

n/a
Case Number: S200200010

PTQ2678

RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.5(D)

PTQ2678

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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
	SS-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01	PMB-00	DSCC-00
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 FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5918
 INFO FBI WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
 DOJ WASHDC PRIORITY
 DIA WASHDC PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
 USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ PRIORITY
 USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM PRIORITY
 CIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
 JCS WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
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 AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
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 AMEMBASSY ROME
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 AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
 AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: WILLIAM E. LANDFAIR
 DATE/CASE ID: 13 AUG 2002 S200200010
 CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 25X1

EXTEND CLASSIFICATION

[REDACTED]
n/a

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

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/18/07

TAGS: PTER ASEC PREL PGOV PE

SUBJECT: PERU'S HOSTAGE CRISIS UPDATE - FEBRUARY 14-17

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

2. [REDACTED] SUMMARY: DESPITE THREE ROUNDS OF NEGOTIATIONS, THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT AND TUPAC AMARU REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT (MRTA) HAVE NOT YET REACHED AGREEMENT ON AN AGENDA FOR FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS. THE MRTA'S INSISTENCE THAT THE AGENDA COVER ONLY THE TERRORIST GROUP'S DEMANDS FOR PRISONER RELEASES AND SAFE PASSAGE FROM THE HOSTAGE SITE PREVENTED THE GOP-MRTA DIALOGUE FROM MOVING FORWARD. THE DE FACTO GUARANTOR COMMISSION CHAIRMAN, ARCHBISHOP JUAN LUIS CIPRIANI, IS CURRENTLY TRYING TO BROKER AN ACCEPTABLE AGENDA THAT WILL SIMULTANEOUSLY GIVE THE GOP MORE FLEXIBILITY AT THE TABLE AND GET "PRELIMINARY TALKS" BACK ON TRACK. END SUMMARY.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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GOP AND MRTA HOLD SECOND AND THIRD ROUND OF TALKS

3. (U) THE SECOND ROUND OF "PRELIMINARY TALKS" BETWEEN GOP INTERLOCUTOR DOMINGO PALERMO AND MRTA LIEUTENANT ROLI ROJAS FERNANDEZ LASTED THREE HOURS ON FEBRUARY 14. THE MEMBERS OF THE GUARANTOR COMMISSION, ARCHBISHOP JUAN LUIS CIPRIANI, JAPANESE AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO TERUSUKE TERADA, CANADIAN AMBASSADOR ANTHONY VINCENT, AND ICRC CHIEF DELEGATE TO PERU MICHEL MINNIG, JOINED BOTH PARTIES AT THE NEGOTIATION HOUSE ACROSS FROM THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE. AFTER THE SECOND MEETING, CIPRIANI AND VINCENT READ A BRIEF STATEMENT IN SPANISH AND ENGLISH, RESPECTIVELY, WHICH NOTED THAT THE GOP AND MRTA PUT FORTH THEIR PROPOSALS FOR AN AGENDA, BUT DID NOT REACH AGREEMENT. THE GUARANTORS ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT THE TALKS MADE REAL PROGRESS.

4. (U) GOP INTERLOCUTOR PALERMO AND MRTA REPRESENTATIVE ROJAS, ASSISTED AGAIN BY THE GUARANTORS, HELD A THIRD ROUND OF TALKS THE NEXT DAY. AFTER APPROXIMATELY THREE HOURS OF NEGOTIATIONS,

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ARCHBISHOP CIPRIANI AND AMBASSADOR VINCENT READ A TERSE STATEMENT TO THE PRESS NOTING THAT "BOTH SIDES CONCLUDED THEIR STATEMENTS ON THE ISSUES PERTAINING TO THE PREPARATION OF THE AGENDA," AND THAT THE GUARANTORS "AGREED TO PREPARE A PROPOSAL THAT WILL FACILITATE THE CONTINUATION OF THE PRELIMINARY TALKS." THEY DID NOT ANNOUNCE WHEN NEGOTIATIONS WOULD RESUME BUT DID INDICATE THAT THE GOP-MRTA DIALOGUE WOULD "CONTINUE SOON."

ICRC PERSPECTIVE ON TALKS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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5. [REDACTED] DURING HIS FEBRUARY 17 MEETING WITH POLOFF AND U.S., BRITISH AND CANADIAN NEGOTIATION EXPERTS, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] INDICATED THAT IN THE ABSENCE OF A GOP-MRTA AGREEMENT ON AN AGENDA FOR FUTURE TALKS, ARCHBISHOP CIPRIANI WAS ENDEAVORING TO CRAFT A PROPOSAL ACCEPTABLE TO THE GOP, MRTA, AND ALL THE GUARANTORS. [REDACTED] NOTED THAT CIPRIANI HAD ENTERED THE HOSTAGE SITE ON FEBRUARY 16 AND 17 TO DISCUSS THE AGENDA IMPASSE WITH THE MRTA HOSTAGE TAKERS. [REDACTED] HIGHLIGHTED THE FACT THAT THE PRO-GOVERNMENT ARCHBISHOP WAS ASSUMING THE ROLE OF A MEDIATOR, WHICH HE THOUGHT COULD INCREASINGLY BRING CIPRIANI INTO CONFLICT WITH THE GOP.

