

[REDACTED]
n/a

Case Number: S200200010

RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.5(D)

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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	STR-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01	PMB-00
	DSCC-00	PRM-10	PRME-01	DRL-09	G-00	/050W	

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O 182230Z MAR 97
 FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6472
 INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
 USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
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 AMEMBASSY CARACAS

[REDACTED]

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 AMEMBASSY QUITO
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[REDACTED] SECTION 01 OF 03 LIMA 002373

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

[REDACTED]
n/a

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: WILLIAM E. LANDFAIR
 DATE/CASE ID: 13 AUG 2002 S200200010
 CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 25X1

EXTEND CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

n/a

Case Number: S200200010

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/18/2007

TAGS: PTER ASEC PREL PGOV PHUM ICRC PE

SUBJECT: PERU'S HOSTAGE CRISIS UPDATE - MARCH 13-18

1. CLASSIFIED BY JIM MACK, DCM, EMBASSY LIMA. REASON: 1.5 (D).

2. SUMMARY: THE MARCH 18-19 VISIT OF A HIGH-RANKING JAPANESE OFFICIAL WILL REINFORCE THE GOJ'S INTEREST IN SECURING A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF THE HOSTAGE CRISIS. MEMBERS OF THE GUARANTOR COMMISSION CONTINUE TO SHUTTLE BETWEEN THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE TUPAC AMARU REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT (MRTA) TERRORISTS TO TRY TO BROKER A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE 91-DAY OLD HOSTAGE CRISIS. A MARCH 15 WAREHOUSE ROBBERY AND BOMBING ATTRIBUTED BY LOCAL PRESS TO MRTA TERRORISTS WAS PROBABLY THE WORK OF COMMON CRIMINALS. END SUMMARY.

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JAPANESE STATE FOREIGN SECRETARY ARRIVES

3. (U) JAPANESE STATE FOREIGN SECRETARY HAYASHI MASAHIKO KOMURA ARRIVED EARLY MARCH 18 FOR A TWO-DAY VISIT TO LIMA. HE IS SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT FUJIMORI, MEMBERS OF THE GUARANTOR COMMISSION, AND WITH FAMILY MEMBERS OF THE JAPANESE HOSTAGES BEFORE DEPARTING FOR THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AROUND MIDDAY ON MARCH 19.

GUARANTORS CONTINUE SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY

4. (U) MEMBERS OF THE GUARANTOR COMMISSION CONTINUE TO MEET SEPARATELY WITH THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT AND MRTA IN AN EFFORT TO BROKER AN AGREEMENT. ON MARCH 17, ARCHBISHOP JUAN LUIS CIPRIANI, CANADIAN AMBASSADOR ANTHONY VINCENT, AND TDY JAPANESE AMBASSADOR TERUSUKE TERADA MET WITH PRESIDENT ALBERTO FUJIMORI AND GOP INTERLOCUTOR DOMINGO PALERMO FOR OVER TWO HOURS. FOLLOWING THE MEETING, THE SAME GUARANTORS MET WITH MRTA LEADER NESTOR CERPA AND HIS LIEUTENANT ROLI ROJAS FOR ALMOST TWO HOURS. THE GUARANTORS DID NOT MAKE ANY PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS AFTER THEIR MEETINGS.

ICRC SEES SIGNS OF PROGRESS

n/a

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5. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ [REDACTED]
TOLD POLOFF AND FBI NEGOTIATION EXPERTS ON MARCH 18 THAT
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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GUARANTOR MEDIATION WOULD LIKELY BE MORE PRODUCTIVE AT THIS STAGE
THAN FACE-TO-FACE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE GOP AND MRTA.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] DURING THE MARCH 17 MEETING BETWEEN THE GUARANTORS AND
MRTA, SAID CERPA AND ROJAS RETURNED TO THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S
RESIDENCE "MORE POSITIVE." ALTHOUGH CERPA CONTINUES TO
DEMONSTRATE "TUNNEL VISION," [REDACTED] EXPRESSED SOME HOPE THAT
CONTINUED MEETINGS WOULD MAKE HIM MORE FLEXIBLE. DELAYS BETWEEN
MEETINGS, HE REITERATED, ONLY MADE THE MRTA MORE INTRANSIGENT.

