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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ACTION MCT-05

INFO	LOG-00	ADS-00	AID-00	INR-05	SS-00	CIAE-00	NSCE-00
ARA-00	NSAE-00	SSO-00	SY-05	L-02	AMAD-01	TRSE-02	
PH-05	PA-02	INRE-00	CA-02	A-02	USSS-00	SYE-00	
USIE-00	FBIE-00	FAIM-01	SLPD-01	/033 W			

-----166517 232049Z /38
 P 232046Z SEP 88
 FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6916
 INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
 AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
 AMEMBASSY QUITO
 USAFSO HOWARD AFB PN
 AMEMBASSY PANAMA
 DIA WASHDC
 USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR OCT 3 1988

REVIEWED by Pugh DATE _____
 RELEASE DECLASSIFY
 EXCISE DECLASSIFY in PART
 DENY Non-responsive info.
 FOI, EO or PA exemptions _____

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

TERREP

DIA FOR IR BRANCH; PANAMA FOR ADS

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PTER, PE

SUBJECT: SENDERO LUMINOSO STEPS UP ATTACKS

REF: LIMA 10715 ✓

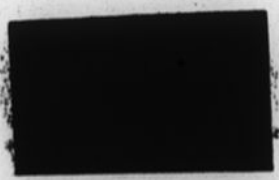
1. (U) PRESUMED SENDERO LUMINOSO (SL) TERRORISTS HAVE STEPPED UP ATTACKS IN URBAN AREAS DURING THE PAST 10 DAYS.

-- ON SEPTEMBER 13, GUNMEN ASSASSINATED TWO POLICEMEN GUARDING AN "EL COMERCIO" NEWSPAPER FACILITY IN THE
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LIMA SUBURB OF LINCE. BOTH POLICEMEN RECENTLY HAD

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RETURNED FROM DUTY IN THE AYACUCHO EMERGENCY ZONE.

-- ALSO ON SEPTEMBER 13, A 14 YEAR OLD BOY DIED IN AYACUCHO WHEN A DYNAMITE CHARGE HE WAS CARRYING EXPLODED PREMATURELY. IDENTIFIED AS LUIS CHOCCE, THE BOY DIED NEAR A POLICE STATION WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN HIS INTENDED TARGET.

-- ON SEPTEMBER 18, AN EXPLOSION DAMAGED PART OF THE TRANSANDEAN OIL PIPELINE (REF A), LOCATED IN NORTHERN PERU. THE PIPELINE WAS REPAIRED ON SEPTEMBER 21.

-- ON SEPTEMBER 19, TERRORISTS BOMBED ELECTRICAL TRANSMISSION TOWERS AND A POLICE STATION IN A SLUM AREA OF THE NORTHERN CITY OF CHIMBOTE. NO CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED.

-- ON SEPTEMBER 19, SEVERAL EXPLOSIONS REPORTEDLY OCCURRED IN AYACUCHO; NO CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED.

-- AT DAEPTEMBER 20, PRESUMED SL MEMBERS EXPLODED A CAR BOMB AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE CALLAO NAVAL AIR BASE, WOUNDING ONE NAVAL OFFICER AND ONE PASSERBY. UNLIK PREVIOUS CAR BOMBS WHICH USED STATIONARY VEHICLES, INITIAL REPORTS STATE TERRORISTS POINTED THE CAR AT THE ENTRANCE AND LEFT OUT OF IT WHILE IT WAS MOVING.

-- AT 8:00 P.M. SEPTEMBER 20, TERRORISTS BLEW UP ELECTRICAL TRANSMISSION TOWERS IN THE SANTA EULALIA VALLEY, CAUSING A BLACKOUT IN LIMA AND NEIGHBORING TOWNS FOR ABOUT 40 MINUTES. DURING THE BLACKOUT, TWO ATTACKS WERE REPORTED AGAINST POLICE
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STATIONS IN THE LIMA SLUM OF EL AGUSTINO. ONE PEDESTRIAN WAS REPORTEDLY WOUNDED WHEN POLICE RETURNED FIRE.

-- ALSO ON SEPTEMBER 20, AN ARMY SERGEANT REPORTEDLY DIED IN AN SL AMBUSH IN LA MAR PROVINCE, AYACUCHO DEPARTMENT.

-- ON SEPTEMBER 21, POLICE REPORTEDLY FOUND AND DEACTIVATED TWO EXPLOSIVE DEVICES LEFT ON THE RAILROAD

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BETWEEN CALLAO AND LIMA.

2. (U) THESE EVENTS CONTRASTED WITH LACK OF REPORTED ACTIVITY--ARMED OR PROPAGANDA--BY THE TUPAC AMARU REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT. HOWEVER, ON SEPTEMBER 21, POLICE CAPTURED JOSE CARAZAS YABAR AS HE PREPARED TO BOARD A FLIGHT TO CUZCO; CARAZAS REPORTEDLY WAS CARRYING MRTA LITERATURE AND SEVERAL HUNDRED ROUNDS OF 9MM AMMUNITION.

3. (C) COMMENT: SL ACTIVITY GENERALLY IS CYCLICAL, SO CURRENT SPATE OF ATTACKS IS NOT UNUSUAL IN ITSELF. THERE ARE, HOWEVER, TWO INTERESTING FEATURES ABOUT THESE ATTACKS. FIRST IS THE INCREASE IN ACTIVITY IN THE CITY OF AYACUCHO, WHICH SECURITY FORCES HAD MANAGED TO KEEP LARGELY FREE OF INCIDENTS DURING MOST OF THE PAST YEAR. SECOND IS THE CHOICE OF TARGETS IN AREAS WHERE SL TRADITIONALLY HAS NOT OPERATED, SUCH AS THE OIL PIPELINE AND CHIMBOTE.
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