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ACTION SCT-03

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	ACDE-00	AID-01	ARA-01	A-01	CA-02
	CCO-00	CG-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00	C-01	OASY-00
	DODE-00	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	DS-00	EB-01	FAAE-00	FBIE-00
	IMMC-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	INSE-00	L-01	ADS-00	M-00
	NRCE-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIS-01	PA-01	PM-01	PRS-01
	P-01	SSO-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01
	PMB-00	/035W					

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R 190030Z MAR 94
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5682
INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

COPY FROM
THE COLLECTION OF THE
NATIONAL SECURITY ARCHIVE

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

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, ASEC, AMGT, PE
SUBJECT: CHANGES AT DINCOTE: SIN TAKING OVER?

1. (C) SUMMARY: RECENT PERSONNEL SHIFTS FROM
PERU'S COUNTER-TERRORIST POLICE (DINCOTE) HAVE

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RAISED CONCERNS THAT THE GOP IS DOWNSIZING THE
ONE POLICE UNIT MOST RESPONSIBLE FOR RESTORING
PERUVIANS' FAITH IN THE GOVERNMENT'S COUNTER-
TERRORISM (CT) CAPABILITIES. DISMISSING CLAIMS
THAT THE CHANGES ARE PART OF A NATIONAL POLICE
REORGANIZATION, PUBLIC OBSERVERS AND THE MEDIA
ALSO VOICED CONCERNS THAT MOST OF DINCOTE'S BEST
OFFICERS HAVE BEEN REASSIGNED TO THE NATIONAL
INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (SIN), GIVING ADDITIONAL
POWER AND RESOURCES TO PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR
VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS. AT LEAST ONE OF THOSE
CRITICAL OF THIS PUBLICLY WORRIED THAT THE FORMER

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J. OLSON
DATE/CASE ID: 7 AUG 2001 200003853

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DINCOTE OFFICERS MAY NOW BE USED AGAINST MILITARY
 AND CIVILIAN OPPONENTS. END SUMMARY

CHANGES AT DINCOTE POINT TO SIN TAKE OVER

2. (U) ONGOING CHANGES, INCLUDING RESTRUCTURING
 AND DOWNSIZING OF PERU'S COUNTER-TERRORISM POLICE
 (DINCOTE), HAVE CAUSED LIMA MEDIA AND VIOLENCE
 MONITORS TO CHARGE THAT DINCOTE IS BEING QUIETLY
 EASED OUT OF ITS LEAD COUNTER-TERRORISM ROLE IN
 FAVOR OF THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (SIN).
 MANY SEE THE SIN AS EXPANDING AND CONSOLIDATING
 ITS LEADERSHIP OVER ALL ASPECTS OF THE COUNTER-
 TERRORISM FIGHT AND THE VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF THE
 GOP'S CT COMMUNITY. MOST OBSERVERS DOUBT THAT
 THE CHANGES AT DINCOTE ARE DUE, AS NATIONAL
 POLICE DIRECTOR GEN. VICTOR ALVA PLASENCIO STATED
 RECENTLY, TO A BROAD NATION-WIDE REORGANIZATION

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 OF THE POLICE FORCE.

3. (U) ON MARCH 15, PERU'S LARGEST CIRCULATION
 DAILY "EL COMERCIO" CARRIED TWO ITEMS IN ITS
 "SIN CONFIRMAR" ("WITHOUT CONFIRMATION") COLUMN
 STATING THAT SOME 300 DINCOTE OPERATIONS
 PERSONNEL AND ANALYSTS HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED IN
 THE PAST FEW MONTHS, MANY GOING TO THE SIN. IT
 DESCRIBED OFFICIAL THINKING BEHIND THE CHANGES
 AS BEING THAT THE WAR AGAINST THE TERRORISTS IS
 NEARLY WON AND THE EMPHASIS IN FINISHING THE WAR
 LIES IN INTELLIGENCE RATHER THAN "COMBAT." THE
 ARTICLE, CAREFUL NOT TO BE GENERALLY CRITICAL OF
 THE GOP'S CT STRATEGY, NOTES BRIEFLY THAT THE
 CHANGES ARE WEAKENING PERU'S MOST SPECIALIZED CT
 ORGANIZATION AND PUTS THE WAR UNDER THE CONTROL
 OF PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS.

4. (U) SURPRISINGLY MORE STRIDENT IN ITS
 CRITICISM OF THE CHANGES AT DINCOTE WAS A PAGE 2
 EDITORIAL BY MANUEL D'ORNELLAS IN THE MARCH 16
 EDITION OF PRO-GOP DAILY "EXPRESO." D'ORNELLAS
 TOOK UP THE DEMANDS OF OPPOSITION PPC CONGRESS
 MEMBER ANTERO FLORES-ARAOZ IN DEMANDING THAT THE
 GOP EXPLAIN THE CHANGES WITHIN DINCOTE.

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D'ORNELLAS SUGGESTS THAT THESE CHANGES STEM FROM SIN/DINCOTE RIVALRY IN GENERAL, AND THE PROFESSIONAL JEALOUSIES OF VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS WHICH LED TO THE REMOVAL OF POLICE GEN. KETIN VIDAL AS CHIEF OF DINCOTE, IN PARTICULAR. ALLUDING IN PART TO THE MARCH 14 BOMBING OF THE

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HOME OF "EXPRESO" COLUMNIST PATRICIO RICKETTS,
D'ORNELLAS ENDS, "THE RECENT BOMBS DEMAND CLEAR
AND PROMPT ANSWERS."

5. (U) THE THINK TANK "DESCO" WAS EXPLICIT IN VOICING ITS CONCERNS THAT THE MASSIVE REASSIGNMENTS AMOUNTED TO DECAPITATING DINCOTE BEFORE THE COFFIN WAS NAILED SHUT ON SENDERO. DESCO STATED IT AGREED WITH THE HYPOTHESIS THAT MONTESINOS WAS TAKING DINCOTE'S BEST AND BRIGHTEST NOT TO FIGHT TERRORISTS BUT TO REORIENT THEM AGAINST OTHER ADMINISTRATION ENEMIES: MILITARY AND CIVILIAN OPPOSITION. DESCO DISMISSED SPECULATION THAT SIN HAD REQUISITIONED DINCOTE PERSONNEL IN ORDER TO

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	P-01	SSO-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01
	PMB-00	/035W					

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R 190030Z MAR 94
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5683
INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

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AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
 USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

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DEPT ALSO FOR DS/OP/ARA, DS/DSS/ITA, DSS/OSAC
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TARGET NARCOTRAFFICKING. IF THIS WAS TRUE, THEY
 REASON, THE COUNTER-DRUG POLICE (DIRANDRO) WOULD

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 HAVE BEEN RAIDED, NOT DINCOTE.

6. (C) COMMENT: THE RECENT SPATE OF SENDERO
 ATTACKS (REFTELS) HAVE SERVED TO FOCUS PUBLIC
 ATTENTION ON GOVERNMENT COUNTERACTIONS -- AND BY
 CONSEQUENCE, THE SIN'S CONSOLIDATION OVER THE GOP
 COUNTER-TERRORISM PROGRAM. WITH THE ATTACKS AS
 BACKGROUND, DOWNSIZING OF DINCOTE IS WORRISOME
 EVEN TO GOP SUPPORTERS, WHOSE CONFIDENCE IN THE
 GOVERNMENT'S CT CAPABILITIES RESTS ALMOST
 ENTIRELY ON DINCOTE'S TRACK RECORD FOLLOWING THE
 SPECTACULAR SEPTEMBER 1992 CAPTURE OF SENDERO
 FOUNDER/LEADER ABIMAEEL GUZMAN. GOP CRITICS,
 INCLUDING HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS, ARE ALARMED AT
 THE PROSPECTS OF THE SIN (READ VLADIMIRO
 MONTESINOS) ACQUIRING EVEN MORE POWER. HR
 GROUPS, WHICH GRUDGINGLY ADMIT THAT DINCOTE'S
 HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD IS GENERALLY POSITIVE, HAVE
 A VISCERAL REACTION AGAINST MONTESINOS WHOM, IN
 THEIR VIEW, HAS HAD A DIRECT ROLE IN MOST THE
 GOVERNMENT'S SHADIER AFFAIRS FROM THE APRIL 1992
 AUTO-COUP TO THE BARRIOS ALTOS AND LA CANTUTA
 DEATH SQUADS.

7. (C) AMBASSADOR'S COMMENT: GEN. KETIN VIDAL
 TOLD ME RECENTLY THAT HE WAS CONCERNED BOTH WITH
 THE TRANSFER OF DINCOTE PERSONNEL TO SIN AS WELL
 AS SIN'S INCREASED HOLD OVER DINCOTE. NOT
 SURPRISINGLY, HE BELIEVES THAT NIETHER
 DEVELOPMENT FAVORS THE MOST EFFECTIVE

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PROSECUTION OF THE WAR.

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ADAMS

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