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6. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ASKED IF CERPA STILL INSISTS ON THE RELEASE OF KEY MRTA
LEADERS, [REDACTED] NOTED THAT CERPA FEELS THAT NOW IS HIS BEST,
AND PERHAPS ONLY, CHANCE TO FORCE THE GOP TO RELEASE MRTA
LEADERS. AT THE SAME TIME, [REDACTED] INDICATED THAT SOME OF THE
MRTA HOSTAGE TAKERS ALREADY UNDERSTAND THAT WINNING THE RELEASE
OF MRTA LEADERS WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE. [REDACTED] SAID THAT AMONG THE
FOUR MRTA LEADERS INSIDE THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE,
"TITO" AND "SALVADOR" TENDED TO BE MUCH MORE HARDLINE THAN CERPA
AND ROJAS WHO HAVE SERVED AS NEGOTIATORS IN TALKS. NEVERTHELESS,
[REDACTED] OPINED THAT CERPA STILL EXERCISES CONTROL OVER THE
OTHERS AND COULD COMMAND THE OTHERS TO ACCEPT AN AGREEMENT, IF
NECESSARY.

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ACTION SCT-00

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-10	ACDE-00	INLB-01	AID-00	ARA-01	A-00
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	OASY-00	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EAP-01	EB-00
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	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

n/a
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

n/a

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SS-00	STR-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01	PMB-00
DSCC-00	PRM-10	PRME-01	DRL-09	G-00	/050W	
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 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6473
 INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
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 DOJ WASHDC PRIORITY
 FBI WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
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 JCS WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
 AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] SECTION 02 OF 03 LIMA 002373

JUSTICE FOR TVCS -- J LANCASTER
 SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD
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7. [REDACTED] ASKED ABOUT THE MOOD OF THE HOSTAGES, [REDACTED] SAID THEY ARE EXPERIENCING VOLATILE MOOD SWINGS. THE HOSTAGES' MORALE WAS LOW, HE SAID, UNTIL SEPARATE GUARANTOR TALKS WITH THE GOP AND MRTA RESUMED ON MONDAY. NOTING THAT THE HOSTAGE TAKERS HAD

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n/a
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
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BECOME MUCH MORE VIGILANT INSIDE THE RESIDENCE IN THE LAST WEEK,
[REDACTED] SAID THE MRTA'S INCREASED SECURITY PRECAUTIONS HAD MADE
THE HOSTAGES MORE ANXIOUS ABOUT THEIR OWN SAFETY. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] THE HOSTAGES CONTINUED TO RECEIVE
EXCELLENT HEALTH CARE THROUGH THE DAILY VISITS OF ICRC DOCTORS
AND THAT THE HOSTAGES EXPERIENCED NO PRESSING MEDICAL PROBLEMS.

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[REDACTED]
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PERUVIANS EXPRESS SOLIDARITY WITH HOSTAGES

8. (U) IN ORDER TO MARK THE HOSTAGES' 90TH DAY IN CAPTIVITY,
RELATIVES OF THE 72 HOSTAGES REQUESTED THAT PERUVIANS EXPRESS
THEIR SOLIDARITY WITH THE HOSTAGES' PLIGHT AT NOON ON MARCH 17.
CHURCH BELLS RANG, DRIVERS HONKED THEIR HORNS AND SIRENS BLARED
THROUGHOUT LIMA. IN ADDITION, ABOUT 100 RELATIVES AND SUPPORTERS
OF THE HOSTAGES IN THE VICINITY OF THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S
RESIDENCE BLEW WHISTLES AND POUNDED ON POTS AND PANS. A SPECIAL
MASS AT A CHURCH NEAR THE HOSTAGE SITE WAS SAID FOR THE HOSTAGES
AND THEIR FAMILIES.

