

R

UNCLASSIFIED

DOCUMENT_ID: 1050773
 INQNO: DOC40D 00411016
 DOCNO: TEL 000597 97
 PRODUCER: ROME
 SOURCE: STATE
 DOCTYPE: IN
 DOR: 19970124
 TOR: 104056
 DOCPREC: R
 ORIGDATE: 199701241518
 MHFNO: 97 6709329
 DOCCLASS: U

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
 (X) Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify
 Date 7/5/02 Exemption _____

HEADER
 RR RUEAIIB
 ZNR UUUUU ZOC STATE ZZH
 MSIO218
 RR RUEHC
 DE RUEHRO #0597 0241518
 ZNR UUUUU ZZH
 R 241518Z JAN 97
 FM AMEMBASSY ROME
 TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4128
 INFO RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 6412
 RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA 1218
 RUEHFL/AMCONSUL FLORENCE 4041
 RUCNFB/DIRFBI WASHDC
 RUEHMIL/AMCONSUL MILAN 7191
 RUEHNP/AMCONSUL NAPLES 7773
 BT

CONTROLS
 UNCLAS ROME 000597

E.O. 12958: N/A

TEXT
 TAGS: PREL, PTER, PE, IT
 SUBJECT: ITALY: BREAK-IN AT PERUVIAN CONSULATE,
 TUPAC AMARU CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY

1. ITALIAN ANTI-TERRORISM POLICE (DIGOS) SOURCES TOLD THE ITALIAN NEWS AGENCY ANSA THAT A GROUP OF FOUR OR FIVE PERSONS BROKE INTO THE PERUVIAN CONSULATE IN PADUA, NORTHERN ITALY, ON JANUARY 23. ACCORDING TO THE SOURCES, THE GROUP DID NOT CARRY WEAPONS, BUT SPRAYED THE CONSULATE WALLS WITH GRAFFITI READING 'MRTA' AND 'FREEDOM FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS.'
2. AN ALLEGED 'TUPAC AMARU COMMANDO GROUP' CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE BREAK-IN IN TWO ANONYMOUS TELEPHONE CALLS TO ANSA THE SAME DAY. THE ANONYMOUS CALLER TOLD ANSA THE RAID WAS 'ONLY A WARNING' AND, IF HIS MRTA COMPANIONS IN THE JAPANESE EMBASSY IN LIMA WERE KILLED, THE

UNCLASSIFIED

PERUVIAN HONORARY CONSUL TO PADUA (AN ITALIAN CITIZEN) 'WOULD PAY FOR IT.' THE CALLER ADDED THAT THE PERUVIAN HONORARY CONSUL MUST PRESSURE THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT TO RELEASE MRTA MEMBERS IN JAIL AND 'REACH A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE CRISIS.'

3. DIGOS SOURCES TOLD ANSA THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMANDO GROUP MAY BE MRTA SYMPATHIZERS IN ITALIAN EXTREME LEFT CIRCLES IN AND AROUND PADUA. ACCORDING TO DIGOS, THE RAID MAY HAVE BEEN IN CONNECTION WITH A PRESS CONFERENCE IN PADUA JANUARY 23 BY MRTA EUROPE REPRESENTATIVE ISAAC VELAZCO. EMBASSY HAS NO INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT VELAZCO SAID AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

BARTHOLOMEW

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Page 2