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Department of State

TELEGRAM

SECRET

AM: 0840389-0558

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ACTION ARA-00

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00  
SY-06 HA-08 PM-10 MCT-03 SAL-01 A-02 SYE-00  
SP-02 SNP-01 SLPD-01 /048 W  
-----235044 160025Z /65

P R 152238Z JUN 84  
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6528  
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
AMEMBASSY QUITO  
DIA WASHDC  
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDG/MR  
REVIEWED by Pugh DATE OCT 3 1988  
 RELEASE  DECLASSIFY  
 EXCISE  DECLASSIFY in PART  
 DENY  Non-responsive info.  
FOL, EO or PA exemptions \_\_\_\_\_ TS authority to: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CLASSIFY as \_\_\_\_\_  
 DOWNGRADE TS to ( ) S or ( ) C, OADR

SECRET SECTION 01 OF 02 LIMA 7033

DIA FOR IR BRANCH; PANAMA FOR ADS

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PTER, SHUM, PE

SUBJ: SENDERO LUMINOSO CELEBRATES ITS ANNIVERSARIES QUIETLY:  
CALM BEFORE THE STORM?

REF: (A) 83 LIMA 5708V(NOTAL), (B) LIMA 6773N(NOTAL),  
(C) LIMA 3312V(D) LIMA 5450 ✓

1. (C) SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS: SENDERO LUMINOSO (SL) TERRORISTS BEGAN THEIR "ARMED STRUGGLE" MAY 18, 1980. THREE YEARS LATER THEY CELEBRATED THEIR ANNIVERSARY WITH AN UPSURGE OF VIOLENCE THAT, ON MAY 27, 1983, BROUGHT EXPLOSIONS, FIRE, AND ELECTRICAL BLACKOUTS INTO LIMA. THAT ASSAULT WAS PRECEDED BY A WILDCAT POLICE STRIKE AFFECTING ALL THREE NATIONAL POLICE SERVICES IN THE CAPITAL. THE GOP REACTED TO BOTH SITUATIONS BY PROCLAIMING A STATE OF EMERGENCY. ONE YEAR LATER.

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SENDERO VIOLENCE IS CURIOUSLY DOWN THROUGHOUT PERU. GOP

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HEADED OFF REPEAT POLICE STRIKE BY GRANTING LAST-MINUTE WAGE CONCESSIONS. ALTHOUGH NEW NATIONAL STATE OF EMERGENCY (ORIGINATING IN THREAT OF SPREADING LABOR UNREST) WAS DECREED, ITS EFFECTS FOR MOST PERUVIANS ARE EXPECTED TO BE MINIMAL OR NIL. SURFACE APPEARANCE, THEREFORE, IS OF CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED INTERNAL SECURITY IN PERU. ON BALANCE, WE BELIEVE THIS APPEARANCE REFLECTS SOME REAL IMPROVEMENT IN SITUATION. BUT BASIC PROBLEMS AFFECTING PERUVIAN SOCIETY REMAIN UNRESOLVED. SL VIOLENCE HISTORICALLY HAS BEEN CYCLICAL, AND TERRORISTS HAVE SHOWN THEMSELVES CAPABLE OF ADOPTING NEW TACTICS. OUR PROJECTION IS THAT RENEWED SPURT OF TERRORIST VIOLENCE IS LIKELY BUT THAT, AT LEAST IN SHORT TO MEDIUM TERM, SECURITY FORCES APPEAR COMPETENT TO CONTAIN IT. END SUMMARY.

2. (C) SECURITY SITUATION ONE YEAR AGO. PERU'S INTERNAL SECURITY SITUATION IN PERIOD MID-MAY TO MID-JUNE 1983 APPEARED TO BE DANGEROUSLY DETERIORATING. TERRORIST-COUNTERTERRORIST VIOLENCE IN SOUTH CENTRAL SIERRA "EMERGENCY ZONE" (EZ) WAS CLAIMING NUMEROUS CASUALTIES, AND, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THIRD ANNIVERSARY (AY 18) OF ASSUMING ARMED STRUGGLE, SL BANDS STRUCK AT VARIOUS TARGETS ELSEWHERE IN PERU OUTSIDE OF EZ. COINCIDENTALLY, ON MAY 26, A SURPRISE STRIKE BY CERTAIN CIVIL GUARD (POLICE) MEMBERS IN LIMA SPREAD, RAPIDLY GAINING SUPPORT AMONG ELEMENTS OF ALL THREE NATIONAL POLICE SERVICES IN THE CAPITAL. GOP'S TWO-STAGE RESPONSE TO SITUATION INVOLVED PROCLAMATION OF FOUR-DAY STATE OF EMERGENCY IN LIMA AREA AND ASSIGNMENT OF PUBLIC ORDER RESPONSIBILITIES TO MILITARY FOLLOWED BY A STRIKE SETTLEMENT BASED ON HASTY GRANT TO POLICE OF PACKAGE OF WAGE INCREASES. WITH STRIKE SETTLED, GOP LIFTED STATE OF

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EMERGENCY--ONLY TO SEE SL BRING WAVE OF TERRORIST VIOLENCE INTO HART OF NATIONAL CAPITAL ITSELF. A MAY 27 ASSAULT THAT INVOLVED DYNAMITINGS, SPECTACULAR FIRE AT MAJOR CHEMICAL FACTORY ON CITY'S OUTSKIRTS, AND ELECTRICAL BLACKOUT THROUGHOUT MOST OF CENTRAL CITY, PRESAGED SERIES OF ATTACKS THAT INTENSIFIED AS DAYS PROGRESSED. GOP RESTORED STATE OF EMERGENCY, BUT ON A NATIONAL SCALE, ON MAY 30. AS MISSION NOTED AT TIME (REF A), BALANCE FOR GOP WAS "A DELICATE ONE."

