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ACTION ARA-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AID-01	CA-02	CIAE-00	COME-00	C-01
	OASY-00	DODE-00	EAP-01	EB-01	EUR-01	HA-09	H-01
	INM-02	INRE-00	INR-01	IO-19	LAB-04	L-03	ADS-00
	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-06	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-02
	PRS-01	P-01	SIL-00	SNP-00	SP-00	SR-00	SS-00
	STR-17	TRSE-00	T-01	USIE-00	RPE-00	/096W	
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O 282329Z JAN 93
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5387
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION GENEVA
USEC BRUSSELS
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

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SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, PHUM, EINV, EAID, CASC, PE
SUBJECT: DE LA PUENTE MEETING
[REDACTED]
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REF: (A) STATE 23591
(B) STATE 25309

1. [REDACTED] - ENTIRE TEXT
2. SUMMARY: CHARGE DELIVERED LETTER FROM A/S ARONSON TO PRIME/FOREIGN MINISTER DE LA PUENTE CONCERNING HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES LATE JANUARY 28. DE LA PUENTE WAS VERY APPRECIATIVE OF ARONSON'S UNDERSTANDING ATTITUDE TOWARD PERU AND SAID GOP WANTS TO BE RESPONSIVE TO HIM ON THE ISSUES

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J. OLSON
DATE/CASE ID: 1 AUG 2001 200003853

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RAISED IN THE LETTER. ICRC IS NEARLY SETTLED; CARLOS CHIPOCO'S NAME COULD BE CLEARED SOON; AMERICAS WATCH IS CERTAINLY NOT VIEWED BY GOP AS A SENDERO SUPPORTER. ON BARRIOS ALTOS HE SEEMED TO PROMISE SOME ACTION SOON. CHARGE, WHO ALSO DELIVERED DEMARCHE ON PRESS FREEDOM, STRESSED THAT GOP NEEDS TO CONVEY A NEW IMAGE OF ITSELF IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS AREA. FUJIMORI'S PROMISE TO REDUCE VIOLATIONS TO ZERO IN 1993 IS WELCOME, BUT GOP NEEDS TO MAKE CLEAR THAT VIOLATORS CAN NOT EXPECT A TOLERANT ATTITUDE FROM THE AUTHORITIES. DE LA PUENTE HOPES [REDACTED] CASE WILL BE WRAPPED UP VERY SOON. END SUMMARY

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3. CHARGE MET LATE ON JANUARY 28 WITH PRIME/FOREIGN MINISTER OSCAR DE LA PUENTE TO DELIVER LETTER FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARONSON CONCERNING HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES IN PERU. MFA DIRGEN VILLARAN, CHEF DE CABINET STIGLICH AND A [REDACTED]

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 NOTETAKER JOINED DE LA PUENTE.

4. AFTER READING THE LETTER, BUT NOT SHARING IT WITH HIS COLLEAGUES, DE LA PUENTE SAID THAT HE AND THE PRESIDENT HAVE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED ARONSON'S UNDERSTANDING OF PERU AND COMMITMENT TO HELP THE COUNTRY THROUGH ITS CRISIS. HE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD AS WELL THE CONCERNS THAT LED ARONSON TO ADDRESS THIS LETTER. HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT IS FULLY COMMITTED TO RESPONDING TO OUR CONCERNS OVER HUMAN RIGHT ISSUES.

5. DE LA PUENTE NOTED GOP ACTION ON A NUMBER OF CASES WE HAD RAISED, SUCH AS THE RAMIREZ CASE IN CUSCO. RAMIREZ WAS RELEASED IN DECEMBER. IN MANY SUCH CASES, HOWEVER, THE GOP IS CONSTRAINED BY JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE. HERE, HE CITED THE MAGNO SOSA CASE WHICH IS IN THE HANDS OF THE COURTS. THE GOP CANNOT INTERFERE, ALTHOUGH HE DID MENTION THAT CHARGES AGAINST MAGNO SOSA ARE IN THE PROCESS OF BEING DISMISSED.

