

RELEASE IN FULL~~CONFIDENTIAL~~PAGE 01 LIMA 05771 172212Z
ACTION ARA-00INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 INR-10 EUR-00 SS-00 CIAE-00
H-01 NSAE-00 HA-08 L-03 TRSE-00 PM-10 PA-01
MCT-03 OMB-01 SAL-01 USIE-00 SP-02 SNP-01 PRS-01
SLPD-01 /044 W**REVIEW AUTHORITY: Richard Zorn,
Senior Reviewer**

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R 172109Z MAY 84
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5870
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY ROME
DIA WASHDC
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PN~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ LIMA 5771

DIA FOR IR BRANCH

PANAMA FOR IR BRANCH

PANAMA FOR ADS

ROME FOR AMEMBASSY VATICAN

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, PGOV, SHUM, PE
SUBJECT: NOBEL LAURENTE ADOLFO PEREZ ESQUIVEL VISITS PERU

REF: LIMA 5716

1. (C) SUMMARY: NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER ADOLFO PEREZ

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ESQUIVEL VISITED PERU (MAY 8-13) ON A SELF-DESCRIBED MISSION OF CONTRIBUTING TO INTERNAL PEACE IN COUNTRY, RATHER THAN CRITICIZING OR SITTING IN JUDGMENT OF IT. MARXIST OPPONENTS OF BELAUDE GOVERNMENT SURROUNDED PEREZ ESQUIVEL FROM VISIT'S FIRST MOMENTS, ATTEMPTING TO COOPT IT FOR THEIR PURPOSES. WHILE PEREZ ESQUIVEL WON PRAISE IN SOME ESTABLISHMENT MEDIA FOR HIS RESPONSIBLE APPROACH, WAY HIS VISIT WAS CONDUCTED PERMITTED MARXIST LEFT TO MAKE POLITICAL POINTS BY CONSPICUOUS IDENTIFICATION WITH WORLD FAMOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATE. AT SAME TIME, PEREZ ESQUIVEL'S

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CREDIBILITY LOCALLY WAS PROBABLY JEOPARDIZED IN MORE MODERATE ELEMENTS OF POLITY BY FACT THAT HE WAS FREQUENTLY ACCOMPANIED WHILE HERE BY LIKES OF TROTSKYITE (AND FORMER TERRORIST) HUGO BLANCO AND MARXIST-LENINIST LEADER DIEZ CANSECO. PEREZ ESQUIVEL'S VISIT TO AYACUCHO COINCIDED WITH A PARTICULARLY GRUESOME MASSACRE OF SOME 21 VILLAGERS IN AYACUCHO DEPARTMENT (REFTEL). END SUMMARY.

2. (C) PEREZ ESQUIVEL SAID ON ARRIVAL THAT HE CAME "WITHOUT PRECONCEPTIONS". (LATER ON HE WAS TO SAY THAT HIS VISIT'S MISSION WAS TO PROMOTE PEACE WITHIN PERU, NOT TO CRITICISE COUNTRY OR SIT IN JUDGMENT OF IT.) NEVERTHELESS, FROM VISIT'S FIRST MOMENTS, PEREZ ESQUIVEL WAS SURROUNDED BY PROMINENT MARXIST ACTIVISTS WHO ATTEMPTED TO PROJECT IMAGE THAT VISIT'S PURPOSE WAS TO SUBSTANTIATE AND DOCUMENT THEIR ACCUSATIONS OF GOP RESPONSIBILITY FOR EZ HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. REVOLUTIONARY VANGUARD (VR) SECRETARY GENERAL (AND CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES MEMBER) JAVEIER DIEZ CANSECO, ALONG WITH TROTSKYITE LEADER (AND FELLOW DEPUTY) HUGO BLANCO, ACCOMPANIED PEREZ ESQUIVEL ON TRIP TO AYACUCHO MAY 9. BACK IN LIMA ON M6 11, PEREZ ESQUIVEL WAS HOSTED BY CONFIDENTIAL

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CITY'S GOVERNING MARXIST "UNITED LEFT" (IU) COALITION. ACTING (IU) MAYOR HENRY PEASE DECLARED HIM CITY'S "HONORED GUEST" WHILE IU COUNCILMAN OSCAR UGARTE DREW EXPRESS PARALLEL BETWEEN ARGENTINA'S DESAPARECIDOS PHENOMENON AND PERU'S.

