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EXDIS

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ACTION SS-00

INFO LOG-00 OASY-00 ADS-00 /000W  
-----941117 282128Z /38

O 282129Z JAN 97  
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5571  
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

RELEASED IN PART  
B1, 1.5(B), 1.5(D)

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EXDIS DECAPTIONED

DEPT FOR S/CT - AMB. WILCOX

E.O. 12958: DECL: (01/28/06)  
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, PTER, PE, JA  
SUBJECT: (C) GOING NOWHERE SLOWLY: UPDATE ON  
LIMA HOSTAGE NEGOTIATIONS OR LACK THEREOF

REF: LIMA 0725

1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY: AMBASSADOR DENNIS JETT, EMBASSY LIMA,  
FOR REASONS 1.5 (B) AND (D).

2. (C) SUMMARY: [REDACTED] DIPLOMAT REVIEWED FOR AMBASSADOR  
JETT THE APPARENTLY CONTRADICTIONARY MESSAGES IN THE GOP'S STRATEGY  
FOR DEALING WITH THE HOSTAGE CRISIS. PRESIDENT FUJIMORI IS  
MAKING PREPARATIONS FOR PROPOSED NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE MRTA  
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HOSTAGE TAKERS AT THE SAME TIME THAT HE IS UNWILLING TO SHOW ANY  
FLEXIBILITY WITH REGARD TO THE TERRORISTS' DROPPING THEIR DEMAND  
THAT THEIR JAILED COLLEAGUES BE RELEASED. FUJIMORI CLEARLY  
BELIEVES THAT FIRMNESS IS REQUIRED TO BRING THE MRTA TO THE  
TABLE. END SUMMARY.

3. (C) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] CALLED ON THE AMBASSADOR JANUARY  
27 TO UPDATE HIM ON THE RAPIDLY EVOLVING ARRANGEMENTS FOR  
NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF PERU AND THE TUPAC AMARU  
REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT (MRTA) MILITANTS HOLDING 72 HOSTAGES IN  
THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE IN LIMA. [REDACTED]

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ALL IS IN READINESS  
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4. [REDACTED] TOLD AMBASSADOR JETT THAT THE GOP'S OFFICIAL INTERLOCUTOR, EDUCATION MINISTER DOMINGO PALERMO, HAD GIVEN [REDACTED] A DETAILED READOUT TO CONVEY TO TOKYO ON JANUARY 26. WORKING WITH NEGOTIATIONS GUARANTOR ARCHBISHOP JUAN LUIS CIPRIANI, PALERMO HAD DRAFTED A DOCUMENT FOR PRESIDENT FUJIMORI'S APPROVAL LAYING OUT MODALITIES FOR THE GOP-MRTA TALKS. FUJIMORI THEN JOINED PALERMO AND CIPRIANI AT PALERMO'S RESIDENCE THE EVENING OF JANUARY 25 TO CHECK ALL THE DETAILS AND MAKE QUITE SURE THE DOCUMENT SAID WHAT THEY WANTED IT TO. THE GOP WAS PREPARING AN ARMORED CAR (ON LOAN FROM THE U.K. EMBASSY) TO TRANSPORT THE MRTA NEGOTIATOR TO THE HOUSE ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE HOSTAGE SITE WHERE PREPARATIONS FOR HOSTING THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE ALSO IN TRAIN.

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5. (C) [REDACTED] ARCHBISHOP CIPRIANI CARRIED THE GOP'S PROPOSAL TO MRTA COMANDANTE NESTOR CERPA CARTOLINI ON JANUARY 26. CERPA REPORTEDLY AGREED TO "95 PER CENT" OF WHAT WAS OFFERED IN THE DOCUMENT. THE MRTA LEADER DID NOT AGREE, HOWEVER, THAT THE CONTENTS OF THE DOCUMENT COULD BE MADE PUBLIC AS THE GOP DESIRED. AMBASSADOR JETT QUERIED [REDACTED] AS TO THE CONTENTS OF THE DOCUMENT AND WAS TOLD THAT PALERMO HAD DISCLOSED LITTLE; IT WAS NOT EXACTLY AN AGENDA FOR THE TALKS BUT COULD MOVE THE TWO SIDES TO SIT DOWN TO NEGOTIATE. [REDACTED] REFERRED TO ABSTRACT LANGUAGE--PROBABLY BORROWED FROM THE M-19 TAKEOVER OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC'S EMBASSY IN BOGOTA--ABOUT BOTH SIDES LOOKING AT THE PROBLEM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNTRY'S LAWS AND CONSTITUTION AS A WAY OF BRIDGING THE DEEP GOP-MRTA DIVIDE OVER DISCUSSING MRTA'S DEMAND FOR PRISONER RELEASES.

