

[REDACTED]
n/a

Case Number: S200200010

RELEASED IN FULL

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ACTION ARA-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AID-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00	DODE-00
	DOEE-00	EAP-01	EB-01	EUR-01	HA-09	H-01	INM-02
	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-19	L-03	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00
	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-02	PRS-01	P-01	RP-10
	SIL-00	SNP-00	SP-00	SR-00	SS-00	STR-16	TRSE-00
	T-00	USIE-00	RPE-01	/092W			

-----BD3451 081757Z /38

O 081753Z MAY 93
 FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8179
 AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE
 INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
 AMEMBASSY CARACAS
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
 AMEMBASSY QUITO
 AMEMBASSY TOKYO
 AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
 USEC BRUSSELS
 USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

[REDACTED] SECTION 01 OF 03 LIMA 05292

USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
 TAGS: PREL, PGOV, SREF, PHUM, AR, PE
 SUBJECT: GENERAL ROBLES DEPARTS PROMISING TO

[REDACTED]
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RETURN

1. (U) SUMMARY: GENERAL ROBLES AND HIS FAMILY DEPARTED PERU MAY 7 ON TWO PRIVATE AIRCRAFT PROVIDED BY THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT. IN A STATEMENT LATER RELEASED TO THE PRESS, THE GENERAL PROMISED TO RETURN TO TESTIFY IF CALLED BY THE CCD. GOVERNMENT SUPPORTERS BEGAN ATTACKING THE GENERAL'S INTEGRITY AND MOTIVES IN AN ATTEMPT TO UNDERMINE HIS ALLEGATIONS OF

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HIGH-LEVEL INVOLVEMENT IN HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES.
AN OPPOSITION MOTION CALLING FOR ARMY COMMANDER
HERMOZA AND INTELLIGENCE CHIEF MONTESINOS'
REMOVAL WAS EASILY DEFEATED.
END SUMMARY.

GENERAL AND FAMILY DEPART PERU

2. (U) GENERAL RODOLFO ROBLES ESPINOZA, HIS
WIFE, SONS, DAUGHTER-IN-LAW, AND GRANDCHILD
DEPARTED LIMA MAY 7. GENERAL ROBLES AND TWO
SONS, WEARING THEIR ARMY UNIFORMS, AND A THIRD
SON WHO IS A CIVILIAN DEPARTED AT 1825 HRS MAY
7. HIS WIFE, DAUGHTER-IN-LAW, AND GRANDCHILD
DEPARTED IN A SECOND AIRPLANE AT 1840 HRS. THE
GENERAL AND HIS FAMILY WERE ESCORTED TO THE
AIRPORT IN EMBASSY VEHICLES ACCOMPANIED BY RSO,
DATT, AND POLITICAL OFFICERS. PERUVIAN POLICE
PROVIDED AN ESCORT THROUGH THE EVENING RUSH HOUR
TRAFFIC. THE DEPARTURES, WHICH HAD BEEN DELAYED

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SEVERAL HOURS AS WE AWAITED THE ARRIVAL OF THE
AIRCRAFT, OCCURRED WITHOUT INCIDENT. PERUVIAN
MILITARY, CONSULAR AND FOREIGN MINISTRY
OFFICIALS AT THE AIRPORT WERE FRIENDLY AND POLITE.

3. (U) ONE NEWSPAPER, "LA REPUBLICA," NOTED
THAT THE TWO EXECUTIVE JETS CARRYING THE GENERAL
AND HIS FAMILY TO ARGENTINA HAD U.S.
REGISTRATION, ALTHOUGH WITH ARGENTINE CREWS.
AFTER ORIGINALLY REPORTING THAT THE GENERAL AND
HIS PARTY LEFT ON U.S. AIRCRAFT, PERU'S PREMIER
ALL-NEWS RADIO STATION, "RADIO PROGRAMAS,"
CHANGED ITS VERSION ON MAY 8 TO CLAIM THAT THE
GENERAL HAD DEPARTED ON AN ARGENTINE MILITARY
AIRCRAFT. THE MAY 8 NEWS REPORT ALSO SAID THAT
ROBLES AND FAMILY HAD ALREADY BEEN GIVEN ASYLUM
IN ARGENTINA. WE ASSUME THAT BOTH VERSIONS WERE
FED TO "RADIO PROGRAMAS" BY THE GOP.

4. (U) THE GENERAL'S AIRPLANE FLEW NON-STOP TO
BUENOS AIRES. THE JET CARRYING HIS WIFE AND

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GRANDCHILDREN MADE A 90 MINUTE REFUELING STOP IN TACNA (ON THE PERUVIAN-CHILEAN BORDER). ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPER REPORTS, MRS. ROBLES AND THE PASSENGERS DID NOT LEAVE THE AIRPLANE WHILE IT WAS ON THE GROUND. MILITARY KEPT THE CURIOUS AWAY FROM THE PLANE.

