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ACTION ARA-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AID-01	AMAD-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00
	DODE-00	DOEE-00	EB-01	EUR-01	HA-09	H-01	INM-02
	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-19	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	SS-00	STR-16	TRSE-00	T-00
	USIE-00	RPE-01	/082W				

-----BFA79C 141436Z /38

P 141431Z MAY 93  
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8319  
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY QUITO  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

[REDACTED] SECTION 01 OF 02 LIMA 05499

USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR  
TAGS: PHUM, PGOV, PE  
SUBJECT: PERUVIAN CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE TO  
- SEEK EXTENSION IN LA CANTUTA  
- INVESTIGATION

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REF: A. LIMA 3898, B. LIMA 4602  
- C. LIMA 3915

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: THE SPECIAL CONGRESSIONAL  
COMMITTEE INVESTIGATING THE "LA CANTUTA"  
DISAPPEARANCES VOTED MAY 11 TO REQUEST A 30-DAY  
EXTENSION OF ITS MANDATE. THE ENTIRE CONGRESS  
WILL VOTE ON THE ISSUE IN ITS MAY 14 PLENARY  
SESSION; ONE CONGRESSMAN AND A STAFFER SEPARATELY

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PREDICTED THE EXTENSION WOULD PASS EASILY.  
 NONETHELESS, INSIDERS ARE SKEPTICAL THAT THE  
 INVESTIGATION WILL BE ABLE TO DETERMINE WHO WAS  
 RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DISAPPEARANCES. END SUMMARY.

COMMITTEE VOTES TO SEEK EXTENSION  
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3. THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF PERU'S CONSTITUENT  
 CONGRESS (CCD) CHARGED WITH INVESTIGATING THE  
 ABDUCTIONS OF NINE STUDENTS AND A PROFESSOR FROM  
 LIMA'S "LA CANTUTA" UNIVERSITY VOTED MAY 11 TO  
 REQUEST A 30-DAY EXTENSION OF ITS MANDATE.  
 UNDER CCD INTERNAL REGULATIONS, SUCH SPECIAL  
 COMMITTEES ARE GIVEN 30 DAYS TO ISSUE THEIR  
 REPORTS. WITH THAT INITIAL TIME NOW EXPIRED,  
 THE COMMITTEE'S CHIEF STAFF ASSISTANT ADVISED US  
 MAY 12 THAT IT IS NOWHERE NEAR A CONCLUSION.

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 4. THE COMMITTEE'S MAY 11 MEETING WAS MARKED BY  
 A THEATRICAL AIR. CARLOS CUARESMA, ONE OF THE  
 THREE MINORITY MEMBERS OF THE FIVE-MEMBER  
 COMMITTEE, HAS BEEN PARTICIPATING IN A HUNGER  
 STRIKE IN SUPPORT OF FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AND TO  
 PROTEST THE CONTINUED DETENTION OF PERUVIAN  
 JOURNALIST DANILO QUIJANO (REF C). CUARESMA AT  
 THE LAST MINUTE AGREED TO JOIN THE MEETING, AND  
 WAS WHEELED INTO THE CONGRESS ON A STRETCHER,  
 COMPLETE WITH INTRAVENOUS EQUIPMENT, BY HIS  
 PARTY COLLEAGUE, A CONCERNED-LOOKING (AT LEAST  
 FOR THE CAMERAS) FERNANDO OLIVERA.

5. DURING THE MEETING, ACCORDING TO CHIEF STAFF  
 ASSISTANT LUZ MARIA CERRON, THE GOVERNMENT-PARTY  
 MEMBERS INSISTED THAT, AS A CONDITION FOR  
 SEEKING AN EXTENSION, THE COMMITTEE SHOULD ISSUE  
 AN INTERIM REPORT. FOLLOWING A DISCUSSION OF  
 THE ISSUE, THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS AGREED THAT  
 THEY DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH INFORMATION TO FILE  
 CONCLUSIVE REPORT; THEY FINALLY DECIDED TO PUT  
 TOGETHER ONLY A CHRONOLOGY OF COMMITTEE ACTIONS  
 TAKEN SO FAR.

WILL THE EXTENSION HELP?

