



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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AGE 01 LIMA 07836 062050Z
ACTION ARA-00

MFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-00 CIAE-00 H-01
ISAE-00 HA-08 L-03 PH-10 PA-01 MCT-03 OMB-01
ISIE-00 SP-02 SNP-01 PRS-01 SLPD-01 /043 W
-----048124 062109Z /63

R 061921Z JUL 84
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6913
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
DIA WASHDC
ISCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

OCT 3 1988

REVIEWED by Pup DATE _____
 RELEASE DECLASSIFY
 EXCISE DECLASSIFY in PART
 DENY Non-responsive info.
FOI, EO or PA exemptions _____
_____ TS authority to:
 CLASSIFY as _____ OADR
 DOWNGRADE TS to S or C OADR

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DIA FOR IR BRANCH

PANAMA FOR ADS

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, SHUM, PE
SUBJ: (A WEAKENED) SENDERO RETURNS TO LIMA

REF: (A) LIMA 7560/(B) 83 LIMA 11530/(C) 83 LIMA 8205 ✓

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. LLLIMA INCIDENTS, JULY 1-2. DEMONSTRATING A CONTINUING--
BUT HOPEFULLY REDUCED--CAPABILITY TO CARRY OUT TERRORIST
ACTIONS IN CAPITAL AREA. SENDERO LUMINOSO (S) MADE A DELAYED
REAPPEARANCE IN LIMA JULY 1-2. AS NOTED REF A, SECURITY
FORCE PERSONNEL AND INSTALLATIONS APPEAR TO BE SL'S PRINCIPAL
TARGETS DURING CURRENT WAVE OF ATTACKS:

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-- IN EARLY MORNING STRIKE JULY 1 AGAINST POLICE STATION

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(GUARDIA CIVIL -- GC) IN COLLIQUE, TO NORTH OF LINA, SL ATTEMPTED TO DUPLICATE SIMILAR ATTACK CARRIED OUT THERE OCTOBER 31 (REF B). ON PAST OCCASION, ONE GC DIED AND ONE WAS SERIOUSLY HURT, WHILE ATTACKERS MADE GOOD ON GETAWAY. THIS TIME POLICE SUFFERED NO CASUALTIES, WHILE SEVERAL SENDERISTAS WERE CAPTURED:

-- ON EVENING SAME DAY, SOLITARY POLICEMAN WAS SHOT IN BRENA (NEAR DOWNTOWN LINA) BY GROUP OF THREE PERSONS THAT MADE OFF WITH OFFICER'S GUN. (COMMENT: INCIDENT PROBABLY CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO SENDERO, BUT LINA'S CRIMINAL ELEMENT ALSO SECURES WEAPONRY IN THIS WAY):

--COORDINATED SERIES OF ATTACKS JULY 2, CARRIED OUT AT "TRADITIONAL" SL HOUR OF PREFERENCE (AROUND 7:30 P.M., AFTER DUSK HAS FALLEN AND STREET TRAFFIC IS AT PEAK), LEFT ONE GC DEAD IN HEART OF DOWNTOWN LINA AND TWO OTHER POLICEMEN (GUARDIA REPUBLICANA - GR) HURT. DYNAMITE EXPLOSIONS OCCURRED IN SAME PERIOD NEAR HEADQUARTERS OF BANCO DE LA NACION, TELEPHONE COMPANY'S LONG DISTANCE OFFICES, AND GARDEN BEHIND MINISTRY OF EDUCATION. OTHER, UNEXPLODED DEVICES WERE ALSO FOUND AT LATTER SITE. DAMAGE IN THESE CASES WAS MINIMAL. SENDERO DID SUCCEED, HOWEVER, IN DOWNING ONE OF THREE TARGETED ELECTRICAL TRANSMISSION TOWERS IN "PUEBLO JOVEN" OF VILLA MARIA DEL TRIUNFO ON CITY'S OUTSKIRTS, CAUSING SHORT-LIVED, AND GEOGRAPHICALLY LIMITED POWER BLACKOUT.

3. FOR MOST CAPITAL AREA RESIDENTS, HOWEVER, SENDERO'S MAJOR IMPACT OCCURRED PREVIOUS EVENING--AND/PARADOXICALLY, FOR REASONS UNRELATED DIRECTLY TO SL. A "TECHNICAL FAILURE" (INVOLVING A POWER OVERLOAD) AT A MAJOR DOWN-
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TOWN ELECTRICAL TRANSMISSION STATION PROVOKED A FIRE AND SUBSEQUENT BLACKOUT OVER MUCH OF CENTRAL LINA AND SOME OF CITY'S MAIN SUBURBS. MOST PEOPLE AUTOMATICALLY ASSUMED SENDERO WAS RESPONSIBLE, CHOOSING TO DISBELIEVE OFFICIAL ACCOUNT PROVIDED BY INTERIOR MINISTER PERCOVICH. (COMMENT: ALTHOUGH PUBLIC NERVOUSNESS IS UNDERSTANDABLE, WE SEE NO REASON TO DOUBT PERCOVICH'S EXPLANATION.)

4. POLITICAL REACTION. OFFICIAL: FRUSTRATION WITH LATEST SERIES OF TERRORIST INCIDENTS: GAVE RISE TO STRONG REACTION BY TOP GOP OFFICIALS. PRESIDENT BELAUNDE OB..

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JUNE 28 DENOUNCED EXISTENCE OF "INTERNATIONAL CONSPIRACY" AGAINST PERU, A THEME TO WHICH HE RETURNED JULY 2. ON SAME DAY, PERCOVICH CALLED SENDERO'S VIOLENCE THE PRODUCT OF MARXIST, MAOIST, AND LENINIST IDEOLOGICAL MANIFESTATIONS BROUGHT INTO PERU FROM THE SOVIET UNION, CHINA, AND CUBA. A HOST OF GOP AND CONGRESSIONAL FIGURES CALLED, AGAIN, FOR RESTORATION OF THE DEATH PENALTY. OTHERS ASSERTED A NEED TO CREATE SPECIAL (CIVILIAN) TRIBUNALS TO SPEED UP TRIAL PROCESS FOR ACCUSED TERRORIST SUSPECTS, WHILE STILL OTHERS URGED THAT MILITARY COURTS HANDLE THESE CASES.. (COMMENT: SIMILAR CALLS ON THE OCCASION OF PAST SL ATTACK WAVES DID NOT LEAD TO ACTION.) PRESS CRITICISM FOCUSED ON ALLEGED FAILURE BY POLICE INTELLIGENCE SERVICES TO DETECT AND HEAD OFF ATTACKS IN TIME.

5. EMBASSY ASSESSMENT (LINA). PRESS CRITICISM NOTWITHSTANDING, OUR VIEW IS THAT LINA POLICE HAVE DEMONSTRATED SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS OVER COURSE OF LAST YEAR IN THEIR ABILITY TO FOLLOW-UP, WARD OFF, AND PREVENT SL ATTACKS. IMPROVED PROFESSIONALISM IS EVIDENT IN THEIR ARREST POLICY (FEWER MASS SWEEPS, MORE IDENTIFICATIONS OF PINPOINTED SUSPECTS), PREVENTATIVE PREPARATIONS (THIS TIME, FOR EXAMPLE, POLICE AT COLLIQUE STATION WERE NOT CAUGHT OFF GUARD), AND A
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LIMITED, BUT IMPROVING ABILITY TO INFILTRATE SENDERO'S DEBILITATED METROPOLITAN RANKS. ADDITIONALLY, INCIDENTS IN LINA AND ELSEWHERE (INVOLVING INCREASED SHOOTING OF POLICE) DEMONSTRATE THAT, AS AN ORGANIZATION, THE POLICE ARE LESS INCLINED TO PANIC THAN WAS TRUE AS RECENTLY AS RECENTLY AS LAST OCTOBER. TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, CURRENT WAVE OF SL INCIDENTS HAS GIVEN RISE TO NO ALLEGATIONS OF RIGHTS ABUSES BY POLICE IN LINA AREA.
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