FOLLOWING LIMA 00756 DATED 22 JAN 93 SENT ACTION SECSTATE
REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PGOV, PTER, PINS, SNAR, PHUM, PE

1. ENTIRE TEXT
2. SUMMARY:

THAT PRESIDENT FUJIMORI HAS A GOOD THEORETICAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE IMPORTANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS;
IN PRACTICE, HOWEVER, FUJIMORI IS PREPARED TO SACRIFICE PRINCIPLES TO ACHIEVE A QUICK VICTORY OVER TERRORISM. CHARACTERIZED PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS AS CONSUMED BY AMBITION. THE FUJIMORI/MONTESINOS TEAM IS GOVERNED BY AN OBSESSION FOR QUICK RESULTS THAT OFTEN LEADS TO UNWISE POLICY MOVES. BARRIOS ALTOS WAS TOO HOT TO TOUCH.
VIEWED THIS AS THE BEST RECRUITING MECHANISM SENDERO LUMINOSO HAD. EVERY ABUSED PERSON, HE SAID, RESULTS IN TEN NEW RECRUITS FOR SL.

FUJIMORI AND HUMAN RIGHTS

7. CHARGE SAID HE HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT PRESIDENT FUJIMORI UNDERSTOOD THIS TRUTH AND WAS APPLYING IT IN PRACTICE. CERTAINLY, FUJIMORI'S
DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUE WITH US AND HIS PUBLIC SPEECHES REFLECT A COMPREHENSION OF THE DAMAGE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS DO TO A GOVERNMENT'S OVERALL STRATEGY, ALTHOUGH CERTAIN CONTINUING PRACTICES INDICATE THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT DONE ENOUGH TO ROOT OUT THE BAD PRACTICES OF THE PAST. CHARGE ASKED IF HE AGREED WITH THIS.

8. SAID HE AGREED THAT FUJIMORI SHOWS A GOOD UNDERSTANDING OF THE THEORY. IN PRACTICE, HOWEVER, HE IS GOVERNED BY OTHER CONSIDERATIONS. SAID THAT FUJIMORI IS ABSOLUTELY COMMITTED TO DESTROYING SENDERO LUMINOSO AND THE MRTA WITHIN HIS FIVE YEAR TERM AND IS PREPARED TO COUNTENANCE ANY METHODS THAT ACHIEVE THAT GOAL. THE PRESIDENT, HE SAID, IS CONVINCED THAT THE ONLY WAY TO ERADICATE SL IS BY PHYSICALLY ELIMINATING THE MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION; OVERALL GOVERNMENT COUNTER-TERRORISM POLICY REFLECTS THIS. CALLED THIS VIEW MISGUIDED. SENDERO LUMINOSO IS A DEEPLY ROOTED MOVEMENT AND CANNOT BE QUICKLY DEFEATED. IT HAS BEEN BADLY HURT BY THE REVERSES OF THE PAST YEAR, BUT COULD EASILY EVOLVE INTO SOMETHING EQUALLY DANGEROUS, SUCH AS A PURELY TERRORIST ORGANIZATION BASED ON SMALL, HARD TO DETECT CELLS. CONSISTENT, LONG TERM POLICY APPROACHES ARE NEEDED TO ATTACK IT, NOT QUICK FIXES.

CHANGES IN STATISTICS

LOST A GOOD PART OF ITS STRATEGIC THRUST. ALSO, INTERNAL EVENTS IN SL, SUCH AS THE MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF ABIMAE G UZMAN'S WIFE (COMRADE NORAH, THOUGHT BY MANY TO HAVE BEEN KILLED BY GUZMAN) AND THE FAMOUS "ZORBA THE GREEK" VIDEO WHICH SHOWED GUZMAN TO BE A LIBERTINE, CREATED DISSENTION THAT UNDERMINED SL'S COHESION AND EFFECTIVENESS. CONCEDED THAT INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE ON HUMAN RIGHTS ALSO LED THE SECURITY FORCES TO EXERCISE GREATER CONTROL TO LIMIT INDESCRIPTIMATE ABUSES.

MONTESINOS: BLIND AMBITION

10. PREPARING TO LEAVE WHEN CHARGE ASKED HIM HOW HE SAW THE ROLE OF VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS, PRESIDENT FUJIMORI'S ADVISOR, IN THE COUNTER-TERRORISM PROGRAMS OF THE GOVERNMENT. MONTESINOS IS FUJIMORI'S INTELLIGENCE COORDINATOR.

11. SAID HE HAS KNOWN MONTESINOS SINCE THEY REMAINED IN DISTANT TOUCH OVER THE YEARS THAT MONTESINOS WAS RISING IN THE MILITARY. HE ALWAYS SHOWED A DESIRE TO ASSOCIATE HIMSELF WITH POWER, AND IN THE 1970'S WAS CLOSE TO THE TOP MILITARY FIGURES OF THE VELASCO REGIME. "HE WAS CASHIERED FROM THE ARMY FOR REASONS THAT ARE OBSCURE TO ME," SAID. MONTESINOS THEN DROPPED OUT OF SIGHT.

