



CONFIDENTIAL

Department of State

INCOMING TELEGRAM

PAGE 02 OF 03 LINA 05400 00 OF 03 150457Z 1205 002071 THE GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA REPORTED THAT THE REMOTE CONTROLLED DETONATORS FOUND IN THE ROCK BOMBS WERE SIMILAR TO THE TECHNOLOGY USED BY THE BASQUE TERRORIST ORGANIZATION E.T.A. UATCO

1205 002071

DECLASSIFIED

Q 1901 - POLICE STAGED A FULL-SCALE SWEEP THROUGH SEVERAL LINA SUBURBS, CHECKING IDENTITY PAPERS AND ARRESTING THOSE WITHOUT PROPER DOCUMENTS.

MAY 10

Q 1901 - TERRORISTS BOMBED AN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES UNIT IN THE LOWER CLASS LINA NEIGHBORHOOD OF COMAS AND ATTEMPTED TO BOMB THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SAN MARTIN DE PORRES. THE COMAS BOMB DID ONLY SLIGHT DAMAGE, AND THE SECOND BOMB WAS SUCCESSFULLY DEFUSED.

MAY 12

Q 1901 - TERRORISTS PLACED ROCK BOMBS IN AT LEAST SIX LOCATIONS AROUND THE CITY, ADVERTISED BY COMMUNIST FLAGS HUNG NEARBY. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, EACH ROCK DEVICE CARRIED A MODIFIED TRANSISTOR RADIO WHICH WOULD HAVE FUNCTIONED AS A REMOTE CONTROLLED DETONATOR HAD THE BOMBS BEEN REAL.

Q 1901 - POLICE DISCOVERED WHAT THEY ARE CALLING A BOMB FACTORY IN THE LINA DISTRICT OF LA VICTORIA, ARRESTING SIX SUSPECTS AND RECOVERING EXPLOSIVES, FUSES AND PROPAGANDA. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, ONE OF THE SUSPECTS WAS A CHEMICAL ENGINEERING STUDENT WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE OPERATION.

2. (C) COMMENT: FOLLOWING THE ATTACK AGAINST THE NORTH KOREAN COMMERCIAL MISSION (REF C), SEVERAL STORIES IN WHICH THE NORTH KOREANS ACCUSED THE SOUTH KOREANS OF THE BOMBING WERE CARRIED BY THE LINA PRESS. THE STORIES CARRIED A PYONGYANG DATESLINE AND WERE APPARENTLY RELEASED BY THE NORTH KOREANS AT HOME. ON MAY 12, THE SOUTH KOREANS RELEASED AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT CONDEMNING THE TERRORIST ATTACK AND ALL TERRORIST ACTIONS. THE ATTACK AGAINST THE NORTH KOREANS CLEARLY HAD THE MARK OF SENDERO LUMINOSO, WHICH HAS CRITICIZED THE NORTH KOREANS' ARMS TRANSFERS IN ITS OFFICIAL WRITINGS. IN FOLLOW-UP REPORTING ON THE BATA SHOE COMPANY ATTACK, THE RESPECTED "EL COMERCIO" SAID THE TERRORISTS SPENT ABOUT SEVEN MINUTES INSIDE THE PLANT AND LEFT A TOTAL OF 15 BOMBS (11 OF THEM EXPLODED), ALL IN STRATEGIC LOCATIONS. THE TERRORISTS REPORTEDLY WERE FAMILIAR WITH THE FACTORY AND WERE USING INSIDE INFORMATION. THE SITUATION IN THE TOCACHA AREA REMAINS UNCLEAR, BUT THERE HAVE BEEN RUMORS AND REPORTS OF ARMED CONFLICT BETWEEN DRUG TRAFFICERS AND JEWELERS. IT IS NOT UNREASONABLE THAT THEY WOULD FIGHT ON THE SIDE OF CAMPESINOS AGAINST A FOREIGN INTEREST LINE THE COLOMBIANS. HOWEVER, WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION THAT THE EVENT OCCURRED AS REPORTED IN THE PRESS.

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