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EXCISE E 28

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ACTION ARA-01

LIMA 01144 01 OF 02 012107Z

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AID-01	AMAD-01	A-01	CA-02	CCO-00
	CIAE-00	CTME-00	C-01	OASY-00	DS-00	EB-01	EUR-01
	FBO-01	HA-09	H-01	IMMC-01	INM-02	INRE-00	INR-01
	IO-19	LAB-04	L-03	ADS-00	M-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00
	OCS-06	OIC-02	OMB-01	OPR-01	PA-01	PM-02	PRS-01
	P-01	SCT-03	SIL-00	SNP-00	SP-00	SR-00	SSC-01
	SSO-00	SS-00	STR-17	TRSE-00	T-01	USIE-00	USSS-00
	ASDS-01	RPE-01	/107W				

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-----96C4BC 012109Z /38

P 012109Z FEB 93
 FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5445
 INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
 AMEMBASSY QUITO
 AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
 AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
 USMISSION GENEVA
 DIA WASHDC
 USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 RELEASE
 EXCISE
 DENY
 IM/IPS/CR/IR
 DECLASSIFY
 DECLASSIFY
 IN PART
 Date: 2/4/97
 EO Citations: _____

FOIA Exemptions: 3/ _____
 PA Exemptions: _____
 CLASSIFY as () S or () C Sec. _____
 DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C _____
 TS authority to _____

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LIMA 01144

USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PHUM, PGOV, PE

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PAGE 02 LIMA 01144 01 OF 02 012107Z
 SUBJECT: COUP PLOTTERS' WIVES DISCUSS TORTURE
 OF THEIR HUSBANDS; TRIAL UNDERWAY

REF: LIMA 0397 AND PREVIOUS

1. (C) SUMMARY: IN A MEETING AT THE EMBASSY, THE WIVES OF OFFICERS IMPLICATED IN THE FAILED NOVEMBER COUP ATTEMPT CLAIMED THEIR HUSBANDS HAD BEEN TORTURED; THAT THEY ARE DETAINED UNDER INHUMANE CIRCUMSTANCES; AND THAT THEIR FAMILIES ARE BEING FOLLOWED AND HARASSED BY THE GOP. THEY HOLD OUT LITTLE HOPE FOR AN AMNESTY DECLARATION. THE OFFICERS' TRIAL WAS TO COMMENCE FEB. 1; NOT ALL SESSIONS WILL BE PUBLIC, AND THE TORTURE ALLEGATIONS WILL NOT BE HEARD. THE CASE ILLUSTRATES WHAT HAPPENS WHEN ICRC ACCESS IS DENIED. END SUMMARY.

2. (C) THE WIVES OF SIX OF THE OFFICERS BEING

TRIED IN CONNECTION WITH THE NOV. 13 COUP ATTEMPT
MET WITH POLCOUNS AND POLOFF'S JAN. 20 TO DISCUSS
CLAIMS THAT THEIR HUSBANDS HAVE BEEN TORTURED
AND DENIED BASIC RIGHTS SINCE THEIR ARRESTS.

TORTURE ACCUSATIONS

3. (C) INTER ALIA, THE WOMEN ALLEGED THAT THEIR
HUSBANDS HAD UNDERGONE THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF
PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL TORTURE, UNDER THE
DIRECTION OF PRESIDENTIAL INTELLIGENCE ADVISER
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VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS:

-- JABBING WITH HYPODERMIC NEEDLES (ONE WIFE
SAID SHE SAW HER HUSBAND'S CHEST FULL OF NEEDLE
MARKS);

-- BEING TOLD THEY WOULD BE INJECTED WITH
HIV-INFECTED BLOOD;

-- BEATINGS (ONE WIFE CLAIMED SHE SAW HER
HUSBAND'S FACE BRUISED FROM MONTESINO'S RING);

-- BEING HUNG FROM THEIR HANDS WHILE THEIR HANDS
WERE TIED BEHIND THEIR BACKS;

-- ELECTRICAL SHOCKS TO THE BODY;

-- SLEEP DEPRIVATION; AND

-- HAVING GUNS HELD TO THEIR HEADS.

CONDITIONS OF DETENTION

4. (C) THE OFFICERS' SPOUSES COMPLAINED THAT
THEIR HUSBANDS ARE BEING HELD IN SMALL QUARTERS
IN THE ARMY'S BASE IN THE PUEBLO LIBRE SECTION
OF LIMA. THERE IS ONLY ONE NON-WORKING TOILET
FOR THIRTEEN MEN. THEY HAVE NO FRESH WATER, AND
ARE NOT ALLOWED FRESH AIR OR SUNLIGHT. THEY
CANNOT LEAVE THEIR CELL TO EXERCISE. VISITS ARE

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RESTRICTED; ONLY SPOUSES, CHILDREN AND SIBLINGS
MAY VISIT THE PRISONERS AT SPECIFIED TIMES. THE
OFFICERS CANNOT BE SEEN BY PHYSICIANS, FRIENDS

OR A PRIEST.

