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ACTION ARA-00

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-00 CIAE-00 H-01  
NSAE-00 SY-06 HA-08 L-03 PM-10 PA-01 MCT-03  
OMB-01 A-02 USIE-00 SP-02 SNP-01 PRS-01 SLPD-01  
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R 061701Z SEP 84  
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8097  
INFO DIA WASHDC  
AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PN

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DIA FOR IR BRANCH  
PANAMA FOR ADS

E.O. 12356: DECL: 09/05/90  
TAGS: SHUM, PTER, PE  
SUBJECT: INTERIOR MINISTER PROVIDES UPDATE ON SOCOS  
MASSACRE

REF: 83 LIMA 12279

1. (U) IN COURSE OF SEPTEMBER 3 PRESS CONFERENCE,  
INTERIOR MINISTER LUIS PERCOVICH REFERRED TO  
INVESTIGATION GOP AUTHORITIES ARE CARRYING OUT IN  
REGARD TO NOVEMBER 18, 1983 MASSACRE AT SOCOS  
(REFTEL). PERCOVICH STATED THAT THE INVESTIGATIVE  
POLICE (PIP) HAD FILED A REPORT GIVING RESULTS  
OF BALLISTICS CHECKS PERFORMED ON WEAPONS USED BY  
CIVIL GUARD (GC) DETACHMENT STATIONED THERE. THE  
26 POLICEMEN (GC) DETAINED IN CONSEQUENCE OF  
MASSACRE, ACCORDING TO PERCOVICH, ARE BEING HELD  
AT THE DISPOSITION OF MILITARY AND CIVILIAN

[REDACTED]  
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JUSTICE AUTHORITIES.

2. (C) COMMENT: PERCOVICH DECLINED TO PROVIDE  
FURTHER COMMENT ON CASE, GIVEN FACT THAT

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: DONALD A. JOHNSTON  
DATE/CASE ID: 31 JUL 2001 200102006

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INVESTIGATION/TRIAL PROCESS IS STILL UNDER WAY. HIS STATEMENT DID PROVIDE OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION, HOWEVER, OF VERSIONS THAT HAVE APPEARED FROM TIME TO TIME IN LIMA PRESS ALLEGING THAT 26 GC WERE DETAINED AS RESULT OF MASSACRE. IN AUGUST 17 CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, OFFICIAL OF (PRIVATE CITIZEN) NATIONAL COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS (CONADEH) ASSERTED THAT SOCOS INVESTIGATION WAS STYMIED BECAUSE QUESTION OF JURISDICTION (MILITARY OR CIVIL FORUM) HAD NOT BEEN SETTLED. PERCOVICH'S REFERENCE TO THE INVOLVEMENT OF BOTH MILITARY AND CIVILIAN JUSTICE AUTHORITIES TENDS TO CONFIRM THIS ASSERTION. JORDAN

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