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RELEASED IN PART

PAGE 01 LIMA 16078 01 OF 02 181835Z
ACTION ARA-01

B1

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AID-01	AMAD-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00
	EB-01	HA-09	H-01	INM-02	INRE-00	INR-01	IO-19
	LAB-04	L-03	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01
	PA-01	PM-02	PRS-01	P-01	SIL-00	SNP-00	SP-00
	SR-00	SSC-01	SS-00	STR-17	TRSE-00	T-01	USIE-00
	RPE-00	/088W					

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P 181744Z DEC 92
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4303
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY QUITO
DIA WASHDC
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LIMA 16078

USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PGOV, PHUM, PE
SUBJECT: PERUVIAN MILITARY OFFICERS CALL FOR
- COUP PLOTTERS TO BE MOVED FROM
- CIVILIAN PRISON

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PAGE 02 LIMA 16078 01 OF 02 181835Z
REF: A. LIMA 15960, B. LIMA 16013

1. (U) SUMMARY: THE PERUVIAN ARMY HAS ISSUED A STATEMENT DENYING ALLEGATIONS THAT OFFICERS JAILED FOR THE ATTEMPTED NOV. 13 COUP HAVE BEEN TORTURED. THE WIVES OF THE DETAINED OFFICERS HAVE PUBLICLY CALLED THE ARMY STATEMENT A LIE, AND ARE CALLING FOR AUTHORITIES TO MOVE THEIR HUSBANDS OUT OF A CIVILIAN PRISON AND INTO A MILITARY PENAL ESTABLISHMENT. JOINING THIS CALL ARE AN INFLUENTIAL DAILY NEWSPAPER AND THE ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED GENERALS AND ADMIRALS.
END SUMMARY.

ARMY DISAVOWS TORTURE ALLEGATIONS

2. (U) IN RESPONSE TO ACCUSATIONS THAT SOME OF THE OFFICERS BEING HELD FOR COUP PLOTTING HAD BEEN TORTURED (REFTEL A), THE ARMY COMMAND ISSUED A STATEMENT DECEMBER 15 THAT CLAIMED THE ALLEGATIONS WERE FALSE. "NOT ONLY DO THE AFFIRMATIONS NOT CONFORM TO THE TRUTH," THE STATEMENT READ, "BUT THEIR GOAL IS TO DISCREDIT THE ARMY COMMAND." THE STATEMENT CONCLUDED WITH THE CLAIM THAT THE DETAINEES HAD BEEN EXAMINED BY PHYSICIANS WHO, FINDING NO EVIDENCE OF MISTREATMENT, HAD ISSUED MEDICAL CERTIFICATES DECLARING THEM TO BE "IN PERFECT HEALTH."

OFFICERS' WIVES MAKE PUBLIC PLEAS
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PAGE 03 LIMA 16078 01 OF 02 181835Z

3. (U) THE FOLLOWING DAY, THE WIVES OF SEVERAL OF THE OFFICERS ISSUED A REJOINDER TO THE ARMY STATEMENT IN WHICH THEY REPEATED THE CLAIM THAT THEIR HUSBANDS HAD BEEN SUBJECTED TO TORTURE. IN THE STATEMENT, THE WIVES DECLARED THAT THEY WERE REPULSED BY "THE LIES" OF THE ARMY COMMAND TEXT AND CALLED ITS AUTHORS "A GROUP OF PUPPETS." IN A SEPARATE PRESS INTERVIEW, THE WIFE OF GENERAL JOSE PASTOR VIVES ALLEGED THAT HER FAMILY HAD BEEN THE RECEIVING A FLURRY OF TELEPHONE THREATS, WHICH SHE BLAMED ON THE GOVERNMENT. THE SPOUSES ALSO LODGED A FORMAL PROTEST WITH THE SUPREME COUNCIL OF MILITARY JUSTICE OVER THE JAILING OF THEIR HUSBANDS IN CANTO GRANDE, A CIVILIAN PRISON INHABITED BY CONVICTED TERRORISTS, DRUG TRAFFICKERS AND COMMON CRIMINALS. THE OFFICERS' WIVES ADVISED THE MEDIA THAT THEY WOULD SEEK ASSISTANCE IN THIS MATTER AT THE OAS AND THE INTERAMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

OFFICERS ASSOCIATION CONDEMNS JAILING

4. (LOU) THE COUNTRY'S MOST INFLUENTIAL DAILY NEWSPAPER, "EL COMERCIO," ALSO CALLED ON THE GOVERNMENT TO MOVE THE JAILED OFFICERS TO A MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT, AND ONE OF THE DEFENSE

ATTORNEYS IN THE CASE ASSERTED THAT THERE WAS NO
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PAGE 04 LIMA 16078 01 OF 02 181835Z
PRECEDENT IN PERUVIAN LEGAL HISTORY BY WHICH A
MILITARY OFFICER HAD EVER BEEN SENT TO A
CIVILIAN PRISON. PERHAPS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT
PROTEST, HOWEVER, CAME IN THE FORM OF A DECEMBER
16 STATEMENT RELEASED BY "THE ASSOCIATION OF
(RETIRED) GENERALS AND ADMIRALS," WHICH
CONDEMNED THE DETENTION OF THE OFFICERS IN CANTO
GRANDE AND CALLED ON THE MILITARY JUSTICE
AUTHORITIES TO "REVOKE THIS MEASURE, SINCE
MILITARY PENAL ESTABLISHMENTS EXIST WHICH
GUARANTEE THE SAFETY OF THE DETAINEES."

COMMENT

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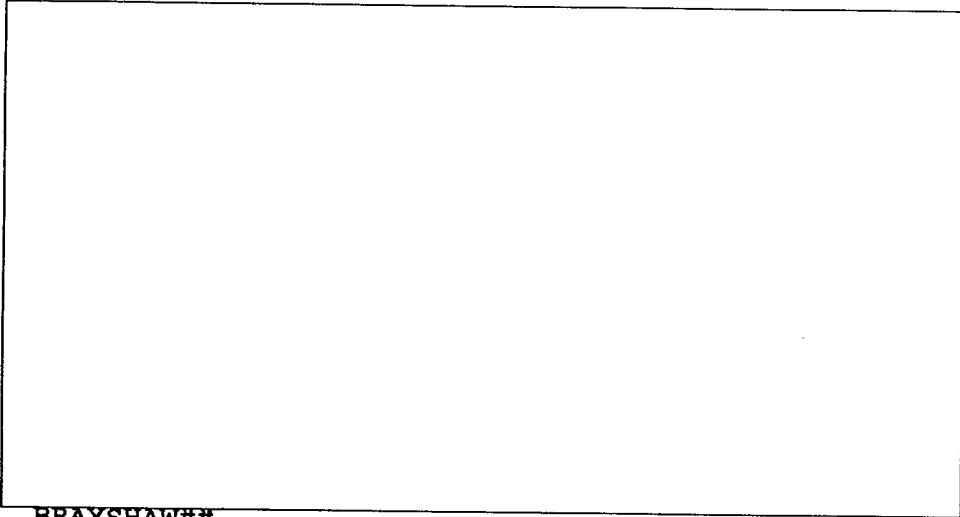
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