9. [REDACTED] POLOFF WENT TO THE VICINITY OF THE CHURCH AND SAW SEVERAL
SPOUSES OF HOSTAGES, INCLUDING THE WIFE OF CAPTIVE BOLIVIAN
AMBASSADOR JORGE GUMUCIO, BLOWING WHISTLES AND GIVING PRESS
INTERVIEWS. ONE HOSTAGE RELATIVE ANGRILY CRITICIZED PRESIDENT
FUJIMORI SAYING THE LIVES OF THE 72 HOSTAGES WERE MORE IMPORTANT
THAN KEEPING MRTA PRISONERS BEHIND BARS. ACCORDING TO [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] THE HOSTAGES HAD A HARD TIME
HEARING THE EXPRESSIONS OF PUBLIC SUPPORT OVER THE MUSIC BEING
BLARED AT THE HOSTAGE SITE BY THE POLICE OUTSIDE. BOLIVIAN TDY
AMBASSADOR ARANIBAR, WHO ACCOMPANIED MRS. GUMUCIO, TOLD POLOFF
THAT FUJIMORI WOULD BE VISITING BOLIVIA SOON TO DISCUSS THE
HOSTAGE CRISIS. HE SAID THAT FUJIMORI SHOULD VISIT BOLIVIA THIS
MONTH AND HOPED THAT THE CRISIS WOULD BE OVER BY APRIL.

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WAREHOUSE ROBBERY - MRTA ATTACK OR CRIMINAL HOLD-UP?

[REDACTED]
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10. (U) LIMA PRESS REPORTS ATTRIBUTED A MARCH 15 AFTERNOON
ATTACK ON A TEXTILE WAREHOUSE IN LA VICTORIA NEIGHBORHOOD OF LIMA

n/a
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

n/a

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TO EIGHT ARMED MRTA TERRORISTS. ACCORDING TO LOCAL PRESS ACCOUNTS, EIGHT PRESUMED MRTA TERRORISTS ROBBED THE WAREHOUSE, PAINTED AND SHOUTED MRTA SLOGANS BEFORE SETTING THE BUILDING ON FIRE, AND THEN FLED THE SCENE IN TWO VEHICLES. OVER 100 FIREMEN NEEDED SEVERAL HOURS TO PUT OUT THE THREE STORY BLAZE, AND AT LEAST EIGHT FIREMEN WERE TREATED FOR SMOKE INHALATION AND BURNS.

11. [REDACTED] ACCORDING TO THE POLICE, SEVEN INDIVIDUALS ARMED WITH PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS BROKE INTO THE PRIVATE TEXTILE WAREHOUSE AND ASKED TO SEE THE OWNER WHO WAS NOT PRESENT AT THE TIME. THE INTRUDERS CLAIMED TO BE MRTA MEMBERS AND SUBSEQUENTLY SEARCHED DESKS AND DRAWERS AND STOLE OVER USD 10,000. THE CRIMINALS THEN THREW SEVERAL MOLOTOV COCKTAILS INTO THE WAREHOUSE SETTING STORED FABRICS ON FIRE. COLONEL GERARDO MONTOYA, THE POLICE'S ANTI-TERRORISM (DINCOTE) DEPUTY DIRECTOR, TOLD US THAT THE FIRE WAS SET BY FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS ASSOCIATED WITH COMMON CRIMINALS RATHER THAN WITH EXPLOSIVES NORMALLY USED BY MRTA. MRTA HAS NOT TAKEN RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE WAREHOUSE ROBBERY.

