



Department of State

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TELEGRAM

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AN: DB30077-1053

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ACTION ARA-16

INFO OCT-00	COPY-01	ADS-00	AID-07	INR-10	SS-10	CIAE-00
DODE-00	H-01	NSC-01	NSAE-00	SY-06	HA-08	L-03
TRSE-00	PH-09	PA-01	MCT-02	SAL-01	ACDA-12	US55-00
USIE-00	SP-02	SNP-01	PRS-01	/092 W	DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	

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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7068

REVIEWED by Ruyl DATE \_\_\_\_\_

RELEASE  DECLASSIFY  
 EXCISE  DECLASSIFY in PART  
 DENY  Non-responsive info.

FOL, EO or PA exemptions \_\_\_\_\_

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EO 12356: N/A  
TAGS: PTER, SHUM, PINS, PE  
SUBJECT: (U) A SEMI-OFFICIAL VIEW OF PERU'S "DIRTY WAR"

TS authority to: \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFY as \_\_\_\_\_, OADR  
 DOWNGRADE TS to ( ) S or ( ) C, OADR

REF: LIMA 1329 ✓

1. REFTEL NOTED COMMENT BY PATRICIO RICKETTS IN FEBRUARY 6 ISSUE OF LIMA DAILY "EL COMERCIO" REBUTTING OPPOSITION CHARGE THAT GOP BEARS BASIC RESPONSIBILITY FOR NEWSMEN'S DEATHS. RICKETTS IS A RESPECTED, WELL PLUGGED-IN ESTABLISHMENT JOURNALIST WHO IS PRESS ADVISOR TO PALACE. SINCE HIS ARTICLE COULD BE A REFLECTION OF THE PRESIDENT'S OWN VIEWS, WE ARE PROVIDING A SLIGHTLY ABRIDGED TRANSLATION THAT PRESERVES THE FLAVOR OF THE ARTICLE.

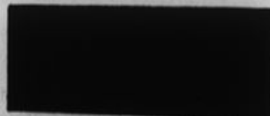
2. QUOTE. A DIRTY WAR AFTER TWO YEARS OF THE MOST DIFFICULT AND FIRTY WAR THE COUNTRY HAS KNOWN, THERE ARE SOME WHO OMINOUSLY SUGGEST THAT THE "DIRTY WAR" IS ONLY NOW ARRIVING, THAT IT BEGAN WITH THE TRAGIC DEATHS IN UCHURACCAY. AS IF NOTHING HAD HAPPENED BEFORE, AS IF THE EIGHT NEWSMEN WHO DIED THERE AT THE HANDS OF PRIMITIVE AND TERRORIZED PEASANTS WERE THE FIRST SUCH VICTIMS, OR AS IF ONLY

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THEIR DEATHS WERE WORTHY OF NATION WIDE COMMISERATION.

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FORTUNATELY, THE OPINION OF THE COUNTRY IS OTHERWISE. PERUVIANS MAKE NO DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN DEATHS AND DEATHS, BUT DO KNOW HOW TO FIX BLAME AT THE HANDS OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE.

THE UNFORTUNATE EIGHT, HOPING TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THE TERRORISTS, DISCOVERED TOO LATE THAT THEY HAD COMMITTED A MONUMENTAL ERROR. THE SO-CALLED "LIBERATED ZONES" INTO WHICH THEY VENTURED ARE BEGINNING TO BE JUST THAT--BUT IN A CONTRARY SENSE FROM THAT MEANT BY THE TERRORISTS OF "SENDERO LUMINOSO." THESE AREAS ARE BEGINNING TO LIBERATE THEMSELVES FROM THE TERRORISTS, FROM THEIR ATROCITIES, FROM THEIR PROHIBITIONS AGAINST PLANTING THE LAND, FROM THEIR INSENSATE KILLING OFF OF LIVESTOCK, FROM ALL THAT THESE PERUVIAN DISCIPLES OF MAO TSE-TUNG AND POL POT HAVE PERPETRATED OVER 2 1/2 YEARS.

IT IS BECUASE ONE OF THESE VILLAGES WHICH LIBERATED ITSELF FROM TERRORISM COMMITTED THE ERROR OF CONFUSING THE NEWSMEN WITH SENDERO TORMENTORS THAT THE CATASTROPHE OF UCHURACCAY OCCURRED, AN EVENT WITH ASPECTS OF GREEK TRAGEDY AND THE SHOCKING BRUTALITY OF AN ETCHING BY GOYA.

MUCH HAD TO OCCUR IN THIS DIRTY WAR UNLEASHED BY THE SENDERISTAS FOR THE VILLAGERS OF UCHURACCAY TO COMMIT SUCH A MONSTROUS ERROR IN REALIZING THEIR RIGHT TO SELF-DEFENSE. AND MUCH HAS ACCURRED. IT IS WORTH THE EFFORT TO RECALL IT. MANY OTHER INNOCENTS PRECEDED THESE EIGHT JOURNALISTS, NOT A FEW BEING YOUNG PEOPLE LIKE THEM. THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF MOTHERS, SPOUSES, AND CHILDREN WHO MOURN THEIR LOSS. LIKE THE RELATIVES OF THE DEAD JOURNALISTS, THEY KNOW THAT THEIR LOVED ONES

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DID NOT DESERVE TO DIE AS THEY DID.

THE SENDERO HAS KILLED MAYORS, GOVERNORS, PUBLIC OFFICIALS THROUGHOUT THE REGION OF AYACUCHO. IS IT NECESSARY TO RECORD HERE THE NAMES OF THOSE WHO HAVE FALLEN IN THIS DIRTY WAR? I THINK SO, I THINK IT IS ONLY JUST TO DO SO IN THIS MOMENT. SINCE DECEMBER 1980, THE FOLLOWING HAVE DIED. (A LIST OF 89 NAMES OF CIVILIAN DEAD FOLLOWS.)

IS THE LIST LONG? IT IS. LET US REMEMBER THAT

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