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Inquire: DOC13D
Item No: 202222

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CONTROLS:

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(b)(3) PASS: 
SERIAL: DIADIN 271-2A

BODY:

SUBJ: PERU: ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN. (U)
DOI: 28 SEP 89 (AS OF 1509 EDT)
TEXT: 1. ~~(S)~~ COUNTERNARCOTICS OPERATIONS IN THE UPPER HUALLAGA

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VALLEY RESUMED ON 8 SEPTEMBER, BUT SEVERAL OBSTACLES HAVE IMPEDED SUCCESS.

2. ~~(S)~~ INTERDICTION TEAMS IN UCHIZA HAVE REPORTEDLY ENCOUNTERED MAJOR DIFFICULTIES FROM GEN ARCINIEGA, WHO IS THE POLITICAL-MILITARY COMMANDER OF THE REGION. HE IS SAID TO BE FOCUSING ON COMBATING INSURGENTS IN THE AREA WHILE NEGLECTING AND EVEN SUPPORTING NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING IN UCHIZA. MANY TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAD PREVIOUSLY USED AIRSTRIPS OUTSIDE UCHIZA ARE REPORTEDLY NOW USING UCHIZA'S AIRSTRIP TO CARRY ON THEIR OPERATIONS.

3. (C) MOREOVER, THE GENERAL IS SAID TO HAVE PROHIBITED INTERDICTION OPERATIONS IN THE UCHIZA AREA. HE HAS ALLEGEDLY THREATENED TO HAVE HIS TROOPS FIRE ON POLICE HELICOPTERS AND PERSONNEL IF THEY VIOLATE HIS ORDER.

4. ~~(S)~~ AS A RESULT OF ARCINIEGA'S POLICIES, INTERDICTION TEAMS HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN UNABLE TO CONDUCT ANTIDRUG MISSIONS IN THE UCHIZA AREA. THEY CAN CARRY OUT OPERATIONS IN OTHER VALLEY LOCATIONS, HOWEVER, IF THE MILITARY IS NOTIFIED IN ADVANCE.

5. ~~(S)~~ IN VALLEY AREAS OUTSIDE UCHIZA, INTERDICTION TEAMS FACE A THREAT NOT ONLY FROM INSURGENTS BUT ALSO FROM MOUNTING INSURGENT-TRAFFICKER COLLUSION. THE GUERRILLAS ARE SAID TO PROVIDE SECURITY FOR TRAFFICKER OPERATIONS IN EXCHANGE FOR A FEE AND TO RECRUIT AND TO PROSELYTIZE AMONG THE PEASANTS. INSURGENTS ARE ALSO REPORTEDLY INVOLVED IN NARCOTICS PROCESSING.

6. ~~(S)~~ COMMENT: ANTIDRUG OPERATIONS IN THE VALLEY WERE SUSPENDED LAST FEBRUARY BECAUSE OF INSURGENT AND NARCOTICS TRAFFICKER THREATS. SECURITY UPGRADES AND THE RECENT COMPLETION OF A RUNWAY AT THE SANTA LUCIA POLICE BASE CAMP PERMITTED THE RESUMPTION OF OPERATIONS.

7. ~~(S)~~ THE LEVEL OF DRUG TRAFFICKING IN UCHIZA HAS QUITE LIKELY RISEN SINCE GEN ARCINIEGA ASSUMED COMMAND IN APRIL, AND INTERDICTION EFFORTS THERE WILL PROBABLY REMAIN AT A VIRTUAL STANDSTILL AS LONG AS HE MAINTAINS HIS MILITARY STRATEGY. WHETHER HE WOULD ORDER HIS TROOPS TO FIRE ON INTERDICTION TEAMS, HOWEVER, IS UNCERTAIN.

8. ~~(S)~~ INCREASED INSURGENT-TRAFFICKER COLLUSION WILL UNDOUBTEDLY POSE A GROWING THREAT TO INTERDICTION TEAMS OUTSIDE UCHIZA. IN ANY EVENT, COUNTERNARCOTICS OPERATIONS IN THE VALLEY WILL QUITE LIKELY CONTINUE AT A SLOW PACE.

ADMIN:

(b)(2) (b)(3)

PREP: [REDACTED]

~~DECL: OADR~~

END OF MESSAGE

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