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PAGE 01 LIMA 11235 01 OF 02 221330Z  
ACTION ARA-00

INFO	LOG-00	COPY-01	ADS-00	AID-00	INR-10	SS-00	CIAE-00
	H-01	NSCE-00	NSAE-00	HA-09	L-03	PM-10	PA-01
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P 221327Z SEP 86  
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4467  
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
AMEMBASSY QUITO  
USAFSO HOWARD AFB PM  
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PM  
DIA WASHDC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 01 OF 02 LIMA 11235

DIA FOR IR BRANCH

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PTER, PGOV, PHUM, ASEC, PE  
SUBJECT: LIMA MAYOR BARRANTES OFFERS FRANK  
POLITICAL TOUR D'HORIZON TO DIPLOMATIC ASSOCIATION

1. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. SUMMARY: LIMA MAYOR ALFONSO BARRANTES (IU) OPENLY DISCUSSED HIS CANDIDACY, PROBLEMS WITHIN IU, SENDERO LUMINOSO AND THE JUNE PRISON RIOTS WITH MEMBERS OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS AT A SEPTEMBER 18 LUNCH. END SUMMARY.
3. INVITED BY THE DIPLOMATIC ASSOCIATION TO SPEAK ABOUT THE NOVEMBER MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS AT ITS MONTHLY LUNCH, LIMA MAYOR ALFONSO BARRANTES (IU) TOUCHED ON

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PAGE 02 LIMA 11235 01 OF 02 221330Z

THE TOPIC BUT ALSO GAVE LENGTHY AND FRANK ANSWERS ON OTHER POLITICAL MATTERS TO THE GROUP. FOR EXAMPLE:

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: SAM A. MOSKOWITZ  
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Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL  
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Document Number: 1986LIMA11235

Channel: n/a

4. ON THE NOVEMBER MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS:  
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BARRANTES, A SELF-PROFESSED "INDEPENDENT", IS IU'S CANDIDATE IN THE LIMA RACE BECAUSE THE SIX MARXIST PARTIES THAT BELONG TO IU COULD NOT REACH AGREEMENT ON ANY OTHER CANDIDATE FROM THEIR RANKS. THE MARXIST LEFT IS SEVERELY DIVIDED; EACH GROUP WANTS TO LEAD AND HAVE THE OTHERS FOLLOW. THE APRA CANDIDATE, JORGE DEL CASTILLO, IS A "LIGHTWEIGHT." HE COULD WIN THE RACE, HOWEVER, IF PRESIDENT GARCIA DECIDES TO THROW THE GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT BEHIND HIS PARTY'S CANDIDATE. PRESIDENT GARCIA'S SEPTEMBER 11 STATEMENT DISTANCING HIMSELF FROM DEL CASTILLO'S CANDIDACY IS ANOTHER WAY FOR THE PRESIDENT TO HEDGE HIS BETS: IF DEL CASTILLO LOSES IT, IT WILL BE DEL CASTILLO'S LOSS, NOT GARCIA OR APRA'S. THE PRESIDENT DOESN'T WANT A DEL CASTILLO DEFEAT TO BE READ AS A VOTE AGAINST HIM OR APRA. LUIS BEDOYA, THE PPC CANDIDATE, IS RISING IN THE POLLS BUT THIS MAY BE A EMPORARY PHENOMENON. BEDOYA LACKS THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND FUNDS TO HOLD A LEAD: HE MAY PEAK EARLY. IU WILL PROBABLY WIN IN LIMA AND MAINTAIN ITS SEATS ELSEWHERE. APRA, HOWEVER, MAY GAIN A FEW FROM OTHER PARTIES BECAUSE OF THE EFFORT IT IS PUTTING ON THE CAMPAIGN NATIONWIDE.

5. A DIVIDED MARXIST LEFT  
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PAGE 03            LIMA 11235 01 OF 02 221330Z

THE SEPTEMBER 5-6 MEETING IN CHICLAYO WAS A DISASTER. THE "ULTRAS" (UNIR AND GROUPS SUCH AS PUEBLO EN MARCHA), A MINORITY WITHIN THE MARXIST "LEFT", CARRIED THE DAY. THE ONLY THING THAT PREVENTED THE MEETING FROM COMING UP WITH A PRO-"SENDERO" DOCUMENT WAS THE PRESENCE OF MORE MODERATE ELEMENTS REPRESENTING THE CGTP (THE MARXIST LABOR CONFEDERATION) AND PCP-MOSCOW. EVEN PUM LEADER JAVIER DIEZ CANSECO WAS CONSIDERED "SOFT" AND "REFORMIST" BY THE "ULTRAS" AT CHICLAYO. BARRANTES CLAIMED THAT HE DID NOT ATTEND THE MEETING EVEN THOUGH HE WAS INVITED BECAUSE HE KNEW THE WAY THE MEETING WAS GOING TO TURN OUT. HE DOES NOT SUPPORT "SENDERO" OR APPROVE OF ITS TACTICS.

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL  
Current Handling: n/a  
Document Number: 1986LIMA11235

Channel: n/a

BARRANTES FACES OPPOSITION FROM WITHIN THE IU BECAUSE HIS OPPOSITION TO APRA IS NOT RADICAL. HE IS TRYING TO CONSOLIDATE A DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM, NOT DESTROY IT. HE PREFERS TO WORK WITHIN THE DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM TO EFFECT SOCIO-POLITICAL CHANGE. NOR DOES SENDERO APPROVE OF HIM, BARRANTES. THEY WOULD KILL ME "WITH HATRED," IF THEY CAME TO POWER, BECAUSE I AM THEIR ADVERSARY. THE LEFT, HOWEVER, WOULD BE EXECUTED "WITH DISDAIN," BECAUSE SENDERO DESPISES THE LEGAL LEFT.

6. "PRESIDENT GARCIA IS BETTER THAN BELAUNDE TERRY AND THE LATTER WAS BETTER THAN MORALES BERMUDEZ." THE MARXIST "LEFT" IN PERU IS "INFANTILE." THEY HAVE NOT PROGRESSED FROM MARIATEGUI'S TIME BECAUSE THEY HAVE FAILED TO STUDY AND ANALYZE THE DEVELOPING POLITICAL SITUATION IN PERU. THEY HAVE SPLIT INTO MANY FACTIONS MOSTLY BECAUSE OF INTERNAL LEADERSHIP PROBLEMS. THE LEGAL LEFT HAS A "MECHANISTIC" THEORY OF REVOLUTION, THAT

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 01 LIMA 11235 02 OF 02 221331Z  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 LIMA 11235

DIA FOR IR BRANCH

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL  
 Current Handling: n/a  
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Page: 4

Channel: n/a

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RADICAL OPPOSITION (AIDED BY SENDERO) WILL BRING REPRESSION, EVEN A COUP, AND THEREBY CREATE REVOLUTIONARY CONDITIONS. APRA, HOWEVER, HAS STOLEN MANY OF THEIR POLITICAL FLAGS. BARRANTES (A FORMER APRISTA) BELIEVES HE CAN WORK WITH APRA, WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS "REVOLUTIONARY" AND "LEFTIST," WHILE OTHERS IN IU CONSIDER WORKING WITH APRA A BETRAYAL OF THEIR REVOLUTIONARY IDEALS. THIS ATTITUDE IS MAKING THEM LOSE GROUND TO APRA.

7. "I SLEPT WITH ABIMAEI GUZMAN"

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PAGE 02 LIMA 11235 02 OF 02 221331Z

BARRANTES SHARED A PRISON CELL AND COT WITH GUZMAN IN 1979: THEY SLEPT BACK TO BACK. THE FOUNDER OF "SENDERO" KEPT HIM AWAKE ALL NIGHT BECAUSE HE SCRATCHED CONTINUOUSLY. COMPANERO GONZALO SUFFERED WITH - PSORIASIS. BARRANTES, WHO KNEW GUZMAN IN THE 1960'S, CHARACTERIZED HIM AS WELL READ, SOFT-SPOKEN, POLITE AND RETIRING. HE MAY ALSO HAVE BEEN INFLUENCED BY HIS MUCH YOUNGER WIFE, A MORE AGGRESSIVE PERSONALITY. BUT, BARRANTES BELIEVES GUZMAN TO BE EITHER DEAD OR A CAPTIVE OF HIS MORE RADICAL ASSOCIATES. DOCUMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO GUZMAN DO NOT BEAR HIS WRITING CHARACTERISTICS. GUZMAN ALSO OPPOSED MOVING TO AN ARMED STRUGGLE PHASE WITHIN PCP-PATRIA ROJA. THIS MAY HAVE BEEN HIS UNDOING. BARRANTES BELIEVES THERE IS SOMEONE MORE CRUEL AND SINISTER LEADING "SENDERO." THERE WERE CONTACTS BETWEEN IU AND "SENDERO" SOME TIME AGO, BUT NOT NOW. "SENDERO" CAN BE COMPARED TO THE POL POT REBELS IN KAMPUCHEA. "SENDERISTAS" HATE CITY DWELLERS AND WHITES. THEY ARE ALIENATED FROM WESTERN CULTURE. BARRANTES FAVORS FIGHTING THEM WHILE CARRYING OUT MASSIVE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN THE AREA UNDER THEIR CONTROL TO ERODE THEIR SUPPORT BASE. ALLEGED "SENDERISTAS" KILLED ARE ACTUALLY CAMPESINO YOUTH TAKEN TO "SENDERO'S" POLITICAL SCHOOLS FOR FORCED INDOCTRINATION. AT THESE SCHOOLS THEY TEACH THEM NOT TO PLANT THEIR CROPS TO STARVE THE CITIES.

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 4

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL  
Current Handling: n/a  
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THESE FORCED RECRUITS ARE THEN MADE TO ATTACK OTHER VILLAGES VIRTUALLY UNARMED. WHEN THE ARMED FORCES SURPRISE THESE RAIDING PARTIES MANY OF THE GANG-PRESSED YOUTH DIE UNDER SUPERIOR FIRE POWER. "SENDERO" DOES NOT RECEIVE HELP FROM OUTSIDE; THEY  
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PAGE 03 LIMA 11235 02 OF 02 221331Z

DISTRUST -- EVEN HATE -- OUTSIDERS.

8. THE PRISON RIOTS: QUI BONO?  
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BARRANTES BELIEVES THE ALLEGED MASSACRE OF PRISONERS IN JUNE WAS PART OF A PLAN CONCEIVED BY "DARK FORCES" TO DAMAGE PRESIDENT GARCIA'S IMAGE. AN UNIDENTIFIED LIEUTENANT WHO LED THE SPECIAL SQUAD ASSAULTS IN SANTA BARBARA AND EL FRONTON TOLD HIM THAT A CERTAIN COLONEL, ALSO UNNAMED, ORDERED THE EXECUTION OF PRISONERS AFTER THEY HAD SURRENDERED. THE COLONEL ORDERED THE LIEUTENANT AND HIS MEN TO LEAVE THE PRISONERS IN HIS CARE. HE THEN ORDERED REPUBLICAN GUARDSMEN TO KILL THE PRISONERS AFTER THE LIEUTENANT'S DEPARTURE. THE COLONEL IN QUESTION IS UNDER DETENTION. OTHERS KNOW THE STORY, BUT NO ONE BROUGHT THE MATTER UP AT THE SEPTEMBER 16-17 CABINET INTERPELLATION. "WHO GAVE THE ORDERS TO THE COLONEL," BARRANTES ASKED. WHOEVER IT WAS DID SO TO DISCREDIT PRESIDENT GARCIA BECAUSE OF THE LATTER'S STANCE OF THE FOREIGN DEBT ISSUE AND HIS SOLIDARITY WITH THE SANDINISTA REGIME. BARRANTES GAVE NO CLUES, HOWEVER, AS TO THE COLONEL'S IDENTITY OR THAT OF HIS MASTERS.  
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Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 5

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