5. (U) BOTH THE PERUVIAN AND THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS MADE A POINT OF EMPHASIZING THAT GENERAL ROBLES DID NOT LEAVE PERU AND

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[REDACTED]

PAGE 04 LIMA 05292 01 OF 03 081757Z TRAVEL TO ARGENTINA IN THE STATUS OF "ASYLEES."

"I SHALL RETURN," BUT NO CORNCOB PIPES

6. (U) THROUGH INTERMEDIARIES GENERAL ROBLES RELEASED A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS AFTER HIS DEPARTURE PROMISING TO "RETURN TO MY COUNTRY IF THE DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUENT CONGRESS (CCD) CALLS ME..." HE ATTACHED TWO CONDITIONS, HOWEVER, TO HIS PROMISE: GUARANTEES FOR HIS LIFE AND THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE HIS OWN SECURITY DETAIL. WE ARE NOT AWARE OF HOW GENERAL ROBLES GOT THIS MESSAGE OUT. LIKELIEST MEANS WAS RELEASE BY HIS WIFE

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	T-00	USIE-00	RPE-01	/092W			

O 081753Z MAY 93

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n/a
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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8180
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY QUITO
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AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
USEC BRUSSELS
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

[REDACTED] SECTION 02 OF 03 LIMA 05292

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[REDACTED]
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AFTER SHE DEPARTED EMBASSY AND BEFORE SHE
REJOINED HIM TO LEAVE PERU.

7. (U) IF CALLED TO TESTIFY BY THE CCD, ROBLES PROMISED TO PROVE HIS ACCUSATIONS OF INVOLVEMENT BY ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF HERMOZA RIOS AND PRESIDENTIAL INTELLIGENCE ADVISOR VLLADIMIRO MONTESINOS IN KIDNAPPING AND ASSASSINATION OF CIVILIANS.

8. (U) FAMILY SOURCES ALSO TOLD "LA REPUBLICA" THAT THE GENERAL ANTICIPATES A SHORT STAY IN ARGENTINA AND THAT HE AND HIS FAMILY EXPECT TO TRAVEL SHORTLY TO THE UNITED STATES TO TAKE UP RESIDENCE.

FUJIMORI DOWNPLAYS THE GENERAL'S DEPARTURE

9. (U) SPEAKING ON A RADIO INTERVIEW PROGRAM MAY 8, PRESIDENT ALBERTO FUJIMORI CHIDED REPORTERS FOR DEVOTING EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO GENERAL ROBLES EXILE WHILE OVERLOOKING THE

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WEEK'S "SIGNIFICANT EVENTS": THE CAPTURE OF ONE OF THE MRTA'S LAST LEADERS STILL AT LARGE, LUCERO CUMPA, AND THE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME FOR PERU OF THE PARIS CLUB NEGOTIATIONS.

10. (U) FUJIMORI CONTINUED THE GOVERNMENT LINE OF DISPARAGING AND DISCREDITING GENERAL ROBLES. WHY, HE ASKED, DID GENERAL ROBLES KEEP QUIET FOR

[REDACTED]

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YEARS ABOUT SOME OF THE ASSASSINATIONS? HOW COULD THE ARMY'S THIRD-RANKING OFFICIAL "IN FOURTEEN DAYS" SWITCH FROM EXPRESSING FULL SUPPORT FOR ARMY COMMANDER HERMOZA AND OPPOSITION TO THE CCD TO JUST THE OPPOSITE? PERHAPS, FUJIMORI SUGGESTED GENERAL ROBLES LACKED COURAGE AND INTEGRITY.

11. (U) RESPONDING INDIRECTLY TO REPORTS THAT GENERAL ROBLES MIGHT BE INVITED TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE U.S. CONGRESS, FUJIMORI CHARACTERIZED THE GENERAL'S ALLEGATIONS AS UNPROVEN. INDICATING THAT ANOTHER LINE OF ATTACK AGAINST THE GENERAL WILL BE QUESTIONING HIS PATRIOTISM, FUJIMORI ALSO CALLED THE GENERAL'S PUBLIC STATEMENT "ANTI-NATIONAL."

12. (U) IN RESPONSE TO A REPORTER'S QUESTION, FUJIMORI REITERATED HIS FULL BACKING AND SUPPORT FOR ARMY COMMANDER NICHOLAS HERMOZA RIOS, SAYING HE PRODUCED RESULTS.

ATTORNEY GENERAL SOUGHT STATEMENT

13. (U) THE MEDIA ALSO REPORTED THAT PERU'S ATTORNEY GENERAL, BLANCA NELIDA COLAN, SENT A FISCAL TO THE EMBASSY TO OBTAIN A SWORN STATEMENT FROM GENERAL ROBLES REGARDING HIS ACCUSATIONS. "LA REPUBLICA" NOTED THAT THE PROSECUTORS ENTERED AND LEFT WITHOUT TALKING TO

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n/a

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THE PRESS. IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY STATEMENT FROM
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE MEDIA LEFT TO THE
INCORRECT CONCLUSION PROSECUTORS HAD BEEN
SUCCESSFUL IN TAKING A LEGAL STATEMENT FROM THE
GENERAL IN THE EMBASSY.

