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RELEASED IN FULL

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ACTION WHA-00

INFO	LOG-00	AID-00	CCO-00	CIAE-00	DODE-00	SRPP-00	EB-00
	VC-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	INSE-00	IO-00	L-00
	AC-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OMB-01	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00
	ACE-00	P-00	SP-00	SSO-00	SS-00	STR-00	TRSE-00
	T-00	USIE-00	PMB-00	DRL-02	G-00	SAS-00	/005W

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O 170531Z SEP 00 ZFD  
 FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6393  
 INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
 AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
 AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
 AMEMBASSY QUITO  
 AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO  
 AMEMBASSY ASUNCION  
 AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
 AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
 AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
 USCINCSO MIAMI FL

UNCLAS LIMA 005526

E.O. 12958: N/A  
 TAGS: PGOV, PREL, PE  
 SUBJECT: PRESIDENT FUJIMORI CALLS NEW ELECTIONS,  
 DEACTIVATION OF INTELLIGENCE SERVICE  
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REF: LIMA 5498

1. PERUVIAN PRESIDENT ALBERTO FUJIMORI ANNOUNCED SEPTEMBER 16 THAT HE WOULD "DEACTIVATE THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (SIN)" AND SCHEDULE "GENERAL ELECTIONS" IN WHICH HE WOULD NOT/PARTICIPATE. IN A BRIEF SPEECH BROADCAST TO THE NATION VIA TELEVISION AND RADIO SATURDAY NIGHT, HE DID NOT ANNOUNCE A DATE FOR THE ELECTIONS NOR DID HE SPECIFY WHAT "DEACTIVATION" OF THE SIN WOULD ENTAIL. A PUBLIC STATEMENT FROM FUJIMORI HAD BEEN EXPECTED SINCE THE BREAKING OF A SCANDAL SEPTEMBER 14 (REF) INVOLVING ALLEGATIONS OF BRIBERY OF LEGISLATORS BY DE FACTO

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J. OLSON  
 DATE/CASE ID: 7 AUG 2001 200003849

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INTELLIGENCE CHIEF VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS. FUJIMORI REFERRED TO THE SCANDAL BUT DID NOT REFER TO MONTESINOS BY NAME IN HIS SPEECH.

2. FUJIMORI SAID HE HAD REACHED THE DECISION AFTER "PROFOUND REFLECTION AND OBJECTIVE OBSERVATION OF THE COUNTRY'S PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES." EVEN THOUGH HE HAD BEEN "ELECTED BY A MAJORITY OF CITIZENS," HE SAID, HE DID NOT WANT TO BE AN OBSTACLE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRACY IN PERU. HE CRITICIZED OPPOSITION ACTION THAT HE SAID TRIED TO IMPEDE THE WORK OF THE GOVERNMENT WHICH HAD BEGUN IMMEDIATELY TO COMPLY WITH ITS PROMISES TO FORTIFY DEMOCRACY, STIMULATE THE ECONOMY AND CREATE JOBS. THE OPPOSITION FORCES, HE SAID, STILL WANTED A CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT IN THE SHORTEST TIME.

3. FUJIMORI SAID EVEN DETRACTORS CANNOT DENY THERE HAD BEEN POSITIVE ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE PAST 10 YEARS. HE  
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NOTED THAT HE HAD WORKED WITH DEDICATION AND REMINDED LISTENERS OF THE LOVE THAT HE HAS PUT INTO GOVERNMENT FOR THOSE THAT MOST NEED HELP IN PERU. FEW GOVERNMENTS, HE SAID, HAVE BEEN ABLE TO TURN CONDITIONS SUCH AS THOSE THAT PERU HAS FACED INTO THESE ACHIEVEMENTS. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE COUNTRY WOULD NOT RETREAT IN PEACE AND ECONOMIC REFORMS. HE APOLOGIZED FOR THE POSSIBILITY THAT HE MAY HAVE DELAYED THE DESIRE OF SOME SECTORS OF THE POPULATION. SPEAKING TO HIS SUPPORTERS, HE SAID HE WAS NOT RENOUNCING PRINCIPLES, BUT TAKING STEPS SO PERU CAN CONTINUE BUILDING DEMOCRACY.

4. EVEN A FEW HOURS PRIOR TO THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH, EMBASSY SOURCES INDICATED THAT IT REMAINED UNCLEAR TO MANY HIGH-RANKING GOP OFFICIALS WHEN THE PRESIDENT WOULD BE MAKING A STATEMENT OR WHAT HE WOULD SAY. THE SPECIFICS OF HOW THE NEW ELECTIONS WILL COME TO PASS OR WHEN REMAINS TO BE SORTED OUT. UNDER THE CONSTITUTION, THE PRESIDENT HAS THE AUTHORITY TO CALL NEW ELECTIONS. FUJIMORI DID NOT RESIGN OR INDICATE THAT HE WOULD LEAVE OFFICE IN THE INTERIM. BY CALLING FOR GENERAL ELECTIONS, WE UNDERSTAND THAT THIS WOULD ALSO MEAN THE ELECTION OF A NEW CONGRESS.

5. MANY PERUVIANS IN LIMA AND OTHER CITIES AROUND THE COUNTRY IMMEDIATELY TURNED OUT TO CELEBRATE THE PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT. CALLERS TO PERU'S PUBLIC RADIO (RPP) HAVE EXPRESSED BOTH SUPPORT FOR THE PRESIDENT AND WELCOME FOR

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THE NEW ELECTIONS. PEOPLE WERE GATHERING IN VARIOUS PARTS  
OF THE CITY AND BY MIDNIGHT SOME 2,000 PERSONS HAD GATHERED  
PEACEFULLY AT LIMA'S PLAZA MAYOR.

HAMILTON

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