redacted] Force Protection/Information Operations Branch, commercial 301-677-5190 or DSN 923-5190.

(b)(6)

Back to Notes for January

5 USC 552 (b) (3)

61