6. DE LA PUENTE SAID THAT THE ICRC PRISON ACCESS ISSUE IS VIRTUALLY RESOLVED. THE GOP EXPECTS THE CURRENT ICRC DELEGATE TO BE REPLACED

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SOON AND THIS WILL CLEAR THE PATH TO REESTABLISHING ACCESS. DE LA PUENTE DID NOT ADDRESS CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH ACCESS WOULD BE GRANTED, BUT CLEARLY THOUGHT THE ISSUE WAS SETTLED. HE SAW NO REASON WHY CARLOS CHIPOCO'S NAME COULD NOT BE CLEARED AND SUGGESTED THIS

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WILL HAPPEN SOON. CONCERNING AMERICAS WATCH, HE ASSERTED THAT THE GOP HAD NO QUESTIONS ON THAT ORGANIZATION'S BONA FIDES. IT HAD BEEN AMONG THE FIRST TO CONDEMN SENDERO ATROCITIES, HE SAID.

7. "ON THE LAST PARAGRAPH, THERE MAY BE ACTION SOON," DE LA PUENTE SAID. HE WAS PRESUMABLY REFERRING TO THE PARAGRAPH ON BARRIOS ALTOS, THE LAST ONE MENTIONING A SPECIFIC CASE, BUT WAS NOT APPARENTLY WILLING TO SHARE ITS NAME WITH HIS COLLEAGUES. HE SAID THAT THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR HAD MADE A "SHORT STATEMENT" AT THE TIME OF THE EVENT, BUT MORE COULD OCCUR SOON. HE OFFERED NO MORE.

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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5388
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

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AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
 AMEMBASSY TOKYO
 USMISSION GENEVA
 USEC BRUSSELS
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8. CHARGE SAID WE WERE HEARTENED BY PRESIDENT FUJIMORI'S COMMITMENT TO REDUCE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS TO ZERO BY THE END OF 1993. THIS RECENTLY STATED COMMITMENT IS IN KEEPING WITH THE PRESIDENT'S STRONG PUBLIC AND PRIVATE STATEMENTS AFFIRMING HIS SUPPORT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. THIS ISSUE WILL REMAIN, ALONG WITH DEMOCRACY, AT THE CENTER OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP.

9. ON THE RETURN TO DEMOCRACY, CHARGE SAID EMBASSY IS VERY IMPRESSED, AND IS SO REPORTING TO WASHINGTON, BY THE GOOD START BEING MADE IN THE CONSTITUENT CONGRESS. CONGRESS PRESIDENT YOSHIYAMA HAD MADE AN ADMIRABLE EFFORT TO DRAW OPPOSITION PARTIES INTO THE REAL WORK OF THE CONGRESS, AS INDICATED IN THE CHOOSING OF THREE OPPOSITION MEMBERS TO HEAD COMMITTEES AND OTHERS TO SERVE AS COMMITTEE VICE PRESIDENTS. WE LOOK FORWARD, CHARGE SAID, TO CONTINUED PROGRESS IN THAT AREA.

10. ON HUMAN RIGHTS, HOWEVER, MORE DECISIVE ACTION IS NEEDED. WE WERE ENCOURAGED BY THE SIGNIFICANT DROP IN SERIOUS VIOLATIONS THAT OCCURRED FROM MID-1991. THAT WAS VERY GOOD NEWS WHICH MADE POWERFUL ARGUMENTS IN WASHINGTON FOR FREEING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS. SINCE THEN, HOWEVER, THE MONTHLY AVERAGES HAVE REMAINED THE SAME. THIS IS NO LONGER GOOD NEWS, BUT OLD

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NEWS. THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITMENT TO REDUCE
VIOLATIONS TO ZERO WILL NEED TO BE IMPLEMENTED
IN PRACTICE IF WE ARE TO MAKE COGENT ARGUMENTS
TO REESTABLISH OUR FULL COOPERATION.

