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Page: 1

RELEASED IN PART  
B1, 1.5(C), 1.5(D)

[REDACTED]  
n/a  
Case Number: 200200424

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PAGE 01 LIMA 06710 01 OF 02 072039Z  
ACTION ARA-01

INFO	LOG-00	CA-02	CIAE-00	C-01	ANHR-01	DS-00	EAP-01
	EUR-01	HA-09	INM-01	INRE-00	INR-01	ADS-00	M-01
	NSAE-00	OCS-06	PM-01	P-01	SCT-03	SP-01	SSO-00
	SS-01	/032W					

-----2FDADF 072051Z /65

O 072035Z MAY 92  
 FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8212  
 INFO THE WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE  
 AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE  
 USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM IMMEDIATE  
 DEAHQS WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
 SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
 ARA COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE  
 AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
 AMEMBASSY BONN  
 AMEMBASSY MADRID

EXTEND CLASSIFICATION

[REDACTED] SECTION 01 OF 02 LIMA 06710

THE WHITE HOUSE FOR SITUATION ROOM  
 DEPARTMENT PASS USOAS  
 SOUTHCOM FOR POLAD  
 VIENNA FOR PICKERING

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
 TAGS: PTER, PREL, PGOV, CASC, PE  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]

PAGE 02 LIMA 06710 01 OF 02 072039Z  
 SUBJECT: GOP OPERATION AT PRISON CONTINUES:  
 AT LEAST 10 DEAD, OVER 30 WOUNDED

REFS: A) LIMA 6666, B) LIMA 5689

1. (S/NF) SUMMARY: THE DEATH COUNT IN THE  
 CANTO GRANDE PRISON ACTION NOW IS AT LEAST 10 (8  
 INMATES AND 2 POLICE) BUT [REDACTED] SAY THAT  
 AN ADDITIONAL 6 POLICE DIED. DESPITE GOP CLAIMS

B1

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Page: 1

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Case Number: 200200424

TO THE CONTRARY, THE POLICE APPARENTLY ARE NOT IN CONTROL OF THE SENDERO LUMINOSO (SL) WOMEN'S CELL BLOCK. THE POLICE REMOVED ONLY A HANDFUL OF PRISONERS (12 MRTA AND 8 SL). THE GOP CLAIMS THAT THE SL WOMEN PRISONERS HAVE FLED THROUGH TUNNELS TO THE SL MEN'S CELL BLOCK. A LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS SOURCE PREDICTS THAT IF THE ASSAULT CONTINUES, THE DEATH TOLL WILL BE MUCH HIGHER.  
END SUMMARY.

2. (U) LATE ON THE EVENING OF MAY 5 THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ISSUED AN OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE ON THE CANTO GRANDE PRISON OPERATION (REF A). THE COMMUNIQUE SAID THAT THE POLICE HAD OCCUPIED CELL BLOCK 1-A BUT THAT THE INMATES HAD ESCAPED VIA PREPARED TUNNELS TO CELL BLOCK 4-B. (COMMENT: 1-A IS THE SL WOMEN'S BLOCK, 4-B IS THE SL MEN'S BLOCK. END COMMENT) IN 1-A POLICE FOUND THE BODIES OF EIGHT MALE TERRORIST PRISONERS AND ONE POLICEMAN. THE UNARMED POLICEMAN WAS KILLED BY EXPLOSIVES AT THE START OF THE OPERATION. TWELVE MRTA AND 8 SL INMATES

PAGE 03 LIMA 06710 01 OF 02 072039Z  
HAD BEEN REMOVED AND TAKEN TO ANOTHER PRISON.  
ONE OF THE 13 POLICEMEN INJURED EARLIER HAD DIED  
(A TOTAL OF TWO POLICE DEATHS).

3. (C) COMMENT. REF A REPORTED THERE WERE 40 MRTA INMATES, 31 MEN AND 9 WOMEN, IN THE PRISON AS OF APRIL 10. IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT MRTA MEMBERS ARE EAGER TO GET OUT OF THE LINE OF FIRE. END COMMENT.

