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INFO LOG-00 ACDA-17 AID-01 AMAD-01 CIAE-00 CPR-02 C-01 OASY-00 EAP-01 EB-01 HA-09 H-01 INM-02 INRE-00 INR-01 IO-19 LAB-04 L-03 ADS-00 MOFM-04 MOF-03 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-17

TRSE-00 T-01 USIE-00 RPE-00 /097W -----8D163C 052027Z /38

O 052024Z JAN 93

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4691

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

DIA WASHDC

USAFSO HOWARD AFB PM

USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

Release in Fully RELEASED IN PART

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LIMA 00088

USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PHUM, PGOV, OFDP, PE, AR

SUBJECT:

RETIRED PERUVIAN GENERAL REQUESTS

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ASYLUM IN ARGENTINE EMBASSY

REF: A. 92 LIMA 16481, B. LIMA 054 (BOTH NOTAL)

1. (U) SUMMARY: GENERAL ALBERTO ARCINIEGA HUBY, A DYNAMIC AND RESPECTED OFFICER FORCED INTO RETIREMENT LAST MONTH, REQUESTED ASYLUM AT THE ARGENTINE EMBASSY JAN. 5 AFTER THE GOP FILED CHARGES AGAINST HIM FOR DEFAMATION AGAINST THE

COVEDMENT IN A TEARRIT, PARRWELL COFFCH

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5. (U) THE MORNING OF JAN. 5, ARCINIEGA MADE AN EMOTIONAL SPEECH TO THE ASSOCIATION OF FOREIGN JOURNALISTS IN PERU, ATTENDED BY EMBASSY USIS OFFICERS. FIGHTING BACK TEARS, HE DEFENDED HIS PERSONAL INTEGRITY, DENYING CHARGES THAT HE HAD GONE EASY ON OFFICIALS WHO WERE ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN CORRUPTION. THE GENERAL INSISTED HE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 LIMA 00088 01 OF 02 052026Z HAD BEEN REMOVED BECAUSE HE REFUSED TO LET PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS "DESTROY THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE MILITARY AND THE JUDICIARY." MONTESINOS "HAS HIS LIST" OF PEOPLE WHO WILL NOT DO AS HE SAYS, ARCINIEGA WENT ON, AND THOSE ARE THE PEOPLE BEING SYSTEMATICALLY RETIRED OR REMOVED FROM THEIR POSTS.

6. (U) WHILE BLASTING MONTESINOS, ARCINIEGA WAS CAREFUL NOT TO CRITICIZE FUJIMORI. "I HAVE GREAT RESPECT FOR THE PRESIDENT AND WHAT HE HAS DONE," HE REMARKED. HOWEVER, THE GENERAL LAMENTED THAT DESPITE FUJIMORI'S "MANY POSITIVE ACTIONS," HE HAD ALLOWED MONTESINOS TO "HAVE

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INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AID-01	AMAD-01	CIAE-00	CPR-02	C-01
	OASY-00	EAP-01	EB-01	HA-09	H-01	INM-02	INRE-00
	INR-01	IO-19	LAB-04	L-03	ADS-00	MOFM-04	MOF-03
	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-17
•	TRSE-00	T-01	USIE-00	RPE-00	/097W		*

O 052024Z JAN 93
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4692
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY CARACAS

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AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
DIA WASHDC
USAFSO HOWARD AFB PM
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 LIMA 00088

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PAGE 02 LIMA 00088 02 OF 02 052028Z MORE POWER IN ASSIGNMENTS" THAN HE SHOULD HAVE. MONTESINOS, HE CONTINUED, "IS DESTROYING THE COUNTRY WITH THIS ABUSE OF POWER." ARCINIEGA PRESAGED HIS ASYLUM REQUEST, CLAIMING THAT HE COULD NOT LET HIS FAMILY "SUFFER FROM THE THREATS AND INTIMIDATION" OF MONTESINOS AND HIS CRONIES. NOTING HE HAS A DAUGHTER IN THE U.S., ARCINIEGA CONCLUDED BY SAYING HIS ONLY "REQUEST" OF AMERICA WAS TO "HELP SAVE THE COUNTRY THAT I LOVE" FROM MONTESINOS.

(C) COMMENT: WHILE WE HAVE NOT ALWAYS AGREED WITH ARCINIEGA ON A VARIETY OF ISSUES (PARTICULARLY IN ANTI-NARCOTICS AND HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS WHEN HE WAS POLITICAL-MILITARY COMMANDER OF SAN MARTIN DEPARTMENT), HE WAS EXTREMELY POPULAR AMONG THE JUNIOR RANKS OF THE ARMY, WHO GENERALLY SAW HIM AS A SOLDIER'S GENERAL. ARCINIEGA WAS REMOVED FROM HIS POSITION BECAUSE HE VOCALLY OPPOSED GOVERNMENT POLICY WITH REGARD TO THE JUSTICE SYSTEM. THE VAGUENESS OF THE DEFAMATION CHARGES BROUGHT AGAINST HIM STRONGLY SUGGESTS THAT ARCINIEGA IS BEING PERSECUTED. WHETHER THE CHARGES AGAINST HIM WERE INTENDED AS HARASSMENT OR DESIGNED TO PUT HIM IN PRISON, ARCINIEGA'S REQUEST FOR ASYLUM NOW ADDS HIM TO THE GROWING LIST OF OPPOSITION FIGURES WHO HAVE DECIDED TO ATTACK THE FUJIMORI ADMINISTRATION FROM WITHOUT RATHER THAN FROM WITHIN. BRAYSHAW##

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