12. MONTESINOS WAS FOCUSED ON ONE THING: POWER, BOTH POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC. HE WAS INTELLIGENT, ARTICULATE, AND ABLE AND BEGAN HIS SUCCESSFUL LAW CAREER TAKING CLIENTS WHO COULD PAY THE MOST. THIS LED HIM TO DRUG TRAFFICKERS WHO ALWAYS PAID WELL. MONTESINOS ALSO CULTIVATED USEFUL POLITICAL CONNECTIONS, WHICH IN THIS PERIOD MEANT AMONG THE APRISTAS.
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 08  STATE  020413  222057Z
WHO WERE THEN IN POWER. ONE OF HIS KEY ALLIES
WAS A PUBLIC PROSECUTOR, HUGO DENEGRI, WHO WAS
PARTICULARLY USEFUL TO MONTESINOS

(AFTER APRIL 5, FUJIMORI
TRIED TO MAKE DENEGRI ATTORNEY GENERAL, BUT WAS
FORCED TO BACK OFF DUE TO THE MAN’S POOR
REPUTATION.) IN THIS PERIOD, MONTESINOS ALSO
REBUILT HIS TIES TO THE MILITARY. ONE OF HIS
KEY POINTS OF ENTRY WAS VIA THE DEFENSE OF
GENERAL JOSE VALDIVIA DUENAS, THE OFFICER
RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CAYARA MASSACRE AND COVER-
UP.

13. IN 1990, AS THE GARCIA GOVERNMENT DREW TO A
CLOSE, MONTESINOS LOOKED FOR NEW CONNECTIONS.
HIS APPROACH TO THE MARIO VARGAS LLOSA CAMP WAS
REBUFFED. VARGAS THOUGHT HE WAS A SHOE-IN AND
HAD NO NEED FOR MONTESINOS. MONTESINOS THEN HIT
ON ALBERTO FUJIMORI, VIA A MUTUAL FRIEND,
FRANCISCO LOAYZA. ONCE LOAYZA WAS USED,
MONTESINOS GOT RID OF HIM, "IN TYPICAL PASHION,
MAKING A GESTURE LIKE FLICKING AWAY
A CIGARETTE BUTT.

14. FUJIMORI NEVER IMAGINED -- OR PLANNED FOR
-- THE HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY THAT FELL TO HIM IN
1990. [SAYED. HE WAS TOTALLY UNPREPARED IN
TERMS OF A NATIONAL POLICY OR POLITICAL BASE TO
CARRY ONE OUT. CAMBIO-90, HIS PARTY, WAS THROWN
TOGETHER OVERNIGHT AND HAD NO CONSISTENCY.
ENTER MONTESINOS. ACCORDING TO

PAGE 09  STATE  020413  222057Z
MONTESINOS OFFERED FUJIMORI THE ARMY AS HIS
POLITICAL BASE. THAT, HE SAID, HAS BEEN THE
STORY OF THE FUJIMORI GOVERNMENT.

15. [DESCRIBED MONTESINOS AS A CLEVER AND
ABLE MAN WITH MANY IDEAS, BUT NO STRATEGIC
CONCEPTION. HE IS ACTION ORIENTED, WANTS TO GET
THINGS DONE QUICKLY. IN THIS, HE AND FUJIMORI
ARE NEARLY IDENTICAL. IN ADDRESSING THE SENDERO
PROBLEM, THE THROW IDEAS AT IT WITHOUT THINKING
THROUGH THE CONSEQUENCES OR A STRATEGIC SCOPE. CLEARLY
DID NOT HAVE A HIGH OPINION OF THE MORE POLITICALLY GEARED FUJIMORI/MONTESINOS TEAM.

16. ANOTHER KEY ELEMENT OF MONTESINOS, SAID, IS HIS EXTREME JEALOUSY OF HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PRESIDENT. HE WANTS NO OTHER PERSON TO ENJOY THE ACCESS HE HAS AND SYSTEMATICALLY BARS CONTENDERS FOR THE PRESIDENT’S THINKING PROCESSES FROM CONTACT WITH HIM. SAW THIS AS HIGHLY DANGEROUS, MAINLY BECAUSE FUJIMORI HAS ALLOWED MONTESINOS TO DO IT. THE REGIME, IN VIEW, IS THUS LOCKED INTO THE VERY SHORT TERM POLITICAL CALCULATIONS AND MAKE-SHIFT POLICY IDEAS THAT THE TWO OF THEM DEVELOP. MADE NO MENTION OF THE ROLE OF SANTIAGO FUJIMORI, THE PRESIDENT’S BROTHER AND OTHER INTIMATE ADVISOR.

17. CHARGE ASKED VIDAL IF HE THOUGHT MONTESINOS...

18. CHARGE SAID THAT MANY PEOPLE HAVE LINKED MONTESINOS TO THE BARRIOS ALTOS MASSACRE IN NOVEMBER 1991. RECALLING THE EARLIER DISCUSSION OF PRESIDENT FUJIMORI’S REAL VIEWS ON HUMAN RIGHTS, CHARGE ASKED WHAT WAS THE MEANING OF BARRIOS ALTOS AND WHETHER MONTESINOS HAD A CONNECTION TO IT. "THAT IS A VERY SENSITIVE ISSUE," PERHAPS IT CAN BE DISCUSSED AT SOME OTHER TIME."

FUTURE COOPERATION

19. 
Full-Page Redaction

Page Number 8  Exemption Category B1