4. (C) [REDACTED] TOLD POLOFF IN THE MORNING OF MAY 6 THAT THERE WERE AT LEAST 10 DEAD, TWO POLICE AND 8 OR 9 INMATES. ALL THE DEAD INMATES WERE MALE. LUIS JIMEMEZ, THE PERUVIAN DESK OFFICER FOR THE INTERAMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, HAD COINCIDENTALLY ARRIVED IN LIMA MAY 6 TO ADVANCE THE IAHRIC PRESIDENT'S VISIT. HE IMMEDIATELY WENT TO CANTO GRANDE WHERE HE SPOKE WITH THE POLICE COLONEL IN

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Case Number: 200200424

CHARGE OF THE PRISON. THE COLONEL SAID HE WAS NOT IN CHARGE OF THE MAY 6 OPERATION AND ASKED FOR ASSISTANCE IN REMOVING THE INMATE DEAD AND WOUNDED. IN FACT THE POLICE WERE NOT IN CONTROL OF 1-A, ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] HE DID NOT KNOW HOW MANY INMATES WERE WOUNDED BUT SAID "AT LEAST 20."

B1

5. (C) [REDACTED] OPINED THAT THE PRISONERS WERE FIGHTING WITH "MILITARY WEAPONS" SL HAD STORED IN THE PRISON. HE WAS SURPRISED THAT EARLIER [REDACTED]

B1

PAGE 04 LIMA 06710 01 OF 02 072039Z SEARCHES OF THE CELL BLOCKS HAD NOT FOUND THE WEAPONS (REF B). HE SAID THAT THE POLICEMAN FOUND DEAD IN THE PRISON WAS SHOT TO DEATH AND DID NOT DIE IN AN EXPLOSION AS THE GOP CLAIMED. "THEY (SL) CANNOT HAVE MANY WEAPONS AND SHOULD NOT BE ABLE TO HOLD OUT AGAINST AN ASSAULT FOR MORE THAN A FEW HOURS," HE PREDICTED, "BUT IF THEY FIGHT TO THE END, IT WILL BE BLOODY." HE ADDED THAT [REDACTED] WAS AT THE PRISON AND WOULD CONTACT THE EMBASSY UPON HER RETURN. HE SUGGESTED THAT SHE WOULD ASK THE EMBASSY TO MAKE A DIRECT REPRESENTATION TO THE

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NOTE BY DO/CC: CAUTION: THIS TELEGRAM APPEARS TO CONTAIN SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION.

[REDACTED]

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PAGE 01 LIMA 06710 02 OF 02 072040Z ACTION ARA-01

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	SS-01	/032W					

-----2FDAF7 072053Z /65  
O 072035Z MAY 92

n/a

[REDACTED]

n/a

Case Number: 200200424

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8213  
INFO THE WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE  
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM IMMEDIATE  
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SECTION 02 OF 02 LIMA 06710

THE WHITE HOUSE FOR SITUATION ROOM  
DEPARTMENT PASS USOAS  
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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
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PAGE 02 LIMA 06710 02 OF 02 072040Z  
SUBJECT: GOP OPERATION AT PRISON CONTINUES:

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ABOUT THE OPERATION.

6. (S/NF) [REDACTED] REPORTED THAT SIX ADDITIONAL POLICE WERE DEAD AND THAT THEY WERE UNABLE TO REMOVE THE BODIES. THEY ADMITTED THAT THE POLICE DID NOT CONTROL CELL BLOCK 1-A.

B1

7. (C) THERE ARE SIX AMCIT PRISONERS IN CANTO GRANDE. EMBASSY HAS NO REPORT ON THEIR STATUS. ONE AMCIT PRISONER'S SPOUSE CALLED CONSULAR SECTION TO VERIFY HER HUSBAND'S SAFETY. UNFORTUNATELY UNTIL THE SITUATION QUIETS DOWN, THERE IS LITTLE EMBASSY CAN DO.

8. (C) COMMENT. [REDACTED] MAY BE RIGHT ABOUT THE EVENTUAL DEATH COUT. FOR SOME TIME SENDEROLOGISTS HAVE BEEN PREDICTING THAT SL WILL ATTEMPT TO INCITE A GOP MASSACRE. IF THE SL PRISONERS' DISCIPLINE HOLDS AND THEY CHOOSE TO

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UNCLASSIFIED

Page: 5

[REDACTED]  
n/a  
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FIGHT TO THE DEATH, SL MAY GET THE MARTYRS THAT  
IT WANTS. A SMARTER MOVE FOR THE GOP WOULD BE  
TO STOP THE OFFENSIVE AND WAIT UNTIL LACK OF  
FOOD AND WATER INDUCES THE PRISONERS TO  
SURRENDER. FUJIMORI HAS PROMISED DRAMATIC  
ACTION AGAINST TERRORISM. A PRISON MASSACRE  
WOULD BE AN ACTION THAT PLAYS INTO SL'S HAND.  
QUAINTON##

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
PAGE 03 LIMA 06710 02 OF 02 072040Z

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[REDACTED]  
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[REDACTED]

Page: 5

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