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# Senior Executive Intelligence Brief

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**Thursday, 15 July 1999**

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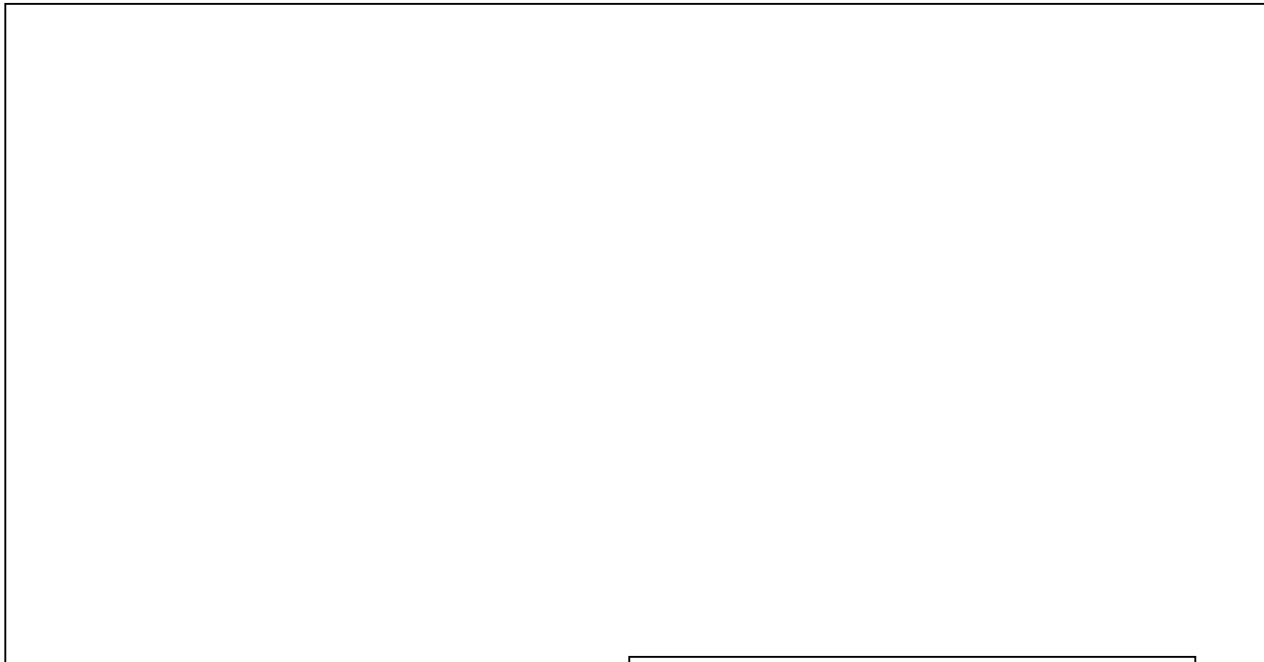


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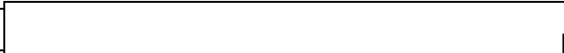
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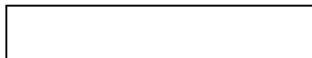
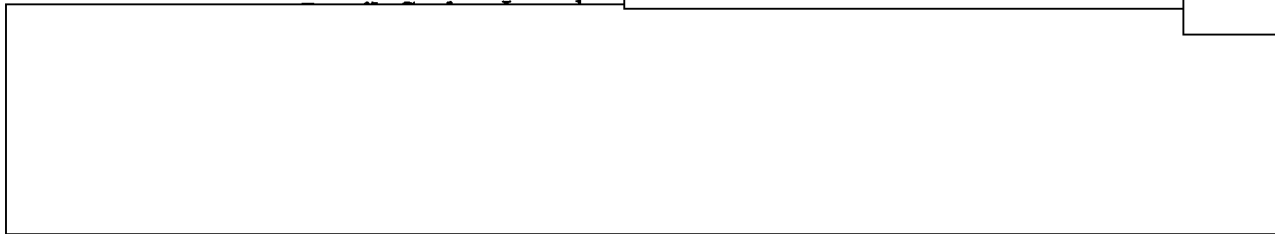
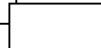
*Table of Contents*



**Peru: SL Leader Captured**



11

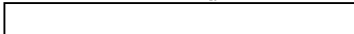


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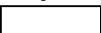


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**Peru: Capture a Boon to Fujimori** 

President Fujimori, who appears intent on seeking an unprecedented third consecutive term in next year's election, will reap significant political benefits from the capture on Wednesday of Sendero Luminoso (SL) leader Oscar Ramirez Durand. Fujimori traveled to Junin Department yesterday to oversee the final stages of the operation and made the public announcement of Ramirez's capture personally yesterday morning.  the President's role was carefully orchestrated to highlight his determination to eradicate Peruvian terrorism.

— Fujimori's string of successes against SL and the smaller Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement since 1990 constitutes one of his administration's most notable achievements and has helped boost his popularity. The two insurgencies have left more than 30,000 Peruvians dead since 1980, when SL launched its first armed action.

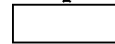
— The capture also removes a potential thorn in Fujimori's side as the campaign gets under way. A spate of attacks by SL units in May and last month served to remind the public that Fujimori had not yet fulfilled his oft-stated goal of eliminating remaining terrorists, and SL—which has previously sought to disrupt elections—probably would have stepped up actions as the vote neared. 

Lima also will try to use the arrest to burnish the image of Fujimori's controversial national security adviser Vladimiro Montesinos, who controls the National Intelligence Service (SIN) and is playing a key role in Fujimori's reelection efforts.



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Peru:

SL Leader Captured 

Peruvian authorities yesterday captured Sendero Luminoso leader Ramirez, ending a manhunt by nearly 1,500 security personnel. The arrest of Ramirez, who has led the SL since the capture in 1992 of its founder Guzman, deals a serious blow to the already ailing organization.

*— With Ramirez out of the picture, the SL's commander in the Upper Huallaga Valley, Gabriel Macario, probably will be recognized by the group as its sole leader. *

 President Fujimori carefully orchestrated his role, going to Junin Department to oversee the final stages of the operation and making the public announcement of Ramirez's capture, *which he could use to boost a bid for an unprecedented third term in next year's election.* Fujimori's string of successes since 1990 against SL and the smaller Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement are one of his administration's most notable achievements and has helped boost his popularity. 