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United States Department of State
RELEASED IN PART
Washington, D.C. B6 0520

April 26, 1994

TO: ARA - Alexander F. Watson
THROUGH: ARA - Donald J. Planty
FROM: ARA/AND - John Dawson
SUBJECT: Telephone Call to Peruvian Foreign Minister
Efrain Goldenberg re ICRC Access to Huanuco

Background: At least twenty-four killings of civilians in the Upper Huallaga Valley have been attributed by Peruvian human rights groups and journalists to the army during an operation against Sendero Luminoso which began in late March or early April. Although the charges are credible, they cannot be confirmed because the zone is sealed for "security reasons". To date the army continues to deny access to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

Army General Nicolas de Bari Hermoza, Chairman of the Armed Forces Joint Command, publicly invited the ICRC to the restricted zone on April 22. However, he would not allow a visit without a military escort. ICRC rep George Conninos told the Embassy that the ICRC could not accept Hermoza's public invitation under those conditions.

We recommend that you call Peruvian Prime/Foreign Minister Efrain Goldenberg to underline our concern and to request access for the ICRC.

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DEPT OF STATE APPEALS REVIEW PANEL (ARP)

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Exemptions

ARP Action Cert. me Date 02/3/02

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