3. (C) PEREZ ESQUIVEL DID NOT SHRINK FROM DESAPARECIDOS ISSUE, BUT NEITHER DID HE HARP ON IT. HE ALLUDED TO ARGENTINE EXPERIENCE, WHICH BEGAN WITH SMALL NUMBERS, BUT RESERVED HIS CONCLUSIONS ABOUT WHAT HE FOUND IN PERU FOR A PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT BELAUDE. IN PUBLIC COMMENTS HE STRESSED SENDERO LUMINOSO'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR VIOLENCE IN PERU AND EXPLICITLY CONDEMNED ANY EFFORT TO ACHIEVE SOCIAL REFORM THROUGH TERRORISM. HE DECLINED TO EXPRESS VIEW AS TO WHETHER OR NOT MILITARY FORCES SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN FROM EZ, LIMITING REFERENCES TO SECURITY FORCES' CONDUCT THERE BY CALLING ON THEM TO BE EFFECTIVE, AND, AT SAME TIME, RESPECTFUL OF THE LAW AND HUMAN LIFE.

4. (C) SOME GOP AUTHORITIES DISPLAYED INITIAL NERVOUSNESS ABOUT PEREZ ESQUIVEL'S VISIT, BUT PRO-GOVERNMENT MEDIA ENDED WITH SHOW OF ENTHUSIASM. EMERGENCY ZONE (EZ) POLITICAL MILITARY COMMANDER GENERAL HUAMAN SNUBBED THE VISITOR, ARRANGING TO BE OFF ON AN INSPECTION TRIP ELSEWHERE IN EZ WHILE PEREZ ESQUIVEL WAS IN AYACUCHO. HOWEVER, PRO-GOVERNMENT LIMA DAILY "EXPRESO" SUMMED UP



VISIT'S RESULTS WITH MAY 12 COMMENT: "THAT THERE MAY BE EXCESSES, THERE ARE. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO AVOID THEM COMPLETELY, BUT IT IS NECESSARY TO FIGHT AGAINST THEM. THAT THE GOVERNMENT OUGHT TO BE PAYING GREATER ATTENTION TO THE MATTER ALSO IS TRUE. NONE OF THIS IS NEW FOR US. BUT IT IS NECESSARY TO REMEMBER THIS AT ALL TIMES IN ORDER TO PRESERVE A TRUE DEMOCRACY".

5. (C) COMMENT: FAR LEFT PROBABLY CAME OUT OF VISIT
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WITH SOME GAINS. MARXISTS WERE NOT ABLE TO EXPLOIT PEREZ ESQUIVEL TO EXTENT THEY HOPED. BUT HIS VISIT GAVE THEM RENEWED OPPORTUNITY TO POSE AS HUMAN RIGHTS CHAMPIONS AND TO PROJECT FASE PUBLIC IMAGE OF A CONJUNCTION BETWEEN LEFT'S INTERESTS AND THOSE OF PERU'S CATHOLIC CHURCH. DIEZ CANSECO AND BLANCO ACCOMPANIED PEREZ ESQUIVEL FOR CALL ONAYACUCHO'S ARCHBISHOP RICHTER PRADA, INCLUDING PHOTO-TAKING SESSION. SIMILAR OPPORTUNITIES AROSE IN LIMA, WITH MARXISTS SHARING SPOTLIGHT WITH PROMINENT EPISCOPATE FIGURE MONS. LUCIANO METZINGER. BUT, AT SAME TIME, MASQUERADE WAS TOO TRANSPARENT FOR MANY OBSERVERS. IT IS DIFFICULT ENOUGH FOR POLITICAL CENTRISTS IN PERU TO ACCEPT DIEZ CANSECO AS A CHAMPION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND A DEFENDER OF CHURCH. THE ADDITIONAL PRESENCE OF FORMER TERRORIST HUGO BLANCO IN PEREZ ESQUIVEL'S ENTOURAGE CERTAINLY DETRACTED FROM IMAGE OF BALANCE AND PRUDENCE THE NOBEL LAUREATE SOUGHT TO PROJECT. ON BALANCE, PEREZ ESQUIVEL'S VISIT FOCUSED ATTENTION ON NEED FOR THIS DEMOCRATIC NATION TO DEFEND HUMAN RIGHTS, EVEN IN FACE OF BRUTAL TERRORIST CHALLENGE. JORDAN

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