12. [REDACTED] COMMENT: AT THIS POINT, WE DOUBT MRTA WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT APPEARS TO BE A CRIMINAL ACT THAT OFFERED LITTLE POTENTIAL POLITICAL OR FINANCIAL GAIN. ENTERPRISING LIMA CRIMINALS PROBABLY EXPLOITED FEARS OF A RESURGENCE OF MRTA

[REDACTED]

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ACTION SCT-00

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-10	ACDE-00	INLB-01	AID-00	ARA-01	A-00
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	OASY-00	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EAP-01	EB-00
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O 182230Z MAR 97
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6474
INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ PRIORITY
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USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

n/a

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
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DOJ WASHDC PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY CARACAS

[REDACTED]

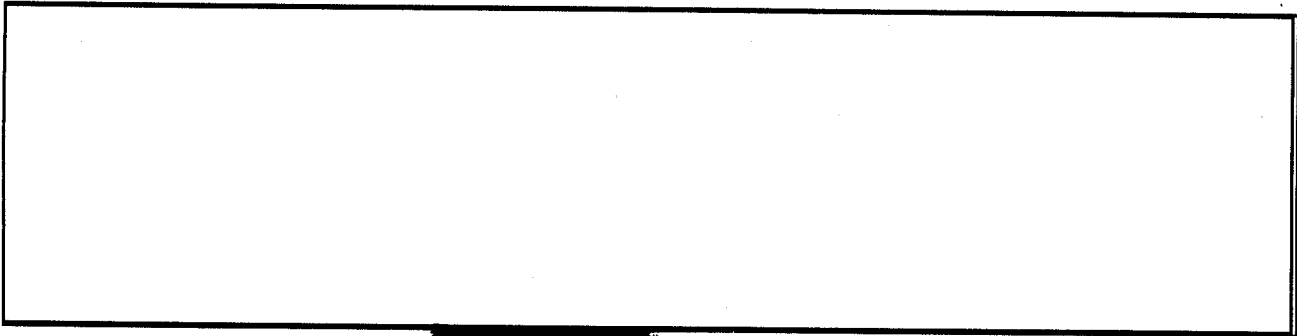
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AMEMBASSY QUITO
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TERRORIST ACTIVITY IN THE WAKE OF THE HOSTAGE CRISIS TO COVER
THEIR ACTUAL ORIGINS AND INTENTIONS. END COMMENT.



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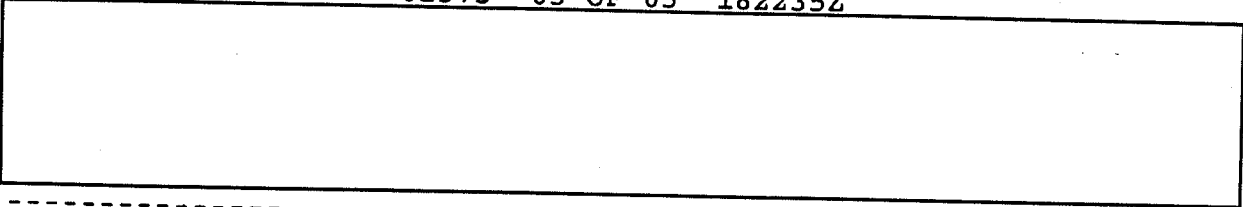
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POLICE HELICOPTERS APPROACH HOSTAGE SITE

14. (U) A NATIONAL POLICE HELICOPTER FLEW AT A LOW ALTITUDE CLOSE TO THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE FOR MORE THAN TEN MINUTES ON THE AFTERNOON OF MARCH 16. POLICE HELICOPTERS HAVE FLOWN OVER THE HOSTAGE SITE BEFORE, BUT NEVER AS CLOSE AS THE HELICOPTER WHICH ENCIRCLED THE AREA SOME 15 TIMES ON MARCH 16. POLICE HELICOPTERS DID NOT APPROACH THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE ON MARCH 17.

JETT

[REDACTED]

NN

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

n/a

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