

EXCISE

99



Department of State

TELEGRAM

SECRET

AM: DB40727-0110

SECRET

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INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 AID-00 INR-10 SS-00 CIAE-00
1-01 MKO-01 NSC-01 NSAE-00 SY-06 MA-08 L-03
IRSE-00 PM-10 PA-01 MCT-03 OMB-01 A-02 USSS-00
JSIE-00 SP-02 SMP-01 PRS-01 SLPD-01 SPD-02 /055 W
-----004056 140543Z /16

131934Z NOV 84
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9703
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
DIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
USAFSO HOWARD AFB PM
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

OCT 3 1985

REVIEWED by [Signature] DATE
() RELEASE () DECLASSIFY
(x) EXCISE (x) DECLASSIFY in PART
() DENY () Non-responsive info.
FOI/EO or PA exemptions (b)(1)
TB authority to:
() CLASSIFY as
() DOWNGRADE TB to () S or () C, OADR

SECRET SECTION 01 OF 02 LIMA 13283

NOFORM

DIA FOR IR BRANCH
PANAMA FOR ADS

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, PE, ASEC
SUBJECT: REASSESSING SENDERO'S RECENT PERFORMANCE

REF: (A) LIMA 13029, (B) LIMA 12796, (C) LIMA 9264
1. (U) DAMAGE REPORT. LATEST INFORMATION AVAILABLE
IDENTIFIES SEVEN ELECTRICAL TRANSMISSION TOWERS DAMAGED
AS CONSEQUENCE OF SENDERO LUMINOSO (SL) BLACKOUT OF LIMA
NOV. 5 (REF A). FIVE OF SEVEN ARE LOCATED RELATIVELY
NEAR METROPOLITAN AREA (BETWEEN MANA AND CHOSICA ALONG
ROUTE OF CENTRAL HIGHWAY); REMAINING TWO ARE AT SOME

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DISTANCE ALONG LINE BRINGING IN POWER FROM HYDROELECTRIC

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GENERATING PLANTS IN MANTARO VALLEY (DEPARTMENT OF JUNIN). MOST HEAVILY DAMAGED OF GROUP ARE THREE TOWERS NEAR NAMA. TOTAL REPAIR COST IS ESTIMATED AT HALF-BILLION SOLES (APPROXIMATELY \$100,000). INCLUDING COST OF LOST POWER AND DAMAGE SUSTAINED AS RESULT OF DYNAMITING IN LIMA ITSELF, TOTAL AMOUNTS TO APPROXIMATELY TWICE THAT FIGURE. PRESS NOTES THAT NOV. 8 BLACKOUT IS NINTH SUCH SL HAS MANAGED TO INFLICT ON LIMA.

2. (C) REEVALUATION. ALTHOUGH NOV. 8 BLACKOUT'S PSYCHOLOGICAL SHOCKWAVE APPEARS LESS THAN THAT OF JULY 16, SL CLEARLY SCORES HIGHER NOW OMNICAL POINTS" THAN WAS CASE IN EARLIER INCIDENT. POLICE THEORIZE THAT SL USED MINIMUM 300 STICKS OF DYNAMITE IN ATTEMPT TO DESTROY BASE OF EACH OF SEVEN TOWERS. ELECTROLIMA HEAD AUGUSTO MARTINELLI CHARACTERIZED SL ACTION AS "CUNNING AND SYNCHRONIZED." WE NOTE THT, DESPITE MULTIPLE LOCATIONS, DIFFICULT TOPOGRAPHY, AND DISTANCE INVOLVED, SL SQUADS WERE ABLE TO REACH THEIR OBJECTIVES (IN REGION WHERE, PRESUMABLY, PREVIOUS ATTACKS HAVE INDUCED SOME MEASURE OF INCREASED SECURITY FORCE VIGILANCE), PLANT CHARGES, AND MAKE SUCCESSFUL GETAWAYS WITHIN RELATIVELY COMPACT SPACE OF TIME. THIS DEMONSTRATES DEGREE OF PLANNING AND SOPHISTICATION SEVERAL STEPS BEYOND HIT-AND-RUN DYNAMITE TOSSINGS THAT HAVE TYPIFIED MOST RECENT SL INCURSIONS IN CAPITAL AREA.

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4. (C) IN SUM, SL APPEARS TO HAVE DEVELOPED MULTI-TRACK APPROACH TOWARD OPMS IN LIMA. ONE INVOLVES USE OF HIT-AND-RUN DYNAMITE ATTACKS, OFTEN USING NEW AND POORLY TRAINED RECRUITS, OR SIMILAR TYPE EFFORTS SUCH AS RECENT DESTRUCTION OF ELECTORAL BOARD OFFICES (REF B). THE "SKILL" LEVEL INVOLVED IS LOW, WHILE THE RISK OF CAPTURE OR SUBSEQUENT ARREST BY POLICE AGENCIES HAS PROVED HIGH. ON THE OTHER HAND, TRANSMISSION TOWER OPERATION SUGGESTS A RELATIVELY ADVANCED STAGE OF PREPARATION/PLANNING, AND

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5. (C) HUANUCO AND CENTRAL SIERRA. AS INDICATED REF A, SENDERO APPEARS TO BE STEPPING UP ACTIVITIES IN CENTRAL SIERRA REGIONS OF HUANUCO (PROVINCES OF AMBO AND DOS DE MAYO). IN AREA ADJACENT TO KNOWN SL "FOCO" IN DANIEL CARRION PROVINCE IN NORTHWESTERN PASCO. THESE DEVELOP-

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TRSE-00	PH-10	PA-01	MCT-03	OMB-01	A-02	USSS-00	
USIE-00	SP-02	SNP-01	PRS-01	SLPD-01	SPD-02	/055 W	

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SUBJECT: REASSESSING SENDERO'S RECENT PERFORMANCE

MENTS COULD BE CONSEQUENCE OF DELIBERATE SL RELOCATION OF
 CADRE OUT OF HUALLAGA VALLEY, WHERE MILITARY UNITS REPORT
 SCANT CONTACTS WITH TERRORISTS, INTO MORE REMOTE AREA
 WHERE POLICE OUTPOSTS ARE SPREAD THIN. IF SO, ATTACKS
 AGAINST RAIL LINE AND MINING INSTALLATIONS IN AREA
 COULD BECOME MORE FREQUENT. THIS ALSO COULD OFFER
 SENDERO A BASE FROM WHICH TO LAUNCH OPERATIONS IN

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VITALLY IMPORTANT MANTARO RIVER VALLEY (REF C).
 6. (C) FALSE ALARM. BUT AT LEAST ONE ITEM OF

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APPARENTLY ALARMING NEWS HAS PROVED FALSE. NOV. 7
EDITION OF LIMA DAILY "EXPRESO" REPORTED THAT POLICE HAD
FOUND AN IMPROVISED ANTIPERSONNEL EXPLOSIVE IN CAR
ABANDONED BY SENDERISTAS SUBSEQUENT TO NOV. 6 ATTACKS.
HAD MECHANISM EXPLODED. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE, NAILS AND
SHRAPNEL WOULD HAVE CAUSED INNUMERABLE CASUALTIES.
POLICE INFORM US, HOWEVER, THAT NO SUCH DEVICE WAS
FOUND. JORDAN

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