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Case Number: 200102877.

PT09932

PAGE 01 LIMA 06403 262358Z

ACTION WHA-00

INFO LOG-00 AID-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 SRPP-00 EB-00 VC-00 H-01 TEDE-00 INR-00 IO-00 L-00 AC-01 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OIC-02 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 PRM-01 DRL-02 G-00 SAS-00 /008W

O 2622222 OCT 00 FM AMEMBASSY LINA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7089

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

USCINCSO MIAMI FL

ыма 006403

E.O. 12958: DECL 10/25/05 TAGS: PGOV, PREL, PHUM, PE

SUBJECT: MONTESINOS RADIO INTERVIEW



PAGE 02 LIMA 0

LIMA 06403 2623582

REF: LIMA 6375 (EXDIS)

CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR JOHN HAMILTON FOR REASONS 1.5 (B) AND (D).

1. (C) SUMMARY: IN A SURPRISE RADIO INTERVIEW OCTOBER 24 FROM AN UNIDENTIFIED LOCATION, EX-NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE CHIEF VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS EXPLAINED HIS UNDESIRED RETURN TO PERU. EXUDING SINCERITY, HE PORTRAYED HIMSELF AS LAW-ABIDING, HUMBLE, PATRIOTIC AND RESPECTFUL OF LIFE. HE CLAIMED THE GOP HAD AUTHORIZED HIS RETURN, MADE NECESSARY BY MRTA AND SHINING PATH THREATS IN PANAMA. THE INTERVIEW CLOSELY FOLLOWED PUBLIC



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE REVIEW AUTHORITY: MELVIN E, SINN DATE/CASE ID: 19 JUN 2002 200102877

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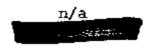
ALLEGATIONS BY A PRO-MONTESINOS LEGISLATOR THAT PRESIDENT FUJIMORI HAD ILLEGALLY DETAINED MILITARY OFFICERS LINKED TO THE FORMER DE FACTO INTELLIGENCE (REFTEL). END SUMMARY.

- 2. (U) FORMER INTELLIGENCE CHIEF VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS PHONED PERUVIAN NATIONAL RADIO (RPP) OFFERING AN INTERVIEW OCTOBER 24. THE Q-AND-A WITH VETERAN MODERATOR JESUS CALDERON AIRED AN HOUR LATER AND WAS REPEATED THROUGHOUT THE AFTERNOON AND EVENING.
- 3. (SBU) MONTESINOS TOLD RADIO LISTENERS HE HAD LEFT PANAMA BECAUSE HIS 30-DAY TOURIST VISA HAD EXPIRED AND BECAUSE OF DEATH THREATS. HE CLAIMED HIS RETURN WAS NOT INTENDED TO DISRUPT PERUVIAN POLITICS AND THAT HIS DESIRE WAS TO LIVE IN PEACE, AWAY FROM POLITICS AND DEVOTED TO THE LEGAL PROFESSION. MONTESINOS ALSO CLAIMED HE COORDINATED HIS RETURN WITH THE GOP AND SPUN THE FACT THAT HE HAD SPOKEN TO PRESIDENT FUJIMORI FROM GUAYAQUIL INTO PRESIDENTIAL AUTHORIZATION OF HIS RETURN. TO ILLUSTRATE HIS RESPECT FOR LIFE, THE FORMER INTELLIGENCE CHIEF ASSERTED HE HAD CONVINCED FUJIMORI TO REMAND A DEATH WARRANT FOR CAPTURED

PAGE 03 LIMA 06403 262358Z

SENDERO LUMINOSO LEADER ABIMAEL GUZMAN. (NOTE: THIS WAS
INTERPRETED LOCALLY AS AN IMPLICIT THREAT TO REVEAL INFORMATION
EMBARRASSING TO PRESIDENT FUJIMORI.)

- 4. (SBU) MONTESINOS ALSO CLAIMED:
- -- HE LEFT PERU BECAUSE HIS PRESENCE HAD BECOME AN OBSTACLE TO DEACTIVATING THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (SIN). HE SOUGHT ASYLUM OUT OF CONCERN FOR HIS SAFETY.
- -- THE PERUVIAN AMBASSADOR IN PANAMA HAD CONTRACTED HIS PLANE AND FILED FLIGHT PLANS. (THE PERUVIAN AMBASSADOR QUICKLY DENIED HE HAD ANY PART IN MONTESINGS'S TRAVEL AND THE PERUVIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIED THAT THE GOP HAD PLAYED ANY ROLE.)
- -- AS A PRIVATE CITIZEN, HE NO LONGER HAD A SECURITY DETAIL SINCE HE WAS NO LONGER A PUBLIC OFFICIAL, SIMPLY A COMMON CITIZEN WHO WANTED TO PRACTICE LAW.
- -- HE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN PERU'S WAR AGAINST TERRORISM.
- -- HIS RETURN WAS NOT INTENDED TO DISRUPT THE OAS DEMOCRATIZATION TALKS.





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5. (C) LESS THAN TWO HOURS BEFORE THE INTERVIEW, LEGISLATOR JORGE POLACK, CLOSELY LINKED TO MONTESINGS, CRITICIZED PRESIDENT FUJIMORI FOR ALLEGEDLY "ABDUCTING" SEVERAL MILITARY OFFICERS AND HOLDING THEM IN CUSTODY IN THE PRESIDENT'S PALACE. WE HAVE REPORTED ON THESE EVENTS IN CAPTIONED TRAFFIC.



LIMA 06403 262358Z PAGE 04 6. (C) COMMENT: THE RADIO INTERVIEW WAS CLASSIC MONTESINOS --MELLIFLUOUS, INGRATIATING, AT PAINS TO PROJECT HIMSELF AS THE VERY SOUL OF REASONABLENESS. BUT AS STATED IN PARA 3, THERE WAS AN ELEMENT OF THREAT IN HIS COMMENTS, OBVIOUSLY INTENDED FOR PRESIDENT FUJIMORI.

HAMILTON



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PAGE 01 LIMA 06403 262243Z

ACTION SCAT-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7089

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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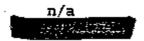
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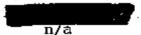
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LIMA 006403

NOTE BY DO/CC; DO NOT/NOT PROCESS. GIVE TO EAO FOR GUIDANCE.



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PAGE 02 LIMA 06403 262243E CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR JOHN HAMILTON FOR REASONS 1.5 (B) AND (D).

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PAGE 03 LIMA 06403 262243Z EMBARRASSING TO PRESIDENT FUJIMORI.)

(SBU) MONTESINOS ALSO CLAIMED:



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HAMILTON



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