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TELEGRAM

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C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 10385

USIA FOR PGM/OF (ISCHER)

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PE, SHUM, UNGA  
SUBJ: RU) DAS LEVITSKY VISIT TO PERU

REF: LIMA 10384

1. (U) REF PROVIDES DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ASPECTS OF HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL LIMA VISIT BY DAS LEVITSKY SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 1 AS USIA-SPONSORED AMPART. ONLY NEGATIVE ELEMENT--THE DISTORTED VERSION OF OCT. 1 SESSION AT LEFTIST "RESEARCH INSTITUTE" DESCO THAT APPEARED IN OCTOBER 3 ISSUE OF MARXIST DAILY "MARKA"-- WAS JUST ONE MORE ANTI-AMERICAN DIATRIBE FROM A SOURCE WHICH IS NEVER SHORT OF A PRETEXT FOR PUBLISHING SUCH.

2. (C) MEETING SEPTEMBER 29 WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY SECRETARY GENERAL (NUMBER TWO) JORGE GUILLERMO LLOSA WAS VERY CORDIAL, AND SERVED TO REASSURE GOP, IN A LOW-KEY BUT EFFECTIVE WAY, THAT ACCUSATIONS OF "WIDESPREAD REPRESSION" AND OTHER PURPORTED HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS (HADE, INTER ALIA, BY LEFTIST PERUVIAN CONGRESSMAN JAVIER DIEZ CANSECO IN HIS MAY VISIT TO WASHINGTON, LIMA 5368) WERE BEING EVALUATED BY THE USG WITH ALL APPROPRIATE ATTENTION GIVEN TO THE CREDIBILITY AND MOTIVATION OF THE SOURCE. LEVITSKY CONVEYED QUITE CLEARLY USG SUPPORT FOR PERUVIAN DEMOCRACY, AND RECOGNITION OF PERU'S GOOD RECORD IN PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS WHILE TRYING TO DEAL WITH A SERIOUS TERRORIST PROBLEM. LLOSA NOTED THE SPECIAL SENSITIVITY OF THE GOP TO US CRITICISM ON PERU'S HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD (EVEN FROM UNOFFICIAL SOURCES) IN THE WEEKS LEADING UP TO PRESIDENT BELAUNDE'S VISIT.

3. (U) MAKING THE POINT THAT THE UN COMPONENT OF BELAUNDE'S TRIP IS BEING TAKEN VERY SERIOUSLY HERE, LLOSA EXPRESSED SPECIAL APPRECIATION FOR RECENT PUBLIC PRAISE OF SECRETARY GENERAL PEREZ DE CUELLAR BY AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK. LEVITSKY MENTIONED THE PROSPECT OF UNHELPFUL RESOLUTIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN GUATEMALA AND EL SALVADOR IN THE 37TH UNGA; LLOSA HAD JOSE URRUTIA (DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS) REITERATE PERU'S STANDARD POLICY OF ABSTAINING ON ALL RESOLUTIONS CRITICAL OF ALLEGED HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN LATIN AMERICA, BASED ON PERCEPTION THAT THE REGION WAS UNFAIRLY SINGLED OUT FOR ATTACK ON THIS SCORE.

4. (U) SEPTEMBER 28 RECEPTION PROVIDED UNUSUALLY GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR LEVITSKY TO TALK AT LENGTH WITH BROAD SPECTRUM OF PERUVIANS ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES, INCLUDING SUCH CRITICAL VOICES AS LEFTIST LAWYER LAURA CALLER. OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE WERE CONVERSATIONS WITH CONGRESSMAN ANTONIO ESPINOSA, PRESIDENT OF THE LOWER HOUSE'S HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE, WHO PUT IN PERSPECTIVE THE CHARGES MADE BY THE COMMISSION'S VICE PRESIDENT, JAVIER DIEZ CANSECO, AND A SIMILAR TALK WITH SEN. EDMUNDO HAYA DE LA TORRE, PRESIDENT OF

THE SENATE'S COUNTERPART COMMISSION. ANOTHER SENATE COMMISSION MEMBER, JOSE CARLOS MARTIN, ALSO GOT AN OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT HIS VIEW TO LEVITSKY. (ESPINOSA (PPC) AND MARTIN (AP) REPRESENT THE GOVERNMENT, WHILE HAYA (APRA) IS FROM THE DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION.)

5. (U) ON INVITATION FROM ATTORNEY GENERAL GONZALO ORTIZ DE ZEVALLOS, LEVITSKY VISITED THE AUTONOMOUS "PUBLIC MINISTRY" MORNING SEPTEMBER 30. ORTIZ DE ZEVALLOS AND HIS STAFF EXPLAINED AT LENGTH THE MINISTRY'S ROLE IN RECEIVING CITIZENS' COMPLAINTS AGAINST ALL BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT, AS WELL AS ITS RESPONSIBILITIES IN ENSURING THAT DETAINEES' RIGHTS ARE PROTECTED FROM THE MOMENT OF ARREST.

6. (C) DIEZ CANSECO DECLINED AN OFFER OF A PRIVATE MEETING, PREFERRING THE DESCO SESSION AS HIS VENUE. IN AN INTERVIEW IN SEPTEMBER 30 ISSUE OF COMMUNIST PARTY WEEKLY "UNIDAD", DIEZ CANSECO SAID HE PLANNED TO USE THE MEETING TO DENOUNCE "REGAN POLICY AS ABSOLUTLEY COUNTER TO HUMAN RIGHTS" AND DECRY THE MALICIOUS INFLUENCE OF POLICYMAKERS WHO COHETED THAT THE US "MUST SUPPORT ANTICOMMUNIST DICTATORSHIPS IN LATIN AMERICAN AND THE REST OF THE WORLD TO PREVENT PROGRESSIVE FORCES--SOCIALIST OR COMMUNIST--FROM ADVANCING TO RECOVER POWER FOR THEIR PEOPLES". HOWEVER, IN THE EVENT, HE CHOSE NOT TO MAKE THESE CLAIMS, BUT INSTEAD TO FOCUS ON THREE ISSUES: THE IMPORTANCE OF "ECONOMIC RIGHTS"; A RECAPITULATION OF HIS (INACCURATE ASSERTIONS ABOUT FAILINGS IN THE DEPARTMENT'S 1981 PERU REPORT; AND COUNTRY-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ON USSR/PRC AND ISRAEL/ LEBANON. INTERCHANGE WITH DIEZ CANSECO AND OTHERS AT DESCO WAS LIVELY BUT NOT ACRIHONIOUS. LAMBERTY

Classification Review By *luc*  
DECLASSIFY  
( ) DECLASSIFY IN PART  
( ) RETAIN CLASSIFICATION (a)  
( ) CLASSIFY AS \_\_\_\_\_, OADR  
( ) DOWNGRADE TO ( ) S, ( ) C, OADR

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
APPEALS REVIEW PANEL, DATE *08/15*  
( ) RELEASE ( ) EXCISE ( ) DENY  
( ) Non-responsive information  
FOIA Exemptions (b) \_\_\_\_\_  
FOIA Exemption (s) \_\_\_\_\_

United States Department of State  
Office of FOI, Privacy, & Classification Review  
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