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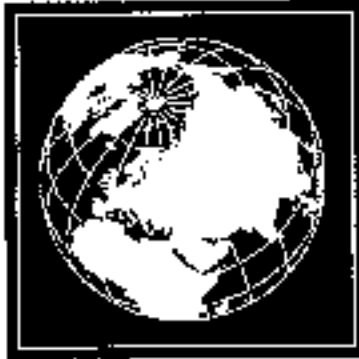
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Director of Central Intelligence

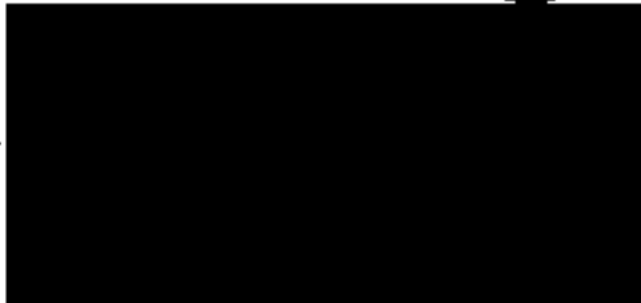


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AMERICAS

Peru:

Hostage Talks Moving Slowly [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] have told US officials [REDACTED] a peaceful settlement to the hostage standoff is taking shape, although at a slower pace than they desire. Intermediaries [REDACTED] are shuttling between the two sides exchanging settlement proposals.

— *Lima appears ready to free from prison low-level Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) members* [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] believes MRTA leader Cerpa has accepted that the group's top leaders will not be freed, *but the rebel leader's insistence on the release of other prominent MRTA members will keep him at odds with Lima.*

Meanwhile, the heightened tension in the Japanese Ambassador's residence makes a violent outcome a possibility. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the hostages are increasingly frustrated, and Cerpa reprimanded another terrorist who complained conditions were difficult.

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27 March 1997