HARASSMENT OF FAMILIES

5. (C) THE WIVES CLAIMED THAT THEY HAVE BEEN THE OBJECT OF ANONYMOUS TELEPHONE THREATS, WHICH THEY ATTRIBUTED TO THE GOVERNMENT. THEY ALLEGED THAT THEIR PHONES ARE TAPPED, AND THAT THEY AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE FOLLOWED WHEREVER THEY GO. ONE OF THE WOMEN CLAIMED THAT SHOTS HAD BEEN FIRED IN THE AIR OUTSIDE HER HOUSE TO SCARE THE FAMILY.

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UNCLASSIFIED

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 LIMA 01144

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SUBJECT: COUP PLOTTERS' WIVES DISCUSS TORTURE

PESSIMISM OVER AMNESTY PROSPECTS

6. (C) THE OFFICERS' WIVES WERE NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT THE GOP WOULD GRANT THEIR HUSBANDS AMNESTY. NOTING THAT FUJIMORI HAD SAID IN A RECENT SPEECH THAT HE WOULD NOT DISCOUNT AMNESTY, [REDACTED] OPINED THAT THE PRESIDENT ONLY HAD WANTED TO PLACATE THE MILITARY WHILE HE WAS VISITING BOLIVIA. THE OTHERS SEEMED TO AGREE WITH HER ASSESSMENT THAT THE GOP WANTS TO APPLY THE "SEVEREST POSSIBLE PENALTY" TO THE COUP PLOTTERS. THEY DID NOT HOLD OUT MUCH HOPE FOR A CONGRESSIONAL PARDON EITHER, SINCE THEIR CONVERSATIONS AT THE CCD ONLY CONFIRMED THAT THE MAJORITY GOVERNMENT PARTY WILL NOT SUPPORT SUCH A DECLARATION.

TRIAL UNDERWAY

7. (U) MEANWHILE, THE SUPREME COUNCIL OF MILITARY JUSTICE DECIDED JAN. 19 THAT THE TRIAL

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OF THE OFFICERS IMPLICATED IN THE COUP ATTEMPT WOULD NOT BE COMPLETELY PUBLIC, AS HAD BEEN ANNOUNCED BEFORE; SOME SESSIONS WILL BE CLOSED FOR NATIONAL SECURITY REASONS. THE COUNCIL ALSO DECIDED TO PERMIT A GOVERNMENT-APPOINTED CIVILIAN TO PROSECUTE THE CASE. THE TORTURE ALLEGATIONS WILL NOT BE PART OF THE TRIAL, WHICH WAS TO OFFICIALLY BEGIN FEB. 1 AT THE BARRACKS WHERE THE OFFICERS ARE BEING DETAINED.

8. (C) COMMENT: THE DAY AFTER WE MET WITH THE OFFICERS' WIVES, THE NATIONAL NEWSWEEKLY

"CARETAS" PUBLISHED PHOTOS AND THE ACCOUNT OF ONE OF THE JAILED OFFICERS. THE PHOTOS SHOW HIM BRUISED AND MARKED, WHILE THE STORY RELATES DETAILS OF TORTURE SESSIONS. THE FOLLOWING WEEK, THE MAGAZINE ADMITTED THE PICTURES WERE FALSE AND THAT THE EDITORS HAD BEEN DECEIVED. NONETHELESS, SEVERAL OF OUR HUMAN RIGHTS CONTACTS ARE CONVINCED THE TORTURE TOOK PLACE, AND WE CONTINUE TO FIND THE ACCUSATIONS CREDIBLE. WE MADE IT CLEAR TO THE OFFICERS' WIVES THAT, WHILE WE DO NOT CONDONE COUPS, WE REMAIN CONCERNED ABOUT THE TORTURE ALLEGATIONS, THE CONDITIONS OF DETENTION AND THE NEED FOR A FAIR TRIAL.

9. (C) THE ICRC HAS BEEN DENIED PERMISSION TO SEE ANY OF THE ACCUSED COUP PLOTTERS. EVEN IF PARTIAL ICRC ACCESS IS RESUMED, THE GOP TOLD THE ICRC DELEGATE IT STILL PLANNED TO DENY ACCESS TO .

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THESE SOLDIERS.

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL