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RELEASED IN FULL

n/a

Case Number: 200102877

PT00470

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ACTION WHA-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	ACQ-00	CIAE-00	SMEC-00	INL-00	DODE-00
	SRPP-00	DS-00	EUR-00	OIGO-00	VC-00	H-01	TEDE-00
	INR-00	LAB-01	L-00	VCE-00	AC-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00
	OMB-01	OPIC-01	PA-00	FM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00	P-00
	SP-00	SSO-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	ASDS-01	R-00	PMB-00
	DSCC-00	DRL-02	G-00	SAS-00	SWCI-00	/008W	
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O 061215Z NOV 00
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7238
INFO AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY
DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHINGTON DC
DIRFBI WASHDC
DEA HQS WASHDC
USCUSTOMS SERVICE WASHDC

LIMA 006575

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/03/09
TAGS: PCOV, PREL, KCRM, PB
SUBJECT: PERUVIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY ON MONTESINOS MONEY
LAUNDERING INVESTIGATION

REF:LIMA 6557

1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY CHARGE D'AFFAIRES ROBERTA S. JACOBSON.
REASON: 1.5 (B) AND (D).

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2. (C) SUMMARY. THE MFA HAS DIRECTLY EMPHASIZED TO US THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH THE GOVERNMENT IS TAKING THE INVESTIGATION OF VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS' SWISS BANK ACCOUNTS AND OTHER ALLEGATIONS OF MONEY LAUNDERING. ALSO NOTING THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE MATTER, PRESIDENT FUJIMORI HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (NOVEMBER 3) IN WHICH HE SAID MONTESINOS HAD TO RESPOND TO THESE CHARGES. WE HAVE STRESSED TO THEM OUR DESIRE TO BE HELPFUL IN THIS INVESTIGATION, IF ASSISTANCE IS REQUESTED AND APPROPRIATE. THEY HAVE CONFIRMED THAT ALL REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION WILL BE CHanneled THROUGH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, ALTHOUGH JUSTICE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: MELVIN J. SINN
DATE/CASE ID: 19 JUN 2002 200102877

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MINISTER BUSTAMANTE IS THE POINT PERSON FOR THE INVESTIGATION ITSELF. BUSTAMANTE INDICATED TO CHARGE THAT THE USG COULD EXPECT A FORMAL REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE SHORTLY.
END SUMMARY.

3. (C) CHARGE SPOKE LATE MORNING NOVEMBER 3 WITH JOSE ANTONIO BELLINA, CHIEF OF STAFF FOR FOREIGN MINISTER DE TRAZEGNIES ON THE MONTESINOS MONEY LAUNDERING CASE. CHARGE HAD PHONED DE TRAZEGNIES WHEN BELLINA CALLED ON THE MINISTER'S BEHALF.

4. (C) BELLINA BEGAN THE CONVERSATION BY STRESSING THAT PRESIDENT FUJIMORI AND THE ENTIRE GOP WERE COMMITTED TO PURSUING THE INVESTIGATION. BELLINA ASKED WHETHER THE USG HAD PUBLICLY REACTED TO THE NEWS OF THE MONTESINOS MONEY LAUNDERING INVESTIGATION. CHARGE INDICATED WE HAD NOT YET, BUT WOULD PROBABLY DO SO DURING THE REGULAR DAILY PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT IN WASHINGTON. SHE

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INDICATED THAT THE USG WAS LIKELY TO SAY THAT WE WERE PLEASED THAT THE GOP WAS COOPERATING WITH THE SWISS INVESTIGATION, AND WOULD COOPERATE WITH THE GOP AS APPROPRIATE, AND WHEN/IF REQUESTED. BELLINA WAS DELIGHTED WITH THE RESPONSE, SAYING THAT MOST IMPORTANT WAS THAT THE USG WELCOME THE INVESTIGATION.

5. (C) CHARGE TOLD BELLINA THAT WE HAD ALREADY RECEIVED A LETTER FROM DINANDRO COMMANDING GENERAL RAMON CHONG CHING REQUESTING DEA INFORMATION CONCERNING MONTESINOS FOR THE ONGOING DOMESTIC INVESTIGATION (REFTEL), TO WHICH WE HAVE NOT REPLIED. SHE UNDERScoreD THAT WE WISHED TO BE HELPFUL TO THE GOP IN ITS INVESTIGATIONS AND SUGGESTED THE BEST WAY TO COORDINATE OUR EFFORTS PROPERLY WOULD BE IF WE COULD RECEIVE THEM VIA THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IN WRITING. BELLINA AGREED FULLY. HE SAID THAT BECAUSE THE MFA WAS NOT THE INVESTIGATORY BODY, IT WOULD BE USED AS THE "POST OFFICE BOX" FOR ALL COMMUNICATIONS ON THE SUBJECT. BELLINA CONFIRMED THAT HE WOULD BE THE POINT OF CONTACT AT THE MFA FOR THIS ISSUE, AND THAT WE SHOULD AS WELL SPEAK DIRECTLY TO MINISTER BUSTAMANTE ON THE INVESTIGATION ITSELF. CHARGE STRESSED WE WERE NOT SEEKING TO IMPEDE OR SLOW DOWN REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION OR RESPONSES TO THEM, JUST WANTED GOOD COORDINATION.

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6. (U) AT MID-AFTERNOON, IN A PALACE PRESS CONFERENCE, PRESIDENT FUJIMORI OUTLINED THE MATTER FOR REPORTERS READING THE NAMES OF THE BANKS IN QUESTION AND SUMS. RESPONDING TO ONE QUESTION, THE PRESIDENT SAID POLITICAL ASYLUM WAS NO LONGER A POINT FOR CONSIDERATION SINCE THIS WAS A CRIMINAL MATTER. SPECIAL PROSECUTOR JOSE UGAZ AND JUSTICE MINISTER

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BUSTAMANTE ACCOMPANIED THE PRESIDENT.

7. (C) CHARGE SPOKE BRIEFLY WITH BUSTAMANTE AFTER THE PRESS CONFERENCE. BUSTAMANTE AGREED FULLY WITH COORDINATION OF REQUESTS THROUGH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND INDICATED THE USC COULD EXPECT A FORMAL REQUEST OF ASSISTANCE SHORTLY. HE DID NOT GIVE ANY FURTHER DETAILS ON WHAT TYPE OF ASSISTANCE WOULD BE SOUGHT.
JACOBSON

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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