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ACTION ARA-00

INFO OCT-00	COPY-01	ADS-00	INR-10	EUR-00	SS-00	NSAE-00
H-01 NSC-01	NSAE-00	SY-06	HA-08	L-03	PM-10	
PA-01 MCT-03	OMB-01	USSS-00	SYE-00	SP-02	SNP-C1	
PRS-01 SLPD-01	SPD-02	/052 W				

-----271054 312034Z /53

P 312029Z JAN 85  
 FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1438  
 INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
 AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
 DIA WASHDC  
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
 AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
 AMEMBASSY QUITO  
 AMEMBASSY ROME  
 USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PN  
 USIA WASHDC 3689  
 USAFSO HOWARD AFB PN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

OCT 3 1988

REVIEWED by Page 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; ROME PASS VATICAN;  
USIA FOR P/G M/S

E.O. 12356: DECL: 1/30/91  
 TAGS: PTER, SHUM, PE  
 SUBJECT: TERRORIST ACTIVITY ON EVE OF POPE'S VISIT

REFS: (A) 84 LIMA 4720, ✓ (B) 84 LIMA 14494, ✓  
 (C) 84 LIMA 13879 ✓

1. (C) WHETHER BY COINCIDENCE OR NOT, WIDELY SPACED  
 INCIDENTS OF SENDERO LUMINOSO (SL) ACTIVITY APPEAR TO HAVE  
 INCREASED SLIGHTLY ON EVE OF POPE JOHN PAUL'S IMPENDING  
 ARRIVAL. WHILE INCIDENTS DO NOT NECESSARILY SUGGEST AN  
 SL INTENT TO DISRUPT THE VISIT, THEY MAY POINT TO

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PAGE 02 LIMA 01190 312032Z  
 TERRORISTS' INTEREST IN TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE POPE'S

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PRESENCE TO FOCUS INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION ON THEMSELVES.

2. (U) RECENT SL EVENTS REPORTED IN LIMA'S PRESS INCLUDE FOLLOWING:

--CITY OF AYACUCHO: DYNAMITE EXPLOSIONS AND A TWO-HOUR ELECTRICAL BLACKOUT EVENING OF 27TH RECALLED PARALLEL SENDERO ACTIVITY IN CONNECTION WITH "HOLY WEEK" IN 1984 (REF A). AT THAT TIME, SL OBSERVED UNILATERAL TRUCE INSIDE URBAN AREA OF AYACUCHO, SETTING OFF ATTENTION-GETTING EXPLOSIVE CHARGES BUT AVOIDING ACTS CALCULATED TO INJURE PEOPLE.

--CUZCO: AN ESTIMATED EIGHT ARMED TERRORISTS SHOT UP POLICE STATION (GUARDIA CIVIL--GC) OUTSIDE CITY NIGHT OF JAN. 25; ALTHOUGH POLICE INSIDE STATION REPELLED ATTACKERS, ONE GUARD ON OUTSIDE DUTY WAS SERIOUSLY WOUNDED.

--HUANCAYO: HALF-DOZEN ARMED TERRORISTS REPORTEDLY HIT DYNAMITE STORAGE FACILITY 9 KM. OUTSIDE OF CITY EVENING JAN. 22; THEY MADE OFF WITH 50 CASES OF DYNAMITE AND OTHER EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS FROM FACILITY, WHICH IS OWNED BY MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS.

--PASCO: A JAN. 24 DISPATCH FROM (DEPARTMENT OF) PASCO REPORTED DESTRUCTION OF THREE BRIDGES ON ROAD CONNECTING NORTHWESTERN PROVINCE OF DANIEL CARRION WITH NEIGHBORING ANBO PROVINCE IN (DEPARTMENT OF) HUANUCO; SEVEN TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWERS ALSO REPORTEDLY WERE DOWNED. (THIS AREA, WHICH HAS BEEN A LONG-TIME FOCUS OF LOW-LEVEL SL ACTIVITY, IS CURRENTLY INCLUDED IN A NORTH-CENTRAL SIERRA "EMERGENCY ZONE"--REF B.)

--PASCO: A NIGHTTIME SL ATTACK JAN. 27 ON FACILITIES OF STATE-OWNED CENTROMIN MINING CORPORATION AND NEARBY ELECTRICAL SUBSTATION OUTSIDE DEPARTMENTAL CAPITAL  
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OF CERRO DE PASCO BLACKED OUT CITY AND CAUSED UNDETERMINED DAMAGES.

--LA LIBERTAD: SOME FIFTY TERRORISTS ATTACKED ISOLATED RURAL COMMUNITY OF MOLLEPATA IN SIERRA PROVINCE OF SANTIAGO DE CHUCO AFTERNOON JAN. 27; BURNING AND SACKING HOMES AND STORES THERE; ALTHOUGH REPORTS OF EVENT ARE : : CONFUSED AND FRAGMENTARY, WE NOTE THAT THIS TOO IS AN AREA OF LONG-TIME SL ACTIVITY (REF C).  
--HUANCAYELICA: EIGHT TERRORISTS USED DYNAMITE TO BLOW UP HYDROELECTRIC GENERATING STATION IN CHURCAMP, CAPITAL

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OF NEWLY CREATED PROVINCE OF SAME NAME, IN (DEPARTMENT OF) HUANCAVELICA NIGHT JAN. 28. (CHURCAMP A IS IN SOUTHWESTERN CORNER OF OLD PROVINCE OF TAYACAJA, AND BORDERS ON SL-INFESTED AYACUCHO PROVINCE OF HUANTA.) DAMAGE REPAIR WILL REQUIRE ESTIMATED 60 DAYS TO COMPLETE.

--ELSEWHERE IN EMERGENCY ZONE: ALTHOUGH, WITH SINGLE EXCEPTION OF CUZCO, INCIDENTS LISTED ABOVE DID NOT REPORTEDLY RESULT IN CASUALTIES, RURAL INHABITANTS OF EMERGENCY ZONE--AS ALWAYS--FARED WORSE. INSTANCES OF SL ASSASSINATIONS OF INDIVIDUAL CAMPESINOS AND OF CLASHES BETWEEN SL-LED GROUPS AND BANDS OF OPPOSING "RONDAS CAMPESINAS" CONTINUED.

3. (C) COMMENT: IN NEARLY FIVE YEARS OF "ARMED STRUGGLE," SENDERO HAS AVOIDED TARGETING PERSONS AND INSTITUTIONS IDENTIFIED WITH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH. WHILE THE POPE'S ARRIVAL MAY BE PROVIDING SL WITH STIMULUS TO INCREASE ITS PUBLIC PROFILE OVER NEXT SEVERAL DAYS, WE DO NOT EