

[REDACTED]

n/a

Case Number: S200200010

RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.5(B), 1.5(D)

PTQ3950

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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 6309
 INFO DIA WASHDC PRIORITY
 USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
 USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
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 AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
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 AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
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 AMEMBASSY CARACAS
 DEAHQS WASHDC

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EXTEND CLASSIFICATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: WILLIAM E. LANDFAIR
 DATE/CASE ID: 13 AUG 2002 S200200010
 CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 25X6
 DECLASSIFY AFTER: 8 MAR 2023

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n/a

Case Number: S200200010

[REDACTED] SECTION 01 OF 03 LIMA 002109

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

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/11/2007

TAGS: PTER ASEC PREL PGOV CASC PE

SUBJECT: PERU'S HOSTAGE CRISIS UPDATE - MARCH 7-11;
GOVERNMENT SUSPENDS TALKS

REF: LIMA 1769

1. CLASSIFIED BY DCM JAMES MACK, U.S. EMBASSY LIMA.
REASON: 1.5 (D).

2. [REDACTED] SUMMARY: GOVERNMENT INTERLOCUTOR DOMINGO PALERMO ANNOUNCED MARCH 10 THAT HE WOULD NOT MEET WITH THE MRTA THAT DAY AS SCHEDULED BECAUSE "CONDITIONS TO RESTART THE TALKS HAVE NOT BEEN SUFFICIENTLY DEFINED." WHEN THE GUARANTORS INFORMED CERPA, HE LAUGHED AND SAID THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT HAD A RIGHT TO SUSPEND THE TALKS, SINCE HE HAD ALREADY DONE SO ONCE. A CANADIAN DIPLOMAT REPORTS THE GUARANTORS ARE FEELING SOME "ANGST" AND ARE [REDACTED]

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READY TO SUGGEST THAT THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT NAME A MEDIATOR TO MOVE THE PROCESS FORWARD. AT THIS STAGE, HOWEVER, PRESIDENT FUJIMORI, WHO REJECTED THE USE OF A MEDIATOR FROM THE START, IS LIKELY VERY RELUCTANT TO BRING IN AN ADDITIONAL PERSONALITY INTO THE PROCESS. THE MRTA LEADERSHIP CONTINUES TO RAISE THE ISSUE OF PRISON CONDITIONS, AND AN MRTA COMMUNIQUE SENT TO THE LIMA PRESS MARCH 6 LISTS 31 MRTA MEMBERS ALLEGEDLY SUFFERING FROM HEALTH PROBLEMS DUE TO THEIR IMPRISONMENT, INCLUDING U.S. CITIZEN LORI BERENSON. END SUMMARY.

PALERMO SUSPENDS TALKS

3. (U) THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT'S HOSTAGE CRISIS INTERLOCUTOR, EDUCATION MINISTER DOMINGO PALERMO, ANNOUNCED MARCH 10 THAT HE WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE TENTH ROUND OF TALKS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE THAT DAY BECAUSE THE "CONDITIONS TO RESTART THE PRELIMINARY TALKS HAVE NOT BEEN SUFFICIENTLY DEFINED" AND "SOME

[REDACTED]
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CONCEPTS ANNOUNCED BY THE MRTA LAST SATURDAY NEED TO BE CLARIFIED." PALERMO CALLED ON THE GUARANTORS TO CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS TO COME TO A PEACEFUL SOLUTION, AND ADDED THAT HIS NON-PARTICIPATION IN THE MARCH 10 TALKS WAS DUE TO THE WELL-FOUNDED CONCERN THAT UNDER "PRETEXTS USED TO UNILATERALLY SUSPEND THE TALKS" THERE WOULD BE AN ATTEMPT TO BACK AWAY FROM THE ADVANCES ACHIEVED TO DATE IN THE TALKS.

GUARANTORS MEET WITH CERPA

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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4. (U) GUARANTORS ARCHBISHOP JUAN LUIS CIPRIANI, CANADIAN AMBASSADOR ANTHONY VINCENT, ICRC CHIEF DELEGATE MICHEL MINNIG, AND GUARANTOR OBSERVER JAPANESE TDY AMBASSADOR TERUSUKE TERADA WERE WAITING FOR PALERMO AT 3 P.M. MARCH 10 AT THE HOUSE USED FOR THE TALKS ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE, WHEN THEY RECEIVED A MESSAGE STATING THAT PALERMO WOULD NOT ATTEND THE TALKS THAT DAY. CIPRIANI, VINCENT AND MINNIG THEN WENT INSIDE THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE AND MET WITH MRTA LEADER CERPA FOR 15 MINUTES. UPON LEAVING THE RESIDENCE, CIPRIANI READ A STATEMENT EXPLAINING THAT THE TALKS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 10 WOULD NOT TAKE PLACE BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT INTERLOCUTOR WOULD NOT BE PARTICIPATING. CIPRIANI ADDED THAT THE GUARANTORS, IN AN EFFORT TO FIND TO A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE CRISIS, WOULD TRY TO RESTART TALKS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

GUARANTORS TO SUGGEST OUTSIDE MEDIATOR

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	P-00	CIO-00	SP-00	SSO-00
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FUJIMORI PUBLICLY SAID EARLY MARCH 11 THAT THE TALKS WOULD CONTINUE ONCE THE CRISIS CAN BE SOLVED "IN A REAL WAY."
(COMMENT: THE PERUVIAN LEADER'S REMARKS MAY SUGGEST HE WOULD LIKE THE MRTA TO SCALE DOWN ITS HERETOFORE UNREALISTIC DEMAND FOR LARGE-SCALE RELEASE OF IMPRISONED MRTA MEMBERS BEFORE/BEFORE RETURNING TO THE GOP-MRTA DIALOGUE. END COMMENT.)