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JAPANESE DOCTOR TO ACCOMPANY ICRC DAILY  
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6. (C) AMBASSADOR TERADA MET WITH CIPRIANI AT THE ARCHBISHOP'S RESIDENCE DURING THE EVENING JANUARY 26. CIPRIANI GAVE TERADA MESSAGES FROM THE JAPANESE HOSTAGES, INCLUDING A LETTER FROM HOSTAGE AMBASSADOR AOKI, TO TERADA. CIPRIANI RECOMMENDED THAT IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR A DOCTOR FROM THE JAPANESE RED CROSS TO ACCOMPANY THE ICRC INTO THE RESIDENCE TO ASSURE THAT THE JAPANESE-SPEAKING HOSTAGES ARE RECEIVING THE SAME ATTENTION AND

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QUALITY OF CARE AS THE SPANISH-SPEAKING HOSTAGES. THE JAPANESE  
"DEMARCHED" THE RED CROSS ON THIS MATTER AT A JANUARY 27 MEETING.  
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THE ICRC AGREED TO THE GOJ'S REQUEST THAT A JAPANESE DOCTOR  
ACCOMPANY ITS REPRESENTATIVES SO THAT THE GOJ AND THE FAMILIES OF  
THE JAPANESE HOSTAGES COULD RECEIVE DETAILED REPORTS ON THE  
MEDICAL CONDITIONS OF THE HOSTAGES.

7. (C) CIPRIANI TOLD THE JAPANESE THAT HE HAD BEEN DISTURBED BY  
THE CONFUSION WHICH REIGNED INSIDE THE RESIDENCE THE NIGHT OF  
JANUARY 25-26 DURING NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE DEPARTURE FOR MEDICAL  
REASONS OF PNP GENERAL JOSE RIVAS RODRIGUEZ. ACCORDING TO THE  
ARCHBISHOP'S ACCOUNT, FOUR OF THE MRTA TERRORISTS, INCLUDING  
COMANDANTE CERPA, WERE IN A "CONDITION OF MADNESS," SCREAMING  
THAT NO MORE HOSTAGES SHOULD BE RELEASED.

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IN CONTRAST, CIPRIANI HAD TOLD  
THE JAPANESE THAT THE SITUATION INSIDE THE HOSTAGE SITE LATER ON  
JANUARY 26 HAD CALMED DOWN CONSIDERABLY. IT WAS CIPRIANI'S  
ASSESSMENT THAT NOW WAS EXACTLY THE RIGHT TIME TO OPEN THE FACE-  
TO-FACE DIALOGUE; IN FOUR OR FIVE MORE DAYS THE SITUATION COULD

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BE QUITE DIFFERENT.

[REDACTED] FIFTY-FIFTY" ON PROSPECTS FOR A NONVIOLENT RESOLUTION

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B. [REDACTED] AGAIN THANKED AMBASSADOR JETT FOR THE USG'S SUPPORT AND ESPECIALLY FOR THE AMBASSADOR'S JANUARY 24 COMMENTS TO THE EFFECT THAT IT WOULD BE AN ERROR FOR THE GOP TO USE FORCE  
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TO RESOLVE A PROBLEM WHICH COULD BE RESOLVED NONVIOLENTLY. [REDACTED] WAS SOMEWHAT MORE SANGUINE ABOUT THE POTENTIAL FOR A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION THAN HE HAD BEEN WHEN HE HAD CALLED ON THE AMBASSADOR TWO DAYS BEFORE (REPTEL). THE [REDACTED] ENVOY DID SEE SOME ADDITIONAL CLOUDS ON THE HORIZON, HOWEVER. > ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] ON THE DOWN SIDE WERE CONTINUING INDICATIONS THAT FUJIMORI REMAINED INFLEXIBLE IN HIS WISH TO HAVE THE MRTA BACK DOWN FROM ITS CENTRAL DEMAND THAT MORE THAN 400 MRTA MILITANTS BE RELEASED FROM PERUVIAN PRISONS BEFORE DIRECT TALKS BEGIN. THE GOP HAD ALSO INFORMED [REDACTED] THAT "INTIMIDATION MANEUVERS" WOULD BE RESUMED THIS WEEK. [REDACTED] NOTED THAT THE GOP HAD APPARENTLY MOUNTED A LARGE LOUDSPEAKER AT THE PERIMETER OF THE HOSTAGE SITE. (COMMENT: THIS CLEARLY OCCURRED WHEN SIX ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS AND A FORMATION OF WELL-ARMED TACTICAL ACTION UNIT (SUAT) PERSONNEL PARADED IN FRONT OF THE HOSTAGE SITE TO THE STRAINS OF MARTIAL MUSIC RIGHT AFTER THIS CONVERSATION TOOK PLACE (SEPTTEL). END COMMENT.)

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