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ACTION ARA-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	CIAE-00	C-01	DODE-00	HA-09	H-01
	INM-02	INRE-00	INR-01	L-03	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00
	OMB-01	PA-02	PM-02	PRS-01	P-01	SNP-00	SP-00
	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-01	/043W			

-----8317C4 072230Z /38

P 072225Z DEC 92  
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY 7329  
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4007  
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
AMEMBASSY QUITO  
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO  
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
FBIS ASUNCION  
VOA MIAMI FL

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USIA

USIA FOR P/M, P/PFL, AR (BWHARTON), B/VL, E/TP

STATE FOR INM (LHALE), ARA/AND, ARA/P

E.O.12356:N/A

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TAGS: PGOV, OPRC, PE

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: RETIRED MILITARY COMMANDER  
SAYS COUP ATTEMPT CAUSED BY PRESIDENTIAL INTERFERENCE IN  
MILITARY AFFAIRS

1. FORMER MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR AND RETIRED ARMY  
GENERAL LUIS CISNEROS VIZQUERRA ANALYZED THE NOVEMBER 13  
COUP ATTEMPT AGAINST PRESIDENT FUJIMORI IN A TWO-PART  
OP-ED PIECE PUBLISHED BY CENTER-RIGHT "EXPRESO" ON  
NOVEMBER 29 AND NOVEMBER 30.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J. OLSON  
DATE/CASE ID: 13 AUG 2001 200003853

2. CISNEROS VIZQUERRA MAINTAINED THAT THE ABORTED COUP REFLECTS UNEASINESS AMONG ARMY OFFICERS REGARDING WHAT THEY CONSIDER PRESIDENTIAL INTERFERENCE IN MILITARY AFFAIRS. GENERAL CISNEROS REFERRED SPECIFICALLY TO A RECENT DECREE GIVING THE PRESIDENT WIDE LATITUDE IN DETERMINING MILITARY PROMOTIONS AND ASSIGNMENTS. CISNEROS ALSO STRONGLY OBJECTED TO THE ROLE BEING PLAYED IN NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY BY FORMER ARMY CAPTAIN VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS, AN ADVISOR TO PRESIDENT FUJIMORI WHO WAS REMOVED FROM THE ARMY IN THE LATE 1970S FOR ALLEGEDLY SELLING MILITARY SECRETS TO THE CIA. EXCERPTS FOLLOW:

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CENTER-RIGHT "EXPRESO" (READERSHIP ABOUT 140,000) IS SECOND IN ELITE INFLUENCE, BUT SIXTH IN LIMA AND NATIONAL READERSHIP.  
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"THIS PRESIDENTIAL INTERFERENCE WAS DAMAGING TO THE ARMY  
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AND IS EVEN WORSE NOW AFTER THIS SERIES OF DECREES HAS BEEN ENACTED GIVING THE PRESIDENT ADDITIONAL DECISION-MAKING RESPONSIBILITIES ON ISSUES THAT HAVE ALWAYS BEEN INTERNAL MILITARY MATTERS. CURRENTLY, THIS INSTITUTIONAL UNEASINESS IS BEING COMPOUNDED BY THE DEFIANT AND UNNECESSARY PRESENCE IN THE PRESIDENTIAL INNER-CIRCLE OF CAPTAIN VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS, WHO WAS DISCHARGED BY THE ARMY FOR DISCIPLINARY REASONS, AND SENTENCED TO MILITARY CONFINEMENT APPROXIMATELY 15 YEARS AGO.

"THE REASONS FOR HIS PRESENCE ARE THE EXCLUSIVE RESPONSIBILITY OF PRESIDENT FUJIMORI, BUT THE RESPONSIBILITIES (INTELLIGENCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY) HE HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO CONSTITUTE A PERMANENT AFFRONT TO THE SAME MILITARY INSTITUTIONS THAT, IN THE PAST, CONSIDERED HIM UNWORTHY OF CONTINUING TO WEAR THE UNIFORM...MONTESINOS IS MORALLY UNFIT TO BE PART OF THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE NOR SHOULD HE HAVE YOUNG MILITARY OFFICERS UNDER HIS COMMAND.

"...WITH WHAT MORAL AUTHORITY CAN SOMEBODY TALK TODAY ABOUT NATIONAL SECURITY WHEN IN THE PAST HE PUT IT AT RISK?"

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3. COMMENT: CISNEROS VIZQUERRA IS A HIGHLY-REGARDED FORMER MILITARY COMMANDER WITH TIES TO EX-PRESIDENT BELAUNDE'S POPULAR ACTION PARTY. THE CONSERVATIVE RETIRED GENERAL HAS BEEN AN OUTSPOKEN CRITIC OF VLADIMIR MONTESINOS AND HAS WRITTEN NEGATIVE ARTICLES ABOUT FUJIMORI'S SHADOWY ADVISOR ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. A

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STORY CIRCULATING THROUGH LIMA'S PRODIGIOUS RUMOR MILL SAYS THAT THE BOMBING OF ONE OF CISNEROS' HOUSES LAST YEAR WAS ORDERED BY MONTESINOS IN RETALIATION FOR THE GENERAL'S VERBAL ATTACKS. PALMER, ACTING

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