

[REDACTED]
n/a
Case Number: S200200010

RELEASED IN FULL

PTQ3077

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PTQ3077

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ACTION SCT-00

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-10	ACDE-00	INLB-01	AID-00	ARA-01	A-00
	CA-02	CCO-00	CG-00	SMEC-00	COME-00	CTME-00	INL-01
	OASY-00	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EAP-01	EB-00
	EUR-01	FAAE-00	H-01	IMMC-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	INSE-00
	IO-00	LAB-01	L-01	ADS-00	MMP-00	M-00	NRCE-00
	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-03	OIC-02	OIS-01	OMB-01	OPIC-01
	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	P-00	CIO-00	SP-00	SSO-00
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 FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5296
 INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE
 USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM IMMEDIATE
 FBI WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
 JCS WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
 DOJ WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 CIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
 USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ PRIORITY
 DIA WASHDC PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
 DEAHQS WASHDC
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
 AMEMBASSY PARIS
 AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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 AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
 AMEMBASSY ROME
 AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
 AMEMBASSY QUITO
 AMEMBASSY CARACAS
 AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

[REDACTED] SECTION 01 OF 02 LIMA 000355

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: WILLIAM E. LANDFAIR
 DATE/CASE ID: 13 AUG 2002 S200200010

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JUSTICE FOR TVCS -- J LANCASTER
SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD
ROME PASS EMBASSY VATICAN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/13/07
TAGS: PTER ASEC PREL PGOV PE
SUBJECT: PERU'S HOSTAGE CRISIS UPDATE - JANUARY 11-13

1. CLASSIFIED BY JAMES MACK, DCM, REASON: 1.5 (D).

2. [REDACTED] SUMMARY: THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT IS REDOUBLING ITS NEGOTIATION EFFORTS TO BREAK THE CURRENT IMPASSE IN THE HOSTAGE CRISIS, BUT THE TUPAC AMARU REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT (MRTA) STILL CLINGS TO ITS UNREALISTIC DEMAND THAT THE GOP RELEASE IMPRISONED MRTA MILITANTS. IN THE LAST TWO DAYS, THE INCREASINGLY BELLIGERENT MRTA HOSTAGE TAKERS SCUTTLED A SECOND ROUND OF FACE-TO-FACE TALKS WITH GOP INTERLOCUTOR DOMINGO PALERMO AND FIRED (LITERALLY) ITS THIRD SET OF "WARNING" SHOTS IN SIX DAYS.
END SUMMARY.

GOP MAKES PUBLIC PROPOSAL TO MRTA
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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3. (U) GOP INTERLOCUTOR AND EDUCATION MINISTER DOMINGO PALERMO READ TO THE PRESS ON JANUARY 12 THE GOP'S OFFER TO RESOLVE THE HOSTAGE STANDOFF. IN THE COMMUNIQUE, PALERMO SAID THE GOP WOULD LIKE TO FORM A GUARANTORS COMMISSION MADE UP OF ONE REPRESENTATIVE EACH FROM THE HOLY SEE, THE RED CROSS, THE GOP, AND MRTA TO OVERSEE "SUBSTANTIVE ADVANCES" IN NEGOTIATIONS. ONCE THE COMMISSION IS SET UP, PALERMO SAID MEETINGS COULD BE HELD AT A SITE AGREEABLE TO ALL THE GUARANTORS. HE NOTED THAT THE COMMISSION WOULD BE EMPOWERED TO DISCUSS ALL THE THEMES "IDENTIFIED IN PREVIOUS CONTACTS." THE GOP INTERLOCUTOR INVITED MRTA TO COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED FRAMEWORK FOR FACILITATING THE PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE HOSTAGE CRISIS.

4. (U) PRIOR TO READING THE GOP PROPOSAL, PALERMO ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAD INTENDED TO HOLD HIS SECOND FACE-TO-FACE MEETING WITH MRTA COMANDANTE NESTOR CERPA CARTOLINI ON JANUARY 13 (THE FIRST MEETING WAS ON DECEMBER 28), BUT HE HAD BEEN REBUFFED BY CERPA. PALERMO SAID MRTA SENT HIM VIA THE ICRC A NOTE TELLING HIM TO

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COME WITH A SPECIFIC GOP PROPOSAL TO RELEASE IMPRISONED MRTA MILITANTS OR NOT TO COME AT ALL. PALERMO RESPONDED BY SENDING THE GOP'S PROPOSAL TO CERPA VIA ICRC CHIEF DELEGATE MICHEL MINNIG. COUNTERING CRITICISM THAT HE HAD BEEN TOO CORDIAL IN HIS JANUARY 10 RADIO CONTACT WITH CERPA (INTERCEPTED BY AN ITALIAN JOURNALIST AND BROADCAST BY LOCAL MEDIA), THE EDUCATION MINISTER NOTED THAT HE HAS BEEN COURTEOUS IN ALL HIS DEALINGS, ESPECIALLY "WHEN THE FREEDOM OF 74 PERSONS DEPENDS ON IT."

