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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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CIAE-00 NSCE-00 55-00 AID-00 IMR-05 ADS-00 INFO LOG-00 AMAD-01 TRSE-00 L-02 5Y-05 ARA-00 NSAE-00 550-00 US\$5-00 SYE-00 CA-02 A-02 INRE-00 PA-02 PM-05 SLP0-01 /030 W USIE-00 FBIE-00 FAIM-01 ---244012 0722427 /38

O 0722391 OCT BS
FM AMEMBASSY LINA
TO SECSTATE WASHOC IMMEDIATE 7147
IMFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY QUITO
USAFSO HOWARD AFB PN
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
DIA WASHOC
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/	MR OCT 3 1988
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CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 02 LIMA 11485

TERREP

DIA FOR IR BRANCH; PANAMA FOR ADS

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, PGOV. SHUM, PE
SUBJECT: THIRTY INMATES DIE IN CONFRONTATION AT
LURIGANCHO PRISON

ABOUT 20 WERE WOUNDED ON OCTOBER 4 WHEN POLICE SEARCHED A SENDERO LUMINOSO CELL BLOCK AT LURIGANCHO PRISON.

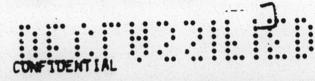
ALMOST ALL OF THE VICTIMS DIED IN A FIRE WHICH THE GOP CLAIMS WAS STARTED BY PRISONERS. BUT WHICH OTHER PERSONS CLAIM WAS A!

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LINU DUMMARY.

2. (U) ON OCTOBER 4. PERUVIAN POLICE (GUARDIA REPUBLICANA) CARRIED OUT SEARCHES OF LURIGANCHO PRISON CELL BLOCKS. SEARCH WENT SMOOTHLY UNT CAME TO CELL BLOCK HOUSING ALLEGED MEMBERS OF SENDERO LUMINOSO (SL). WHERE POLICE INTELLIGENCE REPORTEDLY INDICATED THAT PRISONERS WERE MAKING WEAPONS IN PREPARATION FOR AN ESCAPE. PRISONERS BARRICADED THE ENTRANCES WITH CEMENT BLOCKS, BURNED MATTRESSES, AND FIRED ARROWS AND STONES AT POLICE, WOUNDING ONE OFFICER. POLICE THEN USED EXPLOSIVE CHARGES AND A BULLDOZER TO ENTER THE BUILDING AND SUBDUE THE PRISONERS. POLICE CLAIM THEY FOUND THE CHARRED BODIES OF 28 PRISONERS IN A ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR, AND SPECULATED THAT THEY HAD BEEN MURDERED BY OTHER SL INMATES. POLICE FOUND AND DISPLAYED AN ARRAY OF SL WEAPONS, INCLUDING BOWS AND ARROWS, SLINGS, LANCES, HOMEMADE "FLAMETHROWERS," AND QUANTITIES OF KEROSENE.

3. (U) SEVERAL PERSONS. MOSTLY FROM THE UNITED LEFT (IU), CLAIMED THAT THE POLICE HAD KILLED THE VICTIMS AND THEN BURNED THEIR BODIES TO HIDE THE FACT. GOP SKEPTICS CITE THE ABSENCE FROM THE SCENE OF SEVERAL IMPORTANT AUTHORITIES. INCLUDING THE PRISON DIRECTOR. THE STATE PROSECUTOR. AND A JUDGE. WHO WERE PRESENT EARLIER IN THE DAY. THEY ALSO POINTED TO THE REFUSAL CONFIDENTIAL

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OF PRISON AUTHORITIES TO RECEIVE MEMBERS OF THE PEACE COMMISSION ON THE NIGHT OF OCTOBER 4. PRESUMABLY BECAUSE THE AUTHORITIES DESIRED TO AVOID EARLY SCRUTINY OF THE CELL BLOCK (THE PEACE COMMISSION WAS ALLOWED TO VISIT THE CELL BLOCK ON OCTOBER 5).

4. (C) COMMENT: [

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ON OCTOBER 3 TO EVICT SOOD SQUATTERS (SEPTEL). MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS OF THE BODIES MAY REVEAL MORE INFORMATION.

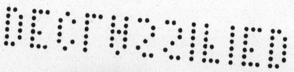
5. (C) WE BELIEVE THAT THE IU, WHICH ALREADY HAS DEMONSTRATED THAT IT BELIEVES IT CAN USE THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE ADVANTAGEOUSLY AGAINST APRA, WILL NOW REDOUBLE ITS EFFORTS. MORE RADICAL ELEMENTS OF THE IU MEMBER PARTIES MAY SEEK TO CONFRONT THE GOP BY ORGANIZING DEMONSTRATIONS THAT COULD LEAD TO FURTHER VIOLENCE. COMING WEEKS COULD PROVE TO BE A MAJOR TEST OF THE GOP'S ABILITY TO MAINTAIN AUTHORITY WITHOUT LAPSING INTO EXCESS.

6. (C)

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| FINALLY. WE BELIEVE THERE IS A

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USSS-00 SYE-00 ADS-00 5Y-05 INFO LOG-00 NSAE-00 550-00 A-02 CA-02 INRE-00 1030 W SLP0-01 ARA-00

PA-02 0722402 /38

USIE-00 FBIE-00 FAIM-01

0 072239Z OCT 85 TO SECSTATE WASHOC IMMEDIATE 7148 FH AMEMBASSY LIMA

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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TERREP

DIA FOR IR BRANCH: PANAMA FOR ADS

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

SUBJECT: THIRTY INMATES DIE IN CONFRONTATION AT

STRONG POSSIBILITY THAT SL WILL ATTEMPT TO CARRY OUT A REPRISAL FOR THE OCTOBER 4 EVENTS. JORDAN

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