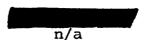
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ORIGIN ARA-01

CIAE-00 C-01 DODE-00 AMAD-01 AID-01 LOG-00 ACDA-15 INFO IO-19 LAB-04 INRE-00 INR-01 H-01 EB-01 HA-09 OIC-02 PA-01 OMB-01 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 L-03ADS-00 SR-01 SIL-01 SP-01 P-01 . RP-10 PRS-01 PM-01 USIE-00 DTC-01 T-01 TRSE-00 SSO-00 SS-01 STR-20 /100R

DRAFTED BY: ARA/AND:AHALL:AXH APPROVED BY: ARA/AND:AWPATTERSON

HA/BA:MJACOBSEN

ARA/PPC:RJACOBSON PM/DRSAA:SBUSA

ARA/PPC:BMCGARITY
P:CKELLY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY
INFO USSOUTHCOM QUARRY HEIGHTS PM PRIORITY 3899

STATE 172161

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR TAGS: PHUM, MASS, PE

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS POST APRIL 5

1. ENTIRE TEXT

2. THIS IS AN ACTION CABLE.

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3. SUMMARY: THE DEPARTMENT CONTINUES TO CLOSELY FOLLOW HUMAN RIGHTS-RELATED ISSUES IN PERU. WE ARE CONCERNED WITH THE GOP'S CONTINUED DENIAL OF ICRC ACCESS TO CASTRO CASTRO PRISON. WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT RUMORS CIRCULATING WHICH SUGGEST THE POSSIBILITY OF A MAJOR MILITARY OFFENSIVE AGAINST SENDERO -- AND THE POTENTIAL HUMAN RIGHTS RAMIFICATIONS THAT COULD ACCOMPANY SUCH A MOVE. POST IS REQUESTED TO RAISE THESE ISSUES WITH THE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE REVIEW AUTHORITY: DONALD A. JOHNSTON DATE/CASE ID: 8 MAY 2002 200200424

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HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT. DRAWING ON THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BELOW. END SUMMARY.

3. THE DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZES THAT THE GOP FACED A DIFFICULT TASK IN RESTORING CONTROL OVER CASTRO CASTRO. WE UNDERSTAND THAT CASUALTIES MAY HAVE BEEN UNAVOIDABLE. AND THE NUMBER OF DEATHS WERE MUCH FEWER THAN THE NUMBERS RECORDED AT LURIGANCHO IN 1986. WE ARE PLEASED THAT THE

ICRC HAS BEEN ABLE TO LARGELY RESUME ITS NORMAL OPERATIONS. HOWEVER, WE ARE CONCERNED WITH THE GOP'S CONTINUED REFUSAL TO ALLOW ICRC ACCESS TO CASTRO CASTRO PRISON. WE APPRECIATE POST'S EFFORTS (REPORTED IN LIMA 7047) TO TURN THIS SITUATION AROUND. WE REQUEST THAT POST CONTINUE TO URGE THE GOP AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS TO ALLOW THE IMMEDIATE RESUMPTION OF NORMAL, UNANNOUNCED ICRC VISITS TO CASTRO CASTRO PRISON, INCLUDING ACCESS TO ANY SENDERO INMATES THAT MAY STILL BE HELD THERE.

4. WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT THE IMPLICATIONS OF RECENT UNCONFIRMED REPORTS THAT THE PERUVIAN MILITARY HAS PLACED LARGE ORDERS FOR LIGHT ARMS, AMMUNITION AND FLAK JACKETS.

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THERE IS SPECULATION THAT THIS COULD INDICATE POSSIBLE
PREPARATION FOR A MAJOR OFFENSIVE AGAINST SENDERO SOMETIME
IN JULY. GIVEN THE POSSIBILITY THAT SUCH SPECULATION
COULD INDEED BE TRUE, POST SHOULD CONVEY NOW TO THE GOP -BOTH CIVILIAN AND MILITARY -- THAT ANY CAMPAIGN AGAINST
SENDERO MUST BE WAGED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
INTERNATIONALLY-RECOGNIZED STANDARDS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND
RULE OF LAW. IF THE PERUVIAN MILITARY DOES NOT CONDUCT
ITSELF IN A DISCIPLINED MANNER, THE REACTION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY CAN BE EXPECTED TO BE SEVERE.

5. THE DEPARTMENT WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE POST'S ASSISTANCE ON TWO OTHER ISSUES. GIVEN PRESIDENT FUJIMORI'S INDICATIONS THAT HE MAY BE WILLING TO MOVE TOWARD RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY, THERE IS SOME CONSIDERATION IN THE INTERAGENCY COMMUNITY OF PROVIDING LIMITED HUMAN RIGHTS TRAINING FOR THE MILITARY. POST IS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE ITS VIEW OF THE ADVISABILITY OF GOING AHEAD WITH HUMAN RIGHTS TRAINING FOR THE MILITARY. POST SHOULD NOT/NOT RAISE THIS WITH THE GOP AT THIS TIME.

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6. POST PLEASE PROVIDE ANY AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON THE NEW ATTORNEY GENERAL, BLANCA NELIDA COLAN. BAKER

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n/a

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