

UNCLASSIFIED

Department of State



A-0213 INCOMING TELEGRAM

PAGE 01 LINA 00000 1422472  
ACTION WCRE-00

0001 0043600

LINA 00000 1422472

0001 0043600

INFO FILE-01 000-05 000-01 ECP-01  
0000-02 01-01 /016 02 00  
INFO 100-00 1001-01 001-00 0-01 000-00 110-00 00-01  
/011 W

OF A THREAT TO THE INSTITUTE BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES  
... BUT STATED THAT  
... THE INSTITUTE  
... GROUPS CALLED  
ATTENTION TO A RECENT CONFIDENTIAL MEETING BETWEEN  
THE HEAD OF THE INSTITUTE AND THE GENERAL IN  
CHARGE OF PUNO POLICE FORCES, BASED ON WHICH IT  
APPEARED THAT THE INSTITUTE WAS  
NORMAL RELATIONS WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES.  
WT, OF COURSE, MADE CLEAR TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS  
GROUPS AND THE PUNO PREFECT OUR INTEREST FOR  
RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE CONTINUED  
SAFETY OF THE INSTITUTE.

0 1418472 JUL 87  
FR AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0914

UNCLAS LINA 00000

0 PASS

ALSO FOR 00A/AND, W, NS

E.O. 12958: O/A  
TAGS: PHUM, PE  
SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY: INSTITUTO DE  
ESTUDIOS RURALES DE AYAVIRI

PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT ME IF I MAY  
BE OF FURTHER ASSISTANCE.

SINCERELY,

ALEXANDER F. WATSON  
U.S. AMBASSADOR, LIMA, PERU

WATSON

REF: STATE 196931

- 1. THE HONORABLE RUDY BOSCHWITZ
- UNITED STATES SENATE
- 210 BREMER BUILDING
- 419 NORTH ROBERT STREET
- ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55101

DEAR SENATOR BOSCHWITZ:

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAS REFERRED TO US  
YOUR LETTER OF JUNE 13 IN WHICH YOU DISCUSSED  
THE CONCERN OF YOUR CONSTITUENTS.

REGARDING THE INSTITUTE FOR  
RURAL STUDIES (INSTITUTO DE ESTUDIOS RURALES)  
IN AYAVIRI, PERU (OFFICE FILE NO. 7161030026).  
YOUR CONSTITUENTS WERE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED  
ABOUT REPORTS THAT THE INSTITUTE HAD BEEN  
THREATENED BY THE SHINING PATH GUERRILLA GROUP,  
AS WELL AS BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

THE INSTITUTE FOR RURAL STUDIES IS LOCATED IN  
THE COUNTRYSIDE NEAR THE TOWN OF AYAVIRI IN THE  
CONFLICT-RIDDEN DEPARTMENT OF PUNO, IN SOUTHERN  
PERU. IT IS OPERATED BY THE CATHOLIC PRELATURE  
OF AYAVIRI. SECURITY CONDITIONS RESTRICT  
EASY TRAVEL TO THE AREA, AND COMMUNICATIONS  
ARE NOT GOOD. THE INSTITUTE HAS NO TELEPHONE,  
AND OUR EFFORTS TO CONTACT IT THROUGH THE  
AYAVIRI PRELATURE WERE UNSUCCESSFUL. HOWEVER,  
WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GET INFORMATION ABOUT THE  
INSTITUTE'S SITUATION FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF  
THE NEAREST PUNO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, THE  
PUNO PREFECT (CENTRAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE  
IN THE AREA), AND THE HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE OF THE  
LIMA-BASED EPISCOPAL SOCIAL ACTION COMMISSION.  
BOTH HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS ARE IN FREQUENT TOUCH  
WITH THE INSTITUTE.

ALL THREE ORGANIZATIONS AGREED THAT THE THREAT  
FROM THE SHINING PATH WAS REAL -- THREATS HAD  
BEEN MADE IN EARLY 1987 -- BUT HAD NOT  
MATERIALIZED. THEY ALSO AGREED THAT THE SHINING  
PATH'S PRESENCE IN THE AREA HAD DECREASED SINCE  
EARLY 1987. THE PUNO PREFECT DENIED THAT  
LOCAL AUTHORITIES HAD THREATENED THE INSTITUTE.  
THE TWO HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS CLAIMED TO BE UNAWARE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/LMR

REVIEWED by          DATE OCT 3 1988  
( ) RELEASE ( ) DECLASSIFY  
(X) EXCISE ( ) DECLASSIFY in PART  
( ) DENY ( ) Non-responsive info.  
B6: ( ) EO or PA exemptions (b)(3)

( ) CLASSIFY as \_\_\_\_\_ TS authority to:  
( ) DOWNGRADE TS to ( ) S or ( ) C, OADR

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED