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\*\* NARRATIVE MESSAGE \*\*

PAGE 1 MLN=06888  
CAN=404-170355

>>> I M M E D I A T E <<<

TCR = 012225Z DEC 95

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ACTION = [ETCC,SVC]      DAW(-)              DEA(1)              MXI(-)              POLAD(1)  
                              SCCS(1)              SCJ3(1)              SCJ5(1)              SCRF(1)  
                              SIMS(-)

INFO =

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[ETCC,SVC] TOTAL COPIES = 6              MDC = ~~AUT~~ (CSC)

OTTUZYUW RUEHPEA1076 3352219-0000--RHLEAAA.

ZNR 00000 ZZH

O 012219Z DEC 95

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8353

INFO RUEHGT/AMEMBASSY QUITO 6271

RHLBAAA/USCINCSO GUARRY HEIGHTS PM

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC

RUEHXP/AMEMBASSY PANAMA 0558

RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ 9802

RUEHFB/DIRFEI WASHDC

RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 6833

RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 8153

RUEKDIA/DIA WASHDC

ZT

UNCLAS LIMA 011076

TERREF

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

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PTER, ASEC, CASC, AMGT, FE

SUBJECT: MRTA LEADER SURRENDERS AFTER ALL-NIGHT  
- SHOOTOUT IN LIMA RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD

REF: LIMA 11063

1. THE SECOND HIGHEST-RANKING LEADER OF THE TUPAC  
AMARU REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT (MRTA), MIGUEL RINCON  
RINCON, AS WELL AS APPROXIMATELY A DOZEN OTHER

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>>> I M M E D I A T E <<<

MEMBERS OF THE TERRORIST ORGANIZATION, SURRENDERED TO PERUVIAN ANTI-TERRORISM POLICE IN THE LA MOLINA DISTRICT OF LIMA THE MORNING OF DECEMBER 1. THE SURRENDERS FOLLOWED A VIOLENT FIREFIGHT THAT BEGAN THE PREVIOUS NIGHT AT APPROXIMATELY 2130 HOURS NOVEMBER 30 WHEN POLICE, REPORTEDLY ACTING ON INFORMATION PRODUCED BY FOLLOWING SUSPECTED TERRORISTS, SURROUNDED A HOUSE IN THE UPPER-MIDDLE CLASS NEIGHBORHOOD. ACCORDING TO THE MEDIA, THE TERRORISTS INSIDE ATTACKED THE POLICE WITH RIFLES, SUBMACHINE GUNS, AND HAND GRENADES. SOON THE NEIGHBORHOOD WAS FLOODED WITH OVER 300 POLICEMEN, ARMY SPECIAL FORCES AND NAVY TRCOPS, ARMORED VEHICLES, HELICOPTERS AND AMBULANCES WERE BROUGHT TO THE SCENE.

2. SOME OF THE TERRORISTS ESCAPED THE HOUSE AND ENTERED TWO NEIGHBORING HOMES, TAKING FAMILIES HOSTAGE. FOLLOWING HOURS OF SHOOTING, THE MRTA MEMBERS BEGAN GIVING THEMSELVES UP. SEVERAL OF THE TERRORISTS, SOME OF THEM REPORTEDLY WOMEN AND TEENAGERS, WERE INJURED AND EVACUATED TO HOSPITALS. FINALLY, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF A CATHOLIC PRIEST, SECURITY FORCES ACHIEVED WHAT THE MEDIA DESCRIBED AS THE "UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER" OF RINCCN AND THE REMAINING TERRORISTS, BETWEEN 0830 AND 0915 HOURS DECEMBER 1. TELEVISION IMAGES OF THE SURRENDER INDICATED THAT MOST OF THE GROUP CONSISTED OF VERY YOUNG MALES; SOME OF THEM MAY BE MINORS.

3. THERE WERE THREE TERRORISTS CONFIRMED KILLED IN THE SHOOTOUT (SOME REPORTS SAY FOUR). ONE MEMBER OF THE SECURITY FORCES DIED. THERE WAS UNKNOWN NUMBER OF INJURIES, SOME OF THEM SERIOUS, ON BOTH SIDES. NONE OF THE HOSTAGES WAS HURT. THREE EMBASSY FAMILIES LIVE IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF THE INCIDENT; NONE WERE HURT.

4. AS REPORTED REFTTEL AN APPARENT U.S. CITIZEN WAS ARRESTED IN THE OPERATION. ACCORDING TO POLICE, LORI HELENE BERENSON, APPROXIMATELY 26 YEARS OLD,

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WAS DETAINED IN THE LIMA DISTRICT OF LINCE, AFTER SHE LEFT THE HOUSE WHERE RINCCN WAS STAYING IN THE AFTERNOON OR EARLY EVENING OF NOVEMBER 30. A CONOFF WILL VISIT THE DETAINEE THE EVENING OF DECEMBER 1 TO VERIFY CITIZENSHIP AND PROVIDE CONSULAR SERVICES (DETAILS SEPTEL). REPORTEDLY THERE ARE ALSO ONE OR TWO PANAMANIAN CITIZENS AND A ECLIVIAN AMONG THOSE ARRESTED.

5. COMMENT: THE CAPTURE OF RINCON AND AT LEAST 11 OTHER ALLEGED MRTA MEMBERS, AS WELL AS THE SEIZURE OF A LARGE AMOUNT OF ARMS, MUNITIONS AND EXPLOSIVES, IS A HUGE BLOW TO MRTA. THE GROUP MAY HAVE BEEN PLANNING VIOLENT ATTACKS IN LIMA, OR MAY HAVE BEEN STORING THE WEAPONS FOR TRANSPORT ELSEWHERE (MRTA HAS ITS STRONGEST PRESENCE IN EASTERN JUNIN AND PASCO DEPARTMENTS).

ADAMS

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