6. [REDACTED] AS FOR THE MRTA, [REDACTED] SAID THAT WHEN CIPRIANI AND [REDACTED]

B1

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VINCENT TOLD CERPA THAT PALERMO WOULD NOT MEET WITH HIM MARCH 10, CERPA LAUGHED AND SAID THAT SINCE THE MRTA HAD CALLED OFF THE TALKS ONCE, THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT COULD DO THE SAME. CERPA ADDED THAT THE MRTA WAS NOT GOING ANYWHERE. THE GUARANTORS WERE PLEASED THAT THE MRTA DID NOT GET TOO EXCITED AT THE NEWS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S SUSPENDING THE TALKS, ACCORDING TO BICKFORD.

[REDACTED]

B1

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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NO PRISON VISITS SCHEDULED YET

8. [REDACTED] ALSO INDICATED THAT THE PERUVIANS HAVE NOT YET ORGANIZED PRISON VISITS BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GUARANTORS (CANADA, THE HOLY SEE, AND JAPAN), WHICH HAD BEEN AGREED TO THE PREVIOUS WEEK. [REDACTED] HAD HOPED SUCH VISITS WOULD BEGIN MONDAY, MARCH 10, BUT HE ASSUMED THE PERUVIANS WERE NOT YET READY TO CONDUCT SUCH VISITS.

B1

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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CERPA'S SATURDAY STATEMENT

9. [REDACTED] MRTA LEADER NESTOR CERPA VIA RADIO COMMUNICATION TOLD JOURNALISTS SATURDAY, MARCH 8, THAT A FEW DETAILS STILL NEEDED TO BE WORKED OUT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MRTA, BUT ADDED THAT AFTER THE GUARANTORS' MARCH 9 VISIT, THERE COULD BE AN ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT THE EVENTUAL RESTARTING OF TALKS. (THE GUARANTORS DID ANNOUNCE AFTER MEETING CERPA MARCH 9 THAT THE TENTH ROUND WOULD TAKE PLACE MARCH 10.) CERPA ALSO DENIED PRESS REPORTS THAT THE MRTA HAD RECEIVED ANY ASSISTANCE FROM FOREIGN JOURNALISTS AND SAID THAT GOP CHARGES THAT JOURNALIST MIGUEL REAL OF BRITAIN'S WTN NETWORK PROVIDED THE MRTA WITH ASSISTANCE WERE TOTALLY FALSE. REAL, WHO HAD HAD SEVERAL RADIO CONVERSATIONS WITH CERPA, DEPARTED PERU LATE MARCH 7 AFTER CLAIMING THAT HE RECEIVED DEATH THREATS DUE TO HIS HAVING HAD CONTACT WITH THE MRTA LEADER. REAL, WHO WE BELIEVE TO BE A MEXICAN CITIZEN, ALSO ASSERTED THAT THE THREATS CAME FROM THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (SIN) AND THAT HE WAS ALERTED BY A SIN SOURCE THAT THE SIN WAS PREPARING A PROFILE CONNECTING HIM TO REBEL GROUPS IN EL SALVADOR AND MEXICO.

MRTA COMMUNIQUE ON ILL PRISONERS INCLUDING BERENSON

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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10. [REDACTED] TWENTY-EIGHT MEMBERS OF THE LIMA PRESS CORPS RECEIVED MARCH 6 AN E-MAIL FROM EXILED MRTA LEADERS IN HAMBURG, GERMANY, LISTING 31 MRTA MEMBERS IN PERUVIAN MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISONS WHO WERE SUFFERING SERIOUS ILLNESSES DUE TO TORTURE AND POOR HEALTH CONDITIONS. THE COMMUNIQUE INCLUDED U.S. CITIZEN LORI BERENSON, WHO, IT SAID, WAS SUFFERING FROM TENDINITIS AND BRONCHIAL PROBLEMS. THE MRTA LEADERS CALLED FOR THE HOSPITALIZATION OF THESE 31 PRISONERS IN THEIR HOME COUNTRIES. (COMMENT: MOST OF THE 31 ON THE LIST ARE PERUVIANS. THE SUGGESTION THAT SOME SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THEIR HOME COUNTRY FOR HOSPITALIZATION IS

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[REDACTED]

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AIMED AT FOREIGN PRISONERS SUCH AS BERENSON OR THE CHILEANS LINKED TO THE MRTA. END COMMENT.)

FEMALE MRTA PRISONERS ON HUNGER STRIKE

11. (U) IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE MRTA HOSTAGE TAKEOVER, TWELVE FEMALE MRTA MEMBERS HELD AT CHORRILLOS WOMEN'S PRISON HAVE BEEN CONDUCTING A HUNGER STRIKE SINCE MID-FEBRUARY TO PROTEST THE STRICT PRISON REGIMEN. THREE OF THE PRISONERS ARE IN SERIOUS CONDITION, ACCORDING TO A MARCH 9 RADIO STATEMENT BY CERPA. THE MRTA LEADER EXPRESSED CONCERN FOR THE WOMEN HUNGER STRIKERS AND CALLED ON PERUVIAN AUTHORITIES TO RESUME FAMILY VISITS FOR TERRORISM DETAINEES. PERUVIAN JUSTICE MINISTER CARLOS HERMOZA STATED PUBLICLY MARCH 7 THAT THE MRTA FEMALE HUNGER STRIKERS WERE RECEIVING MEDICAL ATTENTION, BUT THAT THEY HAD BEEN UNWILLING TO TAKE MEDICINE OR FOOD. IN ADDITION, HERMOZA INFORMED JOURNALISTS THAT PERUVIAN PRISON CONDITIONS COULD IMPROVE ONCE THE HOSTAGE CRISIS IS RESOLVED.
JETT

[REDACTED]
n/a
[REDACTED]