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6. [REDACTED] REITERATING THAT ICRC CHIEF DELEGATE MINNIG PARTICIPATES ONLY IN DISCUSSIONS OF HUMANITARIAN ISSUES, [REDACTED] NEVERTHELESS REVEALED THAT THE MRTA CONTINUES TO INSIST ON ONLY A TWO-POINT AGENDA COVERING THE RELEASE OF IMPRISONED MRTA MILITANTS AND THE SAFE PASSAGE OF THE MRTA TERRORISTS. THE GOP, HE SAID, IS SEEKING A BROADER AGENDA WITH MORE ROOM FOR MANEUVER. [REDACTED] OPINED THAT THE GOP AND MRTA WERE STILL SO FAR APART THAT IT WOULD TAKE A LOT MORE TIME TO ADVANCE THEIR PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS. HE ADDED THAT THE HOSTAGES, BRIEFED BY MRTA COMANDANTE NESTOR CERPA AND ARCHBISHOP CIPRIANI, HAVE REACHED A SIMILAR CONCLUSION AND THEIR MORALE AND UNITY HAVE SUFFERED CONSIDERABLY AS A RESULT.

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	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	P-00	CIO-00	SP-00	SSO-00
	SS-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01	PMB-00	DSCC-00
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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] SECTION 02 OF 02 LIMA 001416

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[REDACTED]

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7. [REDACTED] ASKED ABOUT THE HEALTH OF THE HOSTAGES, [REDACTED] SAID THEY ARE GENERALLY DOING FINE, BUT HE CAUTIONED THAT THE HEALTH OF SOME OF THE OLDER HOSTAGES COULD CHANGE QUICKLY. HE SAID THE ICRC RECENTLY INTRODUCED ULTRA-SOUND AND CARDIOGRAM EQUIPMENT INTO THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE TO RUN TESTS ON SOME OF THE HOSTAGES. ASKED ABOUT CERPA'S DETERMINATION NOT TO RELEASE ANY MORE HOSTAGES ON MEDICAL GROUNDS, [REDACTED] BELIEVED CERPA COULD SHOW MORE FLEXIBILITY IF HE WERE CONFRONTED WITH AN EXTREME MEDICAL EMERGENCY AND THE GUARANTORS INTERVENED. [REDACTED] SAID CERPA PUT THE HOSTAGES ON NOTICE THAT THEY CANNOT EXPECT TO BE RELEASED FOR MEDICAL REASONS IN PART TO DISCOURAGE HOSTAGES FROM EXAGGERATING THEIR AILMENTS.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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FUJIMORI OPENS BRIDGES IN AREA AFFECTED BY MRTA

8. (U) IN ANOTHER GESTURE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT HIS ADMINISTRATION HAS DEFEATED TERRORISM AND THAT THE MRTA HOSTAGE TAKING IS AN ISOLATED INCIDENT, PRESIDENT FUJIMORI TRAVELED TO MAZAMARI, JUNIN DEPARTMENT, TO INAUGURATE TWO RECENTLY COMPLETED BRIDGES ON FEBRUARY 15. THE LAST REMNANTS OF THE MRTA ARE MOST ACTIVE IN JUNIN DEPARTMENT, AND PERUVIAN POLICE REPORTEDLY UNCOVERED AN MRTA ARMS CACHE IN MAZAMARI IN NOVEMBER 1996.

LOCAL PRESS RUN RESCUE STORIES

9. (U) THE LOCAL PRESS HAS RUN ANOTHER SPATE OF STORIES SPECULATING ON THE NATURE OF THE GOP'S CONTINGENCY RESCUE PLANS. LA REPUBLICA, AN OPPOSITION LIMA DAILY, PUBLISHED A STORY ON FEBRUARY 16 DETAILING A SUPPOSED PERUVIAN MILITARY PLAN TO STORM THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF U.S. PERSONNEL. PRESIDENT FUJIMORI DENIED ANY SUCH PLAN THE NEXT DAY, BUT HE REITERATED THAT THE GOP WOULD CONSIDER THE USE OF FORCE IF THE MRTA HARMS ANY HOSTAGES. BASING ITS INFORMATION ON A STORY PUBLISHED BY THE ARGENTINEAN PAPER CLARIN, LIMA'S EL COMERCIO

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[REDACTED]

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REPORTED THAT THE HOSTAGES HAD A JANUARY 22 PLAN TO OVERCOME THE MRTA TERRORISTS ON THE SECOND FLOOR AND AWAIT A HELICOPTER RESCUE FROM THE ROOF OF THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE, BUT DECIDED NOT TO IMPLEMENT THE IDEA WHEN MRTA BECAME SUSPICIOUS.

10. [REDACTED] COMMENT: THIS IS JUST THE LATEST WAVE OF PRESS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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STORIES ABOUT A POSSIBLE RESCUE ATTEMPT. ALTHOUGH SPECULATIVE, SUCH PRESS ACCOUNTS DO INCREASE THE TENSION INSIDE THE HOSTAGE SITE AS WELL AS ALARM THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT. END COMMENT.

DINCOTE ARRESTS AND LATER RELEASES CAMERAMAN

11. (U) MEMBERS OF PERU'S SPECIAL ANTI-TERRORISM POLICE DIRECTORATE (DINCOTE) ARRESTED A PERUVIAN TELEVISION CAMERAMAN WHO HAD POSITIONED HIMSELF IN A HOUSE NEARBY THE NEGOTIATION SITE (AND INSIDE THE POLICE PERIMETER). DINCOTE RELEASED THE CAMERAMAN AND HIS EQUIPMENT AFTER 12 HOURS. DINCOTE CONTINUES TO MAINTAIN TIGHT SECURITY IN THE VICINITY OF THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE AND DETAIN PERSONS FOR QUESTIONING WHO LINGER SUSPICIOUSLY IN THE AREA. ONLY AUTHORIZED GOP OFFICIALS, MEMBERS OF THE ICRC, MEMBERS OF THE GUARANTOR COMMISSION, AND RESIDENTS ARE PERMITTED PAST THE POLICE CORDON AROUND THE HOSTAGE SITE.

JETT

[REDACTED]

NNNN

[REDACTED]