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ACTION ARA-00

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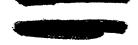
TAGS: SHUM, PTER, PE

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



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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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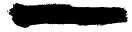
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INVESTIGATION/TRIAL PROCESS IS STILL UNDER WAY. HIS STATEMENT DID PROVIDE OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION, HOWEVER, OF VERSIONS THAT HAVE APPEARED FROM TIME TO TIME IN LIMA PRESS ALLEGING THAT 26 GC WERE DETAINED AS RESULT OF MASSACRE. IN AUGUST 17 CONVERSATION 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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