THE CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

14. (U) AT THE CCD, DEFENSE MINISTER VICTOR
MALCA READ A PREPARED STATEMENT TO THE FULL 80
MEMBER CHAMBER AND RESPONDED TO MEMBERS'
QUESTIONS. DEFENSE MINISTER MALCA DEFENSE OF
ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF HERMOZA WAS STRONG; HIS
ATTACK ON GENERAL ROBLES STRIDENT, ACCUSING HIM
OF DISLOYALTY AND IRRESPONSIBILITY. GENERAL
MALCA DID NOT DEFEND INTELLIGENCE HEAD
MONTESINOS. GENERAL MALCA CHARACTERIZED GENERAL
ROBLES' ACCUSATIONS AS HAVING BEEN PREPARED

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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8181
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
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EXTEMPORANEOUSLY AFTER HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE
INTER-AMERICAN DEFENSE BOARD OF THE OAS IN
WASHINGTON. IF THE ACCUSATIONS ARE TRUE,
GENERAL MALCA SAID AT ONE POINT, HIS FAILURE TO
DENOUNCE THEM WHEN HE BECAME AWARE OF THEM MAKES
HIM AN ACCOMPLICE. DEFENSE MINISTER MALCA ALSO
ACCUSED GENERAL ROBLES OF ACTING OUT OF PERSONAL
MOTIVATION. WHILE DENYING PLANS TO TRANSFER THE
GENERAL'S SONS TO EMERGENCY ZONES, DEFENSE
MINISTER MALCA OBSERVED THAT FOR A MILITARY
OFFICER THE OPPORTUNITY TO FIGHT AGAINST
TERRORISM OUGHT TO BE CONSIDERED AN HONOR, NOT
SOMETHING TO BE AVOIDED.

15. (U) IN GENERAL, MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT
"NEW MAJORITY/CAMBIO 90" PARTY AND ALLIES IN THE
CCD ATTACKED ROBLES' MOTIVES, INTEGRITY, AND
MEMORY. ENRIQUE CHIRINOS SOTO CALLED WHAT
GENERAL ROBLES HAD DONE A "MONUMENT TO
DISHONOR." DEFENSE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN GILBERT
SIURA THOUGHT HE DETECTED IN THE GENERAL'S
ACCUSATIONS A PLOT ON THE PART OF INDIVIDUALS
TRAINED IN "ISRAEL, CHINA AND THE SOVIET UNION"
TO "DESTROY THE DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM." RAFAEL REY
REY SAID THE GENERAL PROVIDED NO EVIDENCE TO
BACK UP HIS CHARGES. IN RESPONSE, OPPOSITION
LEADER, HENRY PEASE OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEFT
(MDI), NOTED RHETORICALLY THAT "EVERY TIME
SOMEONE DENOUNCES A HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION (IN
PURU), THEY ARE DISCREDITED."

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16. (U) IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM CARLOS FERRERO COSTA, DEFENSE MINISTER MALCA DENIED ANY ARMY LINKS TO "COPRANSA," A COMPANY WHICH GENERAL ROBLES CHARGED WAS A FRONT ORGANIZATION FOR KIDNAPPINGS AND ASSASSINATION SQUADS. ROGER CACERES, CHAIRMAN OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE OF THE CCD AND HEAD OF A SPECIAL COMMITTEE INVESTIGATING THE "LA CANTUTA" DISAPPEARANCES, CALLED ON GENERAL MALCA TO MAKE MILITARY OFFICIALS ACCUSED OF INVOLVEMENT AVAILABLE FOR QUESTIONING BY THE COMMITTEE.

17. (U) AT THE END OF THE DEBATE, AN OPPOSITION MOTION CALLING UPON THE PRESIDENT TO REMOVE GENERAL HERMOZA RIOS AND VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS WAS EASILY DEFEATED WITHOUT DEBATE.

18. [REDACTED] COMMENT: THE EARLY REACTION TO GENERAL ROBLES' DEPARTURE INDICATES THE GOVERNMENT'S GENERAL PUBLIC RELATIONS STRATEGY: DISPARAGE THE GENERAL, DOWNPLAY HIS IMPORTANCE, ATTACK HIS CHARACTER AND ATTRIBUTE PERSONAL MOTIVES TO HIS DECISION TO FLEE PERU. SIMULTANEOUSLY, THE GOVERNMENT ALSO APPEARS TO BE EMBARKING ON A CAMPAIGN TO ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE AND LET IT BE KNOWN TO THE PERUVIAN PRESS CORPS THAT THERE IS A LOT OF GOOD NEWS TO REPORT.
BRAYSHAW##

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