

~~SECRET~~
~~EXBIS NOFORN ONLY~~
Case Number: S200200010

PAGE 01 LIMA 03164 112020Z
ACTION SS-00

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

INFO LOG-00 OASY-00 ADS-00 /000W
-----AEDEAL 112020Z /38

O 112017Z APR 97
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6915

~~SECRET~~ LIMA 003164

~~EXBIS~~
~~SECRET~~
DECAPTIONED

FOR ARA/FO ONLY

EXTEND CLASSIFICATION

E.O. 12958: DECL:04/11/12
TAGS: PTER PREL PINR PE JA
SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT OF HOSTAGE CRISIS

REF: MACK/KASKA TELCON OF 4/11/97

1. ~~SECRET/NOFORN~~ ENTIRE TEXT. CLASSIFIED BY CHARGE
JIM MACK, AMERICAN EMBASSY LIMA, FOR REASONS 1.5 (B AND C).

2. CHARGE, [REDACTED] POL COUNS MET APRIL 11 TO ASSESS
[REDACTED] INFORMATION CONCERNING POTENTIALLY
CRITICAL HEALTH STATUS OF ONE OF THE PERUVIAN HOSTAGES
BEING HELD BY THE MRTA. THERE WAS CONSENSUS THAT THE DEATH
OF THE HOSTAGE, SHOULD IT OCCUR, COULD BE THE TRIGGER FOR A
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GOP ASSAULT ON THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE.
PRESIDENT FUJIMORI HAS BEEN CONSISTENT IN HIS STATEMENTS
SINCE DECEMBER THAT THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD ACT
AGAINST THE TERRORISTS SHOULD ONE OR MORE OF THE HOSTAGES
BE HARMED. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT FUJIMORI WOULD CONSULT
WITH ANY FOREIGN GOVERNMENT BEFORE ORDERING A RESCUE
OPERATION IF HE BELIEVES THAT THE LIVES OF THE HOSTAGES ARE
AT IMMINENT RISK OR IN REACTION TO THE DEATH -- NO MATTER
THE CIRCUMSTANCES -- OF A HOSTAGE.

3. WHAT WE ARE NOT ABLE TO ASSESS ADEQUATELY AT THIS STAGE
IS WHETHER THE HEALTH OF THE HOSTAGE IN QUESTION IS AT A
CRITICAL LIFE/DEATH STAGE. THE [REDACTED]

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~~SECRET/NOFORN ONLY~~
~~SECRET~~

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

[REDACTED]
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INFORMATION THAT ONE OF THE HOSTAGES MIGHT BE IN A LIFE THREATENING SITUATION IF NOT RELEASED FOR TREATMENT HAS NOT BEEN CORROBORATED BY OTHER SOURCES. THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC) HAS, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] RAISED THIS WITH MRTA TERRORIST CHIEF CERPA, BUT APPARENTLY HAS NOT REPORTED TO THE GUARANTORS COMMISSION THAT A GRAVE MEDICAL SITUATION IS AT HAND. WE BELIEVE THAT THE ICRC, WHICH TAKES VERY SERIOUSLY ITS ROLE OF PROTECTING THE HOSTAGES, WOULD NOT/NOT ALLOW A TRULY LIFE-THREATENING ILLNESS TO GO UNREPORTED AT A MINIMUM TO THE OTHER GUARANTORS. THUS FAR, WE HAVE NO REPORT THAT THE ICRC HAS SHARED THIS INFORMATION WITH THE OTHER GUARANTORS.

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4. [REDACTED] DIPLOMATS HERE HAVE SHARED WITH US THEIR MOST RECENT COMMUNICATION FROM INSIDE THE RESIDENCE, WHICH SPOKE OF CONCERNS ABOUT THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS OF THE HOSTAGES, BUT WITHOUT SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO A LIFE-THREATENING CONDITION. A [REDACTED]

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DIPLOMAT TOLD US THAT HE HAD HEARD THAT "ONE PERUVIAN" (NOT NAMED) WAS SERIOUSLY ILL AND THAT THE ICRC WAS RECOMMENDING HIS RELEASE. ALTHOUGH THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF REPORTS IN THE PERUVIAN PRESS CONCERNING HEALTH CONDITIONS OF SEVERAL HOSTAGES, INCLUDING THE ONE NOW IN QUESTION, THESE REPORTS DATE TO DECEMBER AND SOME COULD HAVE BEEN PLANTED BY THE GOP TO REMIND THE PERUVIAN PUBLIC OF THE INFLEXIBILITY OF THE HOSTAGE TAKERS.

5. TRYING TO PUT THE MEDICAL ANALYSIS IN PERSPECTIVE, [REDACTED] HAS ASKED [REDACTED] TO OBTAIN THE MEDICAL RECORDS OF THE HOSTAGE IN QUESTION TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE REPORT OF A DOCTOR'S DIAGNOSIS IS PLAUSIBLE. WE DO NOT EXPECT, HOWEVER, TO HAVE A READOUT ON THE MEDICAL HISTORY UNTIL LATE IN THE EVENING APRIL 11, AT THE EARLIEST.

B1

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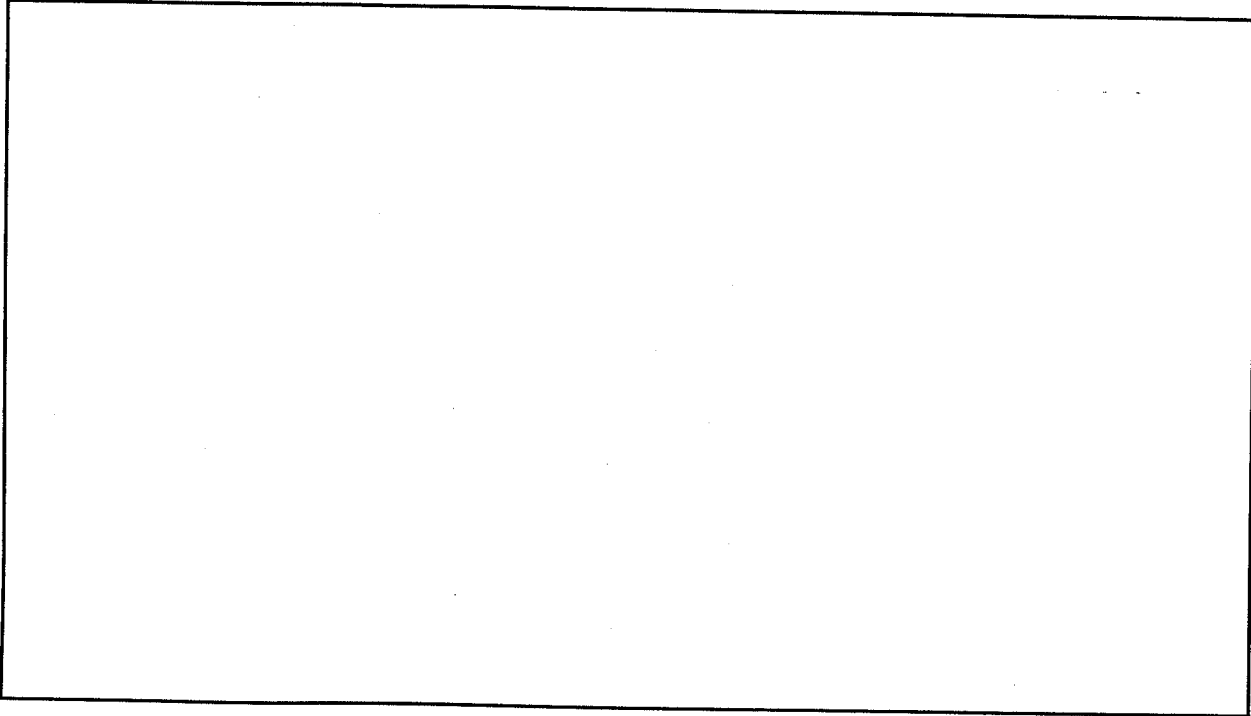
[REDACTED]

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MACK

[REDACTED]

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