3. (C) SECURITY SITUATION TODAY, ONE YEAR LATER.

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SECURITY SITUATION IN COUNTRY APPEARS MUCH IMPROVED. MAY 18 CAME AND WENT, BUT SENDERO'S FOURTH ANNIVERSARY WAS NOT REPEAT NO OCCASION FOR ANY SIGNIFICANT TERRORIST VIOLENCE. RUMORS OF A REPEAT POLICE STRIKE SWEEP LIMA AS MAY 25 APPROACHED, PROMPTING OFFICIAL DENIALS THAT SUCH AN EVENT COULD OCCUR. A STERN EDITORIAL AGAINST "SUBVERSIVE INFILTRATION" OF POLICE RANKS THAT APPEARED IN CONSERVATIVE DAILY "LA PRENSA," AND ANEW PACKAGE OF GOP WAGE CONCESSIONS TO POLICE. THE STRIKE DID NOT MATERIALIZE. NOR DID MAY 27 WITNESS A RESURGENCE OF SL INCIDENTS IN CAPITAL. DROPOFF IN TERRORIST VIOLENCE IN LIMA HAS PROVED, IN FACT, TO PARALLEL SIMILAR DROPOFF IN MOST OTHER PARTS OF COUNTRY. IMPROVEMENT IN STRIFE TORN EZ PROVINCE OF LA MAR (DEPARTMENT OF AYACUCHO) LED MILITARY AUTHORITIES JUNE 9 TO LIFT CURFEW IN PROVINCIAL CAPITAL OF HUANTA. MOST PROMINENT SECURITY RELATED ASPECT AT MOMENT IS NATIONAL STATE OF EMERGENCY IMPOSED JUNE 8 (REF B), AIMED AT HEADING OFF VIOLENT STREET DEMONSTRATIONS CALLED IN SUPPORT OF STRIKING UNIONS. THIS PREVENTATIVE MEASURE, HOWEVER, IS UNLIKELY TO AFFECT PERUVIANS OTHER THAN THOSE FEW WHO HAD CONTEMPLATED ORGANIZING OR PARTICIPATING IN PROTEST STREET MARCHES.

4 (C) IMPROVED (BUT STILL VIOLENT) SITUATION IN EZ. VIOLENCE CONTINUES IN THE EZ, BUT NOT ON THE SAME

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SCALE AS ONE YEAR OR EVEN TWO MONTHS AGO. WE BELIEVE IMPROVED SECURITY SITUATION THERE IS REAL, NOT JUST APPARENT, AND IS EVIDENCE OF INCREASED EFFECTIVENESS OF SECURITY FORCES OPERATING UNDER DIRECTION OF EZ POLITICAL MILITARY COMMANDER GENERAL ADRIAN HUAMAN. HUAMAN'S EFFORTS TO TIGHTEN HIS FORCES' ORGANIZATION AND DISCIPLINE, AS NOTED EARLIER (REF C), HAVE HAD DUAL EFFECT OF INCREASING PRESSURE ON SL UNITS THERE AND REDUCING REPORTED INSTANCES OF SECURITY FORCE EXCESSES COMMITTED AGAINST LOCAL CIVILIAN POPULATION. BUT IMPROVED SECURITY DOES NOT REPEAT NOT MEAN THAT ALL VIOLENCE IN

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AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
AMEMBASSY QUITO  
DIA WASHDC  
USCINCSO QYARRY HEIGHTS PN

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DIA FOR IR BRANCH  
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ZONE HAS ENDED. SET AGAINST BACKDROP OF CONTINUING,  
BUT LOWER LEVEL OF TERRORIST VIOLENCE, RECENT NEWS  
REPORTS OUT OF ZONE DESCRIBE:  
-- OPPORTUNISTIC OR CRIMINAL KILLINGS (E.G., THIEVES  
AND CATTLE RUSTLERS WHO PRETEND TO BE TERRORISTS, OR  
WHO SEEK TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CHAOTIC POLICE/JUDICIAL  
SITUATION IN ZONE);  
-- COMMUNAL VIOLENCE (LAND DISPUTES PIT ONE INDIGENOUS  
COMMUNITY AGAINST ITS NEIGHBOR THROUGHOUT THE SIERRA;  
SOME SUCH INCIDENTS IN ZONE, DESPITE THEIR SL OVERTONES,  
ARE AT BASE MANIFESTATIONS OF TRADITIONAL INTER-COMMUNAL  
RIVALRIES);  
-- ACCIDENTS (CARELESS OR POORLY TRAINED POLICE AND  
SOLDIERS CONTINUE TO DO THEMSELVES IN WITH THEIR OWN

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EQUIPMENT--AS WAS THE CASE WITH ONE DEAD POLICEMAN AND  
ONE INJURED SOLDIER STRUCK BY EXPLODING HAND GRENADE IN

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