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INQUIRE=DOC19D
ITEM NO=00164235

ENVELOPE

CDSN = LGX169 MCN = 92258/33404 TOR = 922582243
PTTCZYUW RUEKJCS4429 2582246-CCCC--RUEALGX.

R

ZNY CCCC

HEADER

P 142246Z SEP 92
FM JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC
RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC
RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC
RUEADWD/PTC WASH DC
RUVKSRT/12 AF BERGSTROM AFB TX//IN//
RUEOACC/CDRPSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//AORC-POG-SB//
RUEATAC/CDRUSAITAC WASHINGTON DC//KT//
RUWSMXI/AMC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//IN//
RUCQVAB/USCINCSOC INTEL OPS CEN MACDILL AFB FL
RUEOFAA/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC//J2//
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
RULKQAN/MARCORINTCEN QUANTICO VA
RULSJGA/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC
RULKNIS/COMNISCOM WASHINGTON DC//NAVATAC//
RUEALGX/SAFE

P 142113Z SEP 92
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1727
INFO RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 0254
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 1695
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ 2505
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY QUITO 8970
RUWMEGA/USAFSO HOWARD AFB PM
RHLBAAD/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
 Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify
Date NOV 17 2000 Exemption _____

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CONTROLS

~~SECTION 01 OF 02 LIMA 12188~~

UNCINSCO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

TAGS: PGOV, PTER, PHUM, PE
SUBJECT: EARLY POLITICAL REACTION TO SL
FOUNDER GUZMAN'S CAPTURE

1. (U) SUMMARY: THE CAPTURE LATE SEPTEMBER 12
OF SENDERO LUMINOSO FOUNDER AND HEAD ABIMAE
GUZMAN AND OTHER TOP SL LEADERS HAS PROVIDED
PERUVIAN PRESIDENT ALBERTO FUJIMORI WITH A MAJOR

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POLITICAL BOOST. THIS STUNNING DEVELOPMENT HAS CREATED A POPULAR EUPHORIA EXTENDING TO OPPOSITION POLITICAL LEADERS. THEY SEEM READY TO BE PERSUADED TO PARTICIPATE IN UPCOMING CONSTITUTIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS. A LARGE SEGMENT OF THE PRESIDENT'S NATION-WIDE ADDRESS, HOWEVER, WAS DEVOTED TO DISCREDITING TRADITIONAL PERUVIAN POLITICS AND JUSTIFYING HIS APRIL 5 COUP. MOST POLITICIANS ARE GIVING THE GOVERNMENT CREDIT FOR THE ARREST. END SUMMARY.

FORMER PRESIDENTS COMMENT

2. (U) FORMER PRESIDENT FERNANDO BELAUNDE TERRY SAID HE HOPED THE CAPTURE OF ABIMAEI GUZMAN AND HIS TOP AIDES WOULD PUT AN END TO THE GENOCIDE AND DESTRUCTION WHICH HAS VICTIMIZED PERU. HE WENT ON, HOWEVER, TO BLAME MUCH OF PERU'S CORRUPTION AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS ON A WORLD ECONOMIC SYSTEM DOMINATED BY FIRST WORLD COUNTRIES.

3. (U) ANOTHER EX-PRESIDENT, GENERAL FRANCISCO MORALES BERMUDEZ CONGRATULATED THE GOVERNMENT ON GUZMAN'S SEIZURE AND CALLED UPON THE GOVERNMENT TO SEIZE THE MOMENT OF GUZMAN'S CAPTURE AND THE DISARRAY INTO WHICH THE SENDERO LUMINOSO HAD BEEN THROWN TO PUT INTO OPERATION A COORDINATED PLAN OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION TO END TERRORISM.