5. [REDACTED] AFTER AN AWKWARD BEGINNING, THE GOP APPEARS TO BE PUTTING TO GOOD USE SOME NEGOTIATING TECHNIQUES SUGGESTED BY A [REDACTED]

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NUMBER OF INTERESTED PARTIES, INCLUDING FBI NEGOTIATION EXPERTS. FOR EXAMPLE, THE GOP:

-- OFFERED TO RENEW ITS SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH MRTA RATHER THAN LET THE ABSENCE OF DIALOGUE TO FESTER TOO LONG;

--- STROKED MRTA SENSITIVITIES IN ITS MORE RECENT PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON THE HOSTAGE CRISIS (PALERMO REFERRED YESTERDAY TO THE "MRTA GROUP" NOT TO "THE MRTA TERRORISTS");

--- INITIATED ON JANUARY 9 WHAT IS SHAPING UP TO BE A DAILY SERIES OF HIGH-LEVEL PRESS OPPORTUNITIES TO PRESENT GOP POSITIONS AND TO REDUCE PREVIOUSLY RAMPANT PRESS SPECULATION.

MRTA DIGS IN

6. [REDACTED] DESPITE RECENT GOP EFFORTS TO WORK TOWARDS A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE HOSTAGE CRISIS, WE PERCEIVE NO SIGNS YET THAT MRTA IS SOFTENING ITS NEGOTIATING POSITION. EARLY ON JANUARY 13, THE MRTA HOSTAGE TAKERS HELD UP A SIGN FROM A SECOND STORY WINDOW AT THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE ASKING PALERMO TO TUNE IN TO HIS HAND-HELD RADIO FOR MRTA'S RESPONSE TO THE GOP PROPOSAL. ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT YET HAVE A READOUT ON THE MRTA'S ANSWER, MRTA [REDACTED]

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 CIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
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SECTION 02 OF 02 LIMA 000355

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LATER HELD UP A SIGN ASKING THAT A CAMERA CREW COME TO THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE TO FILM MRTA'S REBUTTAL TO THE GOP PROPOSAL. THE GOP HAS NOT RESPONDED TO THIS DEMAND.

7. [REDACTED] BEFORE NOON THE SAME DAY, MRTA ALSO FIRED THREE BURSTS OF "WARNING" SHOTS INTO THE AIR, WHICH THE MRTA TOLD THE ICRC WAS THE GROUP'S RESPONSE TO A ROCK THROWN AGAINST THE REAR OF THE RESIDENCE. COMMUNICATING VIA HAND-HELD RADIO, NESTOR CERPA TOLD FOREIGN REPORTERS THAT MRTA FIRED THE SHOTS TO WARN POLICE TO REFRAIN FROM ENTERING A 100 METER SECURITY CORDON AROUND THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE. MRTA'S FIRST DAY-TIME SHOOTING MAY ALSO HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO STEAL MEDIA ATTENTION FROM ECUADORIAN PRESIDENT BUCARAM'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FUJIMORI AT THE SAME HOUR AT THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE IN LIMA.

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REENTER ARCHBISHOP CIPRIANI

8. [REDACTED] GOP INTERLOCUTOR PALERMO ALSO ANNOUNCED ON JANUARY 12 THAT THE HOLY SEE HAD GIVEN AYACUCHO ARCHBISHOP JUAN LUIS CIPRIANI PERMISSION TO BE A MEMBER OF A COMMISSION TO HELP RESOLVE THE HOSTAGE CRISIS. ALREADY A KEY MEDIATOR, PRESIDENT FUJIMORI'S FAVORITE PRIEST RETURNED TO THE HOSTAGE SITE FOR A FEW HOURS ON BOTH JANUARY 11 AND 12. IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY SOFTENING OF THE MRTA'S DEMAND FOR THE RELEASE OF IMPRISONED MRTA MILITANTS, CIPRIANI HAD POINTEDLY ABSENTED HIMSELF FROM THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE AND RETURNED TO HIS AYACUCHO DIOCESE ON JANUARY 8.

GOP RELEASES TWO DETAINED JOURNALISTS

9. (U) PERU'S ANTI-TERRORISM DIRECTORATE (DINCOTE) RELEASED ON JANUARY 11 ASAHI TV JAPANESE JOURNALIST HITOMO TSUYOSHI AND HIS PERUVIAN CAMERAMAN/INTERPRETER VICTOR BORJA. PERUVIAN POLICE ARRESTED BOTH AFTER THEY ELUDED A POLICE CORDON AND WERE ALLOWED

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INSIDE THE HOSTAGE SITE BY THE MRTA TERRORISTS ON JANUARY 7. THE
GOP DECIDED NOT TO PRESS CHARGES AGAINST EITHER TSUYOSHI OR
BORJA. SOON AFTER HIS RELEASE, THE FREED JAPANESE JOURNALIST
BOARDED A DIRECT FLIGHT TO NEWARK, NEW JERSEY. THE GOP DENIES
DEPORTING TSUYOSHI, NOTING THAT ASAHI TV HAD AGREED TO "REPLACE"
HIM IN LIMA.

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10. (U) THE GOP DID NOT IMMEDIATELY RETURN TSUYOSHI'S VIDEO
TAPE, WHICH REPORTEDLY CONTAINS AN INTERVIEW WITH MRTA COMANDANTE
CERPA. THE GOP ANNOUNCED IT WOULD RETURN THE VIDEO TAPE TO ASAHI
TV VIA JAPAN'S EMBASSY IN LIMA SOME TIME IN THE NEAR FUTURE. IT
REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHEN THE TAPE WILL ACTUALLY BE RETURNED TO
ASAHI TV, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF AN ASAHI TV REPRESENTATIVE'S
COMMENT TO THE PRESS THAT THE STATION PLANS TO AIR THE
UNAUTHORIZED, EXCLUSIVE CERPA INTERVIEW.

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