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6. CERRON WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE FULL CONGRESS WOULD APPROVE THE EXTENSION IN ITS MAY 14 PLENARY SESSION. IF THE EXTENSION IS APPROVED, THE COMMITTEE WILL DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT TO TRAVEL TO

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 BUENOS AIRES TO TAKE THE TESTIMONY OF RECENTLY-DEPARTED GENERAL RODOLFO ROBLES. CERRON WAS NOT SO OPTIMISTIC, HOWEVER, THAT THE INVESTIGATION WOULD REACH A CONCLUSION ABOUT WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ABDUCTIONS AT THE UNIVERSITY. SHE NOTED THAT ONLY FIVE WITNESSES TO THE INCIDENT HAD THUS FAR TESTIFIED (MOST ANONYMOUSLY), AND COMPLAINED ABOUT WHAT SHE CALLED THE COMPLETE LACK OF COOPERATION BY THE MILITARY. "IF THE ARMED FORCES THINK THAT TIME IS ON THEIR SIDE," SHE RAILED, "THEY ARE WRONG. THIS ISSUE WILL NOT GO AWAY AND IT WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN."

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 ACTION ARA-01

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-----BFA88D 141440Z /38

P 141431Z MAY 93  
 FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8320  
 INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
 AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
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USMISSION GENEVA  
 USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 LIMA 05499

USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR  
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7. CERRON'S PESSIMISM WAS NOT SHARED BY CCD

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 MEMBER AND CHAIRMAN OF THE LABOR COMMITTEE,  
 RICARDO MARCENARO. IN A SEPARATE MEETING MAY  
 11, MARCENARO TOLD POLOFF THAT HE ANTICIPATED NO  
 DIFFICULTY IN EXTENDING THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE'S  
 MANDATE. MARCENARO, A MEMBER OF THE GOVERNMENT  
 "NEW MAJORITY/CAMBIO 90" PARTY WAS ALSO  
 CONFIDENT THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT WOULD BE  
 ACCURATE AND THAT IT WOULD NOT HAVE DIFFICULTY  
 OBTAINING THE TESTIMONY OF MILITARY WITNESSES.

CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUE APPARENTLY RESOLVED  
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8. ANOTHER POTENTIAL BARRIER TO THE COMMITTEE'S  
 INVESTIGATION SEEMS LIKELY TO BE OVERCOME.  
 THERE WAS DISCUSSION IN THE CCD OVER THE LAST  
 WEEK AS TO WHETHER THE COMMITTEE HAD THE RIGHT  
 UNDER THE 1979 CONSTITUTION TO CALL WITNESSES,  
 SINCE BOTH THE CIVILIAN AND MILITARY JUDICIARIES  
 HAD BEGUN THEIR OWN INVESTIGATIONS. HOWEVER,  
 THE CCD'S CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE REVIEWED THE  
 ISSUE AND OPINED THAT THE SPECIAL CONGRESSIONAL  
 COMMITTEE COULD, IN PRINCIPLE, SUMMON WITNESSES,  
 INCLUDING ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL, TO TESTIFY.

9. COMMENT: WE NOTED AT THE TIME THE SPECIAL  
 COMMITTEE WAS FORMED THAT ITS SUCCESS WOULD  
 DEPEND LARGELY ON COOPERATION FROM THE MILITARY  
 AND INTELLIGENCE SERVICE; NOW, OVER FIVE WEEKS  
 LATER, THE COMMITTEE IS AT AN IMPASSE BECAUSE IT  
 HAS RECEIVED ALMOST NO INFORMATION FROM THE

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ARMED FORCES. IN FACT, THE ARMY HAS REFUSED  
EVEN TO REVEAL THE NAMES OF ITS SOLDIERS IN  
CHARGE OF GUARDING THE UNIVERSITY THE NIGHT OF  
THE ABDUCTIONS. NO ONE IN THE CCD WOULD SPEAK  
OUT AGAINST GIVING THE COMMITTEE AN EXTENSION,  
GIVEN THE INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION ON THE CASE;  
HOWEVER, FEW NOW REALISTICALLY BELIEVE THE  
COMMITTEE CAN ACCOMPLISH ITS GOAL OF GETTING TO  
THE BOTTOM OF THE DISAPPEARANCES.  
BRAYSHAW

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