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Talking Points -- Peru Determination

- I am calling to discuss our determination on Peru, which we sent to the Committee today. As you may be aware, we have determined that Peru is in compliance with the conditions in the 1990 INCA.
- We take seriously the standards embodied in this legislation. They are strong and uncompromising. Nevertheless, we, too, insist as a condition of U.S. assistance that the government of Peru continue to make steady, concrete progress in these areas, particularly human rights.
- This decision to make a presidential determination was not an easy one. We have continuing, strong concerns about human rights abuses in Peru. If the same conditions exist one year from now and we see no concrete actions by the government to improve them, we would not again make such a determination.
- In making this determination, we believe President Fujimori and his government are honestly committed to pursue both effective counter-narcotics and effective human rights policies, and we believe U.S. assistance can help his government make real progress in both these areas.
- We note in that regard that the local human rights organizations with whom we have consulted over the last year, and whose lives are literally on the line, have urged us to provide assistance to the Fujimori government.
- The people of Peru are facing the worse crises of their history: an economic crisis brought on by the disastrous policies of the previous government; a murderous guerrilla army that rivals the Khmer Rouge in its barbarity; narco-traffickers eager to corrupt Peru and turn it into a narco-terrorist state; and now the horrors of cholera that have afflicted 226,000 Peruvians and claimed the lives of 2,200.
- I would like to have Bernie Aronson and Mel Levitsky come up and give you a thorough briefing on our determination and our plans to address these issues.
- We take seriously the congressional concerns embodied in the INCA. We have pledged to use our assistance in close cooperation with Congress over the next year to meet those important goals.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE IS/EPC/ODR Date: 9/17/93

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