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DEA FOR A, AO, DO, OC

USINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD JOHN YOULE

E.O. 12356: DECL: DADR TAGS: SNAR, MASS, PE

SUBJECT: GARCIA ON U.S. TROOP USE IN NARCOTICS WAR

- SUMMARY: IN MARCH 9 SESSION WITH THE FOREIGN PRESS, PRESIDENT GARCIA EMPHATICALLY REJECTED ANY FOREIGN TROOP USE IN PERU. SUMMARY.
- WE ARE REPORTING THE VARIOUS, POLICY-CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL

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CONFIDENTIAL HOUR SESSION IN SEPARATE MESSAGES. THE EXCHANGE WITH THE PRESIDENT ON TROOP USE WAS RAISED BY REUTERS. AS TAPED BY USIS:

- Q. (REUTERS): ATTORNEY GENERAL THORNBURGH SAID IN BOLIVIA THAT THE U.S. HOULD BE WILLING TO SEND TROOPS TO DRUG PRODUCING COUNTRIES TO FIGHT THE DRUG PROBLEM IF AND WHEN THOSE COUNTRIES REQUESTED IT. WHAT IS YOUR OPINION?
- A, I DO NOT KNOW ABOUT THAT STATEMENT. BUT PERU IS NOT A COUNTRY WILLING TO RECEIVE TROOPS FROM ANY FOWER. AND BESTDES, THEY SEEM TO HAVE VERY BAD LUCK ANY TIME THEY LEAVE THEIR COUNTRY. THOSE TROOPS HAVE NOT BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL LATELY AND BESTDES WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT OUR ARMED FORCES AND OUR POLICE CAN FIGHT DRUG TRAFFICKING AND SUBVERSION. IT HOULD SEEM TO HE TO BE A COMPLETE LOSS OF SOVEREIGNIY... IT'S ENOUGH THAT THEY MATIONAL MONETARY FUND FORCES ONE TO RAISE INTEREST RATES AND TO PAY... IT'S ENOUGH THAT THEY SAY THAT A HIGHWAY SHOULD NOT BE BUILT. AND NOW THEY ARE GOING TO SEND US TROOPS. ABSOLUTELY NOT. I DO NOT BELIEVE THIS AND IT LOOKS TO ME LIKE A SLIP, IF ANYONE SAID IT.
- Q. (REUTERS) WAS THIS QUESTION RAISED IN THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S VISIT TO LIMA?

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A. NO. AND IF HE HAD MENTIONED IT HE HOULD HAVE RECEIVED A CATEGORICAL AND FIRM ANSWER.

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