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ACTION INR-00

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-08	ACDE-00	AMAD-01	ARA-01	ACQ-01	CA-02
	CTME-00	DINT-00	DODE-00	DS-00	EB-00	OIGO-01	IM-01
	TEDE-00	ADS-00	MMP-00	DCP-01	NSAE-00	SCT-00	VO-03
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P 221847Z APR 98
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2654
INFO USCINCSO MIAMI FL
CIA WASHINGTON DC
DIA WASHDC
INS HQINT WASHDC
US CUSTOMS SERVICE WASHINGTON DC
DIRFBI WASHDC

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VISAS VIPER

STATE FOR INR/IC AND CA/VO/L/C
SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD
FBI FOR INTD CTS
INS FOR HQINT
CUSTOMS FOR INTEL

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/22/98
TAGS: PTER, ASEC, CVIS, KVPR, PINR, PE
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SUBJECT: GOP CAPTURES SENIOR SENDERO CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER

(U) CLASSIFIED BY DCM HEATHER HODGES, EMBASSY LIMA.
REASON 1.5 (D).

1. (SBU) SUMMARY: THE PERUVIAN COUNTERTERRORISM POLICE (DINCOTE) CAPTURED ON APRIL 20 PEDRO QUINTEROS, ONE OF ONLY THREE ORIGINAL MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF SENDERO LUMINOSO (SHINING PATH - SL) REMAINING AT LARGE, OUTSIDE A RESTAURANT ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF LIMA. THE GOP CONTINUES TO MAKE SIGNIFICANT

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: DONALD A. JOHNSTON
DATE/CASE ID: 18 DEC 2001 200103376

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INROADS AGAINST SENDERO LUMINOSO, AND THE ARREST OF QUINTEROS SHOULD UNDERMINE SL'S REBUILDING EFFORTS IN LIMA. END SUMMARY.

2. (U) PRESIDENT FUJIMORI ANNOUNCED THE ARREST PEDRO DOMINGO QUINTEROS AYLLON TO THE PRESS ON APRIL 21, ASSERTING THAT THE GOP HAD JUST "AMPUTATED THE RIGHT ARM" OF SL'S MOST IMPORTANT LEADER AT LARGE, OSCAR RAMIREZ DURAND, A.K.A. "FELICIANO." FUJIMORI ALSO SAID THE ARREST OF QUINTEROS MAY FACILITATE THE ARREST OF "FELICIANO" SOON. FUJIMORI SHOWED OLD PICTURES OF QUINTEROS STANDING NEXT TO SL FOUNDER ABIMAE L GUZMAN. QUINTEROS APPEARED IN THE 1989 SL PARTY CONGRESS VIDEO WHICH THE GOP CAPTURED IN 1991 AND USED TO HELP IDENTIFY AND CAPTURE SL LEADERS.

3. (U) ACCORDING TO LOCAL PRESS REPORTS, DINCOTE USED REPENTANT SL TERRORISTS TO MAKE CONTACT WITH QUINTEROS THE NIGHT OF APRIL 20. QUINTEROS AND THREE MEMBERS OF HIS SECURITY TEAM WERE REPORTEDLY ARRESTED ON THE STREET OUTSIDE A RESTAURANT IN THE CANTO GRANDE SECTION OF SAN JUAN DE LURIGANCHO, A WORKING CLASS NEIGHBORHOOD ON THE EASTERN OUTSKIRTS OF LIMA. AFTER THE CAPTURE OF QUINTEROS, THE ONLY ORIGINAL MEMBER OF SL'S 25-MEMBER CENTRAL COMMITTEE CURRENTLY AT LARGE, IN ADDITION TO OSCAR RAMIREZ

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 DURAND, IS MARIA RODRIGUEZ NEYRA, A.K.A. "RITA."

4. (U) PEDRO DOMINGO QUINTEROS AYLLON, A.K.A. "LUIS," HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN LEADING SL'S METROPOLITAN COMMITTEE SINCE 1993. HE IS ALLEGEDLY RESPONSIBLE FOR PLANNING NUMEROUS TERRORIST ATTACKS IN THE PERUVIAN CAPITAL. QUINTEROS WAS BORN IN 1941 IN HUANCVELICA, STUDIED AT THE NATIONAL PEDAGOGICAL INSTITUTE IN LIMA, AND TAUGHT IN SAN MARTIN DE PORRES, A POOR NEIGHBORHOOD OF LIMA, FROM 1964 TO 1983. HE BECAME A FOLLOWER OF ABIMAE L GUZMAN IN 1970 AND HAD ACCOMPANIED THE SL FOUNDER ON A TRIP TO CHINA.

5. (C) COMMENT. THE GOP ARREST OF PEDRO QUINTEROS IS A SIGNIFICANT SETBACK FOR SENDERO LUMINOSO. QUINTEROS WAS ONE OF THE FEW REMAINING SL LEADERS WHO COULD STILL LAY CLAIM TO A CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH JAILED FOUNDER ABIMAE L GUZMAN. MOREOVER, QUINTEROS DIRECTED THE TERRORIST ORGANIZATION'S OPERATIONS, AS WELL AS RECRUITING AND REORGANIZING EFFORTS, IN THE PERUVIAN CAPITAL. CONTRARY TO FUJIMORI'S PUBLIC ASSERTIONS, WE DO NOT EXPECT THE ARREST OF QUINTEROS TO LEAD TO A SPEEDY ARREST OF SL LEADER "FELICIANO." "FELICIANO" IS REPORTEDLY HOLED UP IN THE ALMOST INACCESSIBLE MOUNTAINOUS JUNGLE REGION OF VISCATAN IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AYACUCHO AND IS PROBABLY OUT OF TOUCH WITH SL CADRES WORKING ELSEWHERE, INCLUDING LIMA. SPEAKING ON THE EVE OF

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THE ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE GOP'S SUCCESSFUL HOSTAGE RESCUE AT THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE, FUJIMORI PROBABLY SOUGHT TO MAXIMIZE THE POLITICAL IMPACT OF THE ARREST, AND JUDGING FROM TODAY'S HEADLINES, SUCCEEDED IN DOING SO. END COMMENT.

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