POLITICIANS GIVE THE GOVERNMENT CREDIT

4. (U) MOST PERUVIAN POLITICIANS ARE CONGRATULATING THE FUJIMORI ADMINISTRATION ON THE GUZMAN CAPTURE. ONE APRA MEMBER, CONGRESSMAN ALBERTO VALENCIA, CREDITED GUZMAN'S CAPTURE TO THE GOVERNMENT'S "NEW POLICY." SENATOR BEATRIZ MERINO LUCERO, FORMERLY OF THE LIBERTY MOVEMENT (ML) PARTY, ALSO CONGRATULATED THE GOVERNMENT ON ITS "MAJOR SUCCESS."

5. (U) SOME POLITICIANS ARE NOW LOOKING FOR WAYS TO JUSTIFY A VOLTE FACE AND PARTICIPATE IN THE SCHEDULED ELECTIONS. THE PRESIDENT OF THE NOW-DISSOLVED SENATE, ALBERTO BOREA ODRIA OF THE POPULAR CHRISTIAN PARTY (PPC), TOLD THE MEDIA THAT GUZMAN'S CAPTURE HAD PRODUCED A "NEW PERU" IN WHICH PARTIES COULD CONSIDER RUNNING IN THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY (CCD) ELECTIONS. HE CALLED

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FOR PARTY CANDIDATES IN THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS TO BE SELECTED BY SECRET BALLOT AT PARTY CAUCUSES. MEANWHILE, ANOTHER PARTY LEADER, LUIS BEDOYA DE VIVANCO, CALLED ON THE PPC TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS IF FOR NO OTHER REASON THAN TO "DEFEND THE CURRENT (1979) CONSTITUTION OF WHICH THE (PARTY) WAS ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL AUTHORS."

FUJIMORI TAKES CREDIT

6. (U) IN HIS SUBSEQUENT LATE SEPTEMBER 12 SPEECH (SEPTTEL) PRESIDENT FUJIMORI INSISTED HE HAD INHERITED A POLITICAL SYSTEM FILLED WITH "VACUUMS, CONTRADICTIONS AND IRRELEVANCE" WHICH SERVED THE SENDERO'S ENDS. SINCE HIS APRIL 5 COUP PRESIDENT FUJIMORI REMINDED HIS LISTENERS HE HAD DECREED NEW ANTI-TERRORIST LEGISLATION, PUT AN END TO THE "FARCE" OF THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM FREEING TERRORISTS AND OF PRISONS SERVING AS INDOCTRINATION AND PLANNING CENTERS FOR

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 002 *****/
GUERRILLAS. HE GAVE HIMSELF FULL CREDIT FOR CREATING PEASANT SELF-DEFENSE FORCES AND FOR CLEANING UP THE UNIVERSITIES.

7. (C) COMMENT: GUZMAN'S CAPTURE HAS GIVEN A TREMENDOUS BOOST TO PRESIDENT FUJIMORI'S POLITICAL STANDING JUST TWO MONTHS FROM THE CCD ELECTIONS. HE HAS MOVED QUICKLY TO TAKE CREDIT FOR THE GUZMAN ARREST BY ARGUING THAT THE SITUATION WAS TURNED AROUND ONLY BECAUSE HE BROKE WITH THE TRADITIONAL PERUVIAN SYSTEM WHICH WAS NOT WORKING. GUZMAN'S ARREST COINCIDED WITH A PERIOD OF SOUL-SEARCHING BY THE OPPOSITION PARTIES REGARDING POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION IN THE CCD ELECTIONS. WITH NO SIGNS THAT THE GOP WILL IMPROVE THE ELECTION RULES, MORE OF THE PARTIES, SUCH AS THE PPC, ARE INCLINED TO PARTICIPATE LEST THEY BE LEFT BEHIND. WHILE THE OPPOSITION IS, LIKE ALMOST ALL PERUVIANS, ECSTATIC ABOUT GUZMAN'S CAPTURE, THEIR LEADERS UNDERSTAND THIS EVENT HAS STRENGTHENED PRESIDENT FUJIMORI'S HAND EVEN MORE.

QUAINTON##

ADMIN

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