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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  
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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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