

[REDACTED]
n/a

Case Number: S200200010

RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.5(D)

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ACTION ARA-01

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| INFO | LOG-00 | ACDA-17 | AID-01 | CIAE-00 | C-01 | OASY-00 | DOEE-00 |
| | EAP-01 | EB-01 | EUR-01 | HA-09 | H-01 | INM-02 | TEDE-00 |
| | INR-00 | IO-19 | LAB-04 | L-03 | ADS-00 | NSAE-00 | NSCE-00 |
| | OIC-02 | OMB-01 | PA-01 | PM-02 | PRS-01 | P-01 | SIL-00 |
| | SNP-00 | SP-00 | SR-00 | SS-00 | STR-16 | TRSE-00 | T-00 |
| | RPE-01 | /086W | | | | | |

-----BCE605 071839Z /38

O 071834Z MAY 93
 FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8155
 AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE
 INFO DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8102
 AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
 AMEMBASSY CARACAS
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
 AMEMBASSY QUITO
 USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
 AMEMBASSY TOKYO
 AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
 USEC BRUSSELS

[REDACTED] SECTION 01 OF 03 LIMA 05254

USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

EXTEND CLASSIFICATION

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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 TAGS: PREL, PHUM, PGOV, AR, PE
 SUBJECT: ROBLES AFFAIR: MEDIA, MILITARY, AND
 POLITICAL REACTION

1. (U) SUMMARY: THE GOVERNMENT IS DOWNPLAYING
 GENERAL RODOLFO ROBLES' REQUEST FOR ASYLUM; THE
 PERUVIAN MILITARY IS DENOUNCING IT; THE
 OPPOSITION IS CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION OF
 HIS CHARGES. THE MEDIA IS WORRIED ABOUT THIS
 LATEST UNSETTLING EVENT AND ITS IMPACT ON PERU'S

n/a

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: WILLIAM E. LANDFAIR
 DATE/CASE ID: 29 JUL 2002 S200200010
 CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 25X6
 DECLASSIFY AFTER: 7 MAY 2019

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ABILITY TO OBTAIN FOREIGN FUNDING.
END SUMMARY.

THE PUBLIC GOVERNMENT REACTION

2. (U) IN PUBLIC, THE GOVERNMENT TRIED TO DOWNPLAY GENERAL RODOLFO ROBLES' ASYLUM REQUEST. PRIME MINISTER OSCAR DE LA PUENTE ATTRIBUTED THE GENERAL'S REQUEST FOR SANCTUARY IN THE EMBASSY AS DUE TO A "FAMILY PROBLEM." HE CLAIMED SAFE CONDUCTS OR OTHER DOCUMENTS WERE UNNECESSARY SINCE, IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY CRIMINAL OR LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST HIM, THE GENERAL AND HIS WIFE WERE FREE TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY AT ANY TIME. ASYLUM IS NOT NEEDED, HAS NOT BEEN REQUESTED, AND HAS NOT BEEN AUTHORIZED, DE LA PUENTE TOLD REPORTERS.

3. (U) "EL COMERCIO," PERU'S ESTABLISHMENT NEWSPAPER, IN THE "WITHOUT CONFIRMATION" COLUMN
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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IT USES TO REPORT INFORMATION WITHOUT ATTRIBUTION, REPORTED MAY 7 THAT AN ARREST ORDER FOR GENERAL ROBLES HAD BEEN ISSUED BY THE MILITARY THREE DAYS AGO. THE CHARGES REPORTEDLY ARE BASED ON THE GENERAL'S REFUSAL TO ACCEPT REASSIGNMENT TO THE INTER-AMERICAN DEFENSE BOARD IN WASHINGTON UNLESS HIS SONS COULD ACCOMPANY HIM. THE COLUMN CLAIMS THAT THE GENERAL'S REFUSAL CAUSED CONCERN WITHIN THE REST OF THE MILITARY HIGH COMMAND THAT TROOPS SUPPORTIVE OF THE GENERAL WOULD BACK HIM.

THE MILITARY REACTION: ROBLES IS A LIAR

4. (U) THE PERUVIAN ARMY ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE LATE MAY 6 CALLING GENERAL RODOLFO ROBLES' CHARGES OF PERSECUTION "TOTALLY ABSURD" AND REJECTED HIS ALLEGATIONS AS "TENDENTIOUS IMPUTATIONS" OFFERED WITHOUT PROOF. IN ITS COMMUNIQUE, THE ARMY ALSO:

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-- REJECTED ROBLES' REQUEST THAT HIS TWO SONS' ASSIGNMENTS BE BROKEN TO PERMIT THEM TO ACCOMPANY HIM TO WASHINGTON BECAUSE IT WOULD BE A "FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF INTERNAL REGULATIONS."

-- DENIED THE EXISTENCE OF ANY ORDERS TO REASSIGN THE GENERAL'S SONS TO AYACUCHO AND HUALLAGA, TO ARRANGE FOR THEIR ASSASSINATION, OR TO FABRICATE DRUG TRAFFICKING CHARGES AGAINST

[REDACTED]
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PAGE 04 LIMA 05254 01 OF 03 071838Z THEM.

-- HIGHLIGHTED THE "NOTORIOUS CONTRADICTION" BETWEEN ROBLES' CURRENT CHARGES OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AGAINST GENERAL HERMOZA AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND HIS PARTICIPATION WITH OTHER ARMY GENERALS ON APRIL 21 IN THEIR RINGING DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FOR GENERAL HERMOZA. (GENERAL ROBLES' HAS A PROMINENT PLACE ON THE APRIL 21 DOCUMENT. HIS SIGNATURE IS NUMBER TWO ON THE COMMUNIQUE.)

THE OPPOSITION REACTION: TIME TO INVESTIGATE

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[REDACTED]

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| | RPE-01 | /086W | | | | | |

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O 071834Z MAY 93
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

n/a
[REDACTED]

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Case Number: S200200010

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8156
 AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE
 INFO DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8103
 AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
 AMEMBASSY CARACAS
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
 AMEMBASSY QUITO
 USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
 AMEMBASSY TOKYO
 AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
 USEC BRUSSELS

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USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
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 TAGS: PREL, PHUM, PGOV, AR, PE
 SUBJECT: ROBLES AFFAIR: MEDIA, MILITARY, AND
 5. (U) THE OPPOSITION IN THE CONSTITUENT
 CONGRESS (CCD) CALLED ON MAY 6 THE GOVERNMENT TO
 RESPECT AND GUARANTEE THE PHYSICAL SAFETY OF
 GENERAL ROBLES AND HIS FAMILY. MOST OPPOSITION
 LEADERS (ANTERO FLORES ARAOZ OF THE POPULAR
 CHRISTIAN PARTY, ROGER CACERES OF THE WORKERS
 AND PEASANTS FRONT, AND FERNANDO OLIVERA OF THE
 INDEPENDENT MORALIZATION FRONT, AMONG OTHERS)
 SPOKE IN GENERAL TERMS TO THE PRESS. THEIR
 COMMENTS WERE MADE WHEN DETAILS OF THE GENERAL'S
 PRESENCE IN THE EMBASSY AND DETAILS OF HIS
 ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THE MILITARY HIGH COMMAND
 AND VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS WERE STILL SLOWLY
 COMING OUT.

6. [REDACTED] SPEAKING FOR THE OPPOSITION, HENRY
 PEASE, A LEADER OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEFT (MDI)
 ASKED CCD PRESIDENT JAIME YOSHIYAMA TO INVITE
 PRIME MINISTER DE LA PUENTE AND DEFENSE MINISTER
 GENERAL MALCA TO TESTIFY ABOUT GENERAL ROBLES'
 CHARGES. HE ALSO CALLED FOR A SPECIAL SESSION
 OF CONGRESS MAY 7 TO HEAR THE GENERAL. [REDACTED]

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THE MEDIA REACTION

7. (U) THE BOMBSHELL OF GENERAL ROBLES' CHARGES AGAINST HIS HIGH-RANKING COLLEAGUES AND HIS DECISION TO SEEK PROTECTION IN THE EMBASSY BECAME THE LEAD STORY FOR PERU'S PRINT AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA BEGINNING MID-DAY MAY 6. IN GENERAL, NOT ENOUGH OF THE BREAKING STORY'S DETAILS WERE KNOWN FOR ALL OF THE PRINCIPAL COLUMNISTS TO WEIGH IN FOR THE MAY 7 EDITIONS. SOME PERUVIAN JOURNALISTS HAVE ALSO LEARNED TO FIRST CHECK THE DIRECTION OF THE PREVAILING POLITICAL WINDS BEFORE COMMITTING THEMSELVES CATEGORICALLY .

8. (U) IN ITS FIRST EDITORIAL COMMENT, "COMERCIO" TOOK A CAUTIOUS LINE. THE NEWSPAPER EXPRESSED DISMAY THAT UNSETTLING EVENTS WERE OCCURRING AGAIN. IT OBSERVED THAT THE GENERAL'S CHARGES OF HIGH-LEVEL DIRECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS CAME WHEN THE MILITARY WAS UNSETTLED AND WAS BEING BUFFETED BY MORALE, FRAUD AND OTHER CHARGES. "COMERCIO" ATTRIBUTED MUCH OF THE ARMED FORCES' PROBLEM TO ITS POLITICIZATION.

9. (U) "EXPRESO," NORMALLY STRIDENTLY PRO-FUJIMORI, IN ITS EDITORIAL NOTED THAT

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n/a
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

n/a

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GENERAL ROBLES WAS NOT ATTACKING THE
INSTITUTION, RATHER SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS, IN HIS
DENUNCIATION AND THAT AN EXHAUSTIVE
INVESTIGATION WOULD STRENGTHEN, NOT WEAKEN, THE
INSTITUTION. THE SOURCE OF THE CHARGES AND THE
DETAILED NATURE OF THE ACCUSATIONS MERITED A
"SERIOUS AND CREDIBLE" INVESTIGATION, SAID
EXPRESO. IN HIS OWN PERSONAL COLUMN, "EXPRESO"
DIRECTOR MANUEL D'ORNELLAS WORRIED THAT THE
WEEK'S EVENTS CONVEYED AN IMAGE OF AN UNSTABLE
PERU WITH A FRAGILE POLITICAL SYSTEM TO THE
OUTSIDE WORLD AND WOULD AFFECT ITS ACCESS TO
OUTSIDE FUNDS.

10. (U) TELEVISION EVENING NEWSCASTS ON MAY 6
GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO THE STORY, RUNNING
LENGTHY PORTIONS OF GEN. ROBLES' WIFE'S
ENERGETIC PRESS CONFERENCE ATTACKING HERMOZA AND
CALLING ON PRESIDENT FUJIMORI TO RESPECT THE

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| | RPE-01 | /086W | | | | | |

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O 071834Z MAY 93
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8157
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE
INFO DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8104
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY QUITO

n/a
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

n/a

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USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
USEC BRUSSELS

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SUBJECT: ROBLES AFFAIR: MEDIA, MILITARY, AND
MILITARY AS AN INSTITUTION AS WELL AS DE LA
PUENTE'S DISMISSAL OF THE INCIDENT AS A ROBLES
"FAMILY MATTER."

11. [REDACTED] COMMENT: THE ROBLES AFFAIR BROKE JUST
AS THE WEEK'S PREVIOUS MAJOR EVENT, THE
GOVERNMENT'S SEIZURE OF ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S
MAJOR FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, APPEARED TO BE
RESOLVED. THE MEDIA CAN NOW DEVOTE FULL
ATTENTION TO GENERAL ROBLES AND HIS CRUSADE
AGAINST THE ARMY LEADERSHIP AND MONTESINOS. THE
GOVERNMENT'S INITIAL PUBLIC STANCE HAS BEEN TO
REFUTE THE IRRELEVANT ("NO, THERE WAS NO COUP
ATTEMPT EARLY MAY 6") AND PORTRAY THE GENERAL
HAS HAVING ACTED OUT OF PERSONAL AND FAMILY
INTEREST. THE POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE
GENERAL'S DECISION TO SEEK REFUGE IN THE EMBASSY
ARE ONLY NOW BEING WORKED OUT.
BRASHAW##

[REDACTED]

NNNN

n/a

[REDACTED]