11. CHARGE SAID THAT THE GOP NEEDED TO FOCUS ON
ACTIONS THAT DEMONSTRATED ITS COMMITMENT -- BOTH
AT HOME AND ABROAD -- TO IMPROVE HUMAN RIGHTS
AND NOT TOLERATE THEIR VIOLATION BY ANYONE. HE
RECALLED THE UNHAPPY EXPERIENCE OF THE UNITED
STATES WITH INCIDENTS LIKE THE ONE AT CAYARA.
IN OUR EXPERIENCE, WHICH WAS TRAUMATIC FOR MANY
AND FOR THE SAME REASONS THAT PERU'S EXPERIENCES
HAVE BEEN TRAUMATIC, WE FOUND THAT IDENTIFYING
AND PURSUING THOSE RESPONSIBLE HAD THE LONG TERM
EFFECT OF CHANGING ATTITUDES AMONG THOSE IN OUR
ARMED SERVICES WHO DID NOT UNDERSTAND THE ISSUE
IN ITS FULL COMPLEXITY. FOR HAVING TAKEN THE
DIFFICULT STEPS OF IDENTIFYING THE WRONG-DOERS,
WE HAVE CREATED A NEW ATMOSPHERE. PERU CAN DO
THE SAME, MAKING CLEAR TO THE MEMBERS OF ITS
SECURITY FORCES THAT VIOLATORS OF HUMAN RIGHTS
CANNOT EXPECT PROFESSIONAL REWARDS, BUT ONLY
DISGRACE. WE HAVE ASKED FOR ACTION ON THE NINE
CASES IN THIS SPIRIT. THE GOP'S IDENTIFYING
THOSE RESPONSIBLE AND MOVING TO DISCIPLINE THEM
WILL CONVINCe DOUBTERS THAT IT IS PREPARED TO
MAKE GOOD ON ITS COMMITMENTS.

12. IN THIS MEETING CHARGE ALSO DELIVERED
TALKING POINTS ON FREEDOM OF THE PRESS PROVIDED

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IN REF B. WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING THAT ANY READER
OF THE LIMA PRESS WOULD HAVE A HARD TIME
CONCLUDING THAT PRESS FREEDOM IS LIMITED, HE
EMPHASIZED THAT THE GOVERNMENT CANNOT ALLOW
ARGUMENTS TO BE MADE THAT FREEDOM IS
CONSTRAINED. INTEMPERATE OFFICIAL REACTIONS TO
DISTASTEFUL REPORTING IS HIGHLY DAMAGING TO THE
GOVERNMENT'S IMAGE. DE LA PUENTE SAID THAT THE

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GOP'S COMMITMENT TO PRESS FREEDOM IS
UNDIMINISHED. HE SAID THAT HIGHLY IRRESPONSIBLE
REPORTING BY "CARETAS" HAD BEEN DEALT WITH
PROPERLY IN THE COURTS. WHEN A JOURNAL
FABRICATES NEWS, AS "CARETAS" DID, IT DESERVES
TO BE SANCTIONED. CHARGE LEFT DE LA PUENTE A
COPY OF THE DEPARTMENT'S TALKING POINTS.

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13. AS HE WAS REFERRING TO THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY, DE LA PUENTE SAID THE GOVERNMENT IS FRUSTRATED BUT CANNOT SIMPLY IMPOSE ITS WILL EVEN WHEN CLEAR INJUSTICES HAVE OCCURRED. HE CITED THE [REDACTED] CASE AS AN EXAMPLE. HE SAID GOP HOPES, NONETHELESS, THAT THIS CASE WILL BE CLEARED UP VERY SOON. JAIME STIGLICH NOTED THAT A COURT HEARING WILL BE HELD MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, AND COULD RESULT IN [REDACTED] RELEASE. CHARGE SAID [REDACTED] HAD ASKED HIM TO MEET WITH THE COURT AS A SIGNAL OF USG CONCERN. CHARGE SAID HE HAD DECIDED AGAINST THIS SINCE NO MATTER WHAT WAS SAID, SUCH A CALL WOULD BE TAKEN AS GROSS INTERFERENCE. DE LA PUENTE SAID THAT WAS THE RIGHT DECISION.

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14. COMMENT: AS IN THE PAST, THE GOP CANNOT BE LEFT IN ANY DOUBT AS TO HOW WE VIEW THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE. DE LA PUENTE APPEARS TO WANT TO BE RESPONSIVE.
BRAYSHAW##

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