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PAGE 01 LIMA 01968 072312Z
ACTION ARA-00

INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 INR-07 SS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSCE-00
NSAE-00 SSO-00 PA-01 INRE-00 ACDA-12 USIE-00 SP-02
SSE-01 PRS-01 SCT-02 /025 W

-----232553 072320Z /63

O 072315Z FEB 89
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5783
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
USINT HAVANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 01968

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, PTER, PE, AR, NU, CU
SUBJECT: ARGENTINE INQUIRY ABOUT POSSIBLE
- NICARAGUAN/PERUVIAN INVOLVEMENT IN
- LA TABLADA

REF: BUENOS AIRES 1116

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. CONSISTENT WITH REFTEL, ARGENTINE DCM HERNAN MASSINI TOLD US FEBRUARY 6 THAT GOA IS ACTIVELY LOOKING INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF CUBAN AND/OR (MORE LIKELY) NICARAGUAN INVOLVEMENT IN LA TABLADA THROUGH SOME KIND OF PERUVIAN CONNECTION. MASSINI INDICATED VARIOUS POSSIBILITIES ARE BEING INVESTIGATED -- AMONG THEM, THAT A GROUP OF PERUVIANS TRAINED IN NICARAGUA PARTICIPATED IN LA TABLADA, AND THAT SOME OF THE ARGENTINES WHO PARTICIPATED HAD RECEIVED TRAINING FROM PERUVIANS WHO HAD BEEN TRAINED IN TURN IN NICARAGUA OR CUBA. HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 LIMA 01968 072312Z

EVIDENCE HAS LED TO THE SUSPICIONS. TO THE CONTRARY, HE SAID THAT, TO HIS KNOWLEDGE, NO FOREIGNERS HAVE YET TURNED UP AMONG THE CAPTURED OR THE DEAD IDENTIFIED SO FAR. ABOUT A DOZEN OF THE

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DEAD HAVE NOT YET BEEN IDENTIFIED.

3. MASSINI HAS BEEN ASKED BY BUENOS AIRES TO PROVIDE ANY PERTINENT INFORMATION AVAILABLE HERE AND TO ASSESS WHETHER THE PERUVIAN/CUBAN AND PERUVIAN/NICARAGUAN RELATIONSHIPS WOULD LIKELY PERMIT ACTIVITY OF THIS SORT. IN RESPONSE TO HIS QUESTION WE SAID THAT WE HAVE NO HARD EVIDENCE OF DIRECT CUBAN OR NICARAGUAN SUPPORT TO PERUVIAN TERRORIST GROUPS, BUT THAT SOME CONTACT AND SUPPORT, POSSIBLY VIA COLOMBIAN OR ECUADORIAN GROUPS, WOULD NOT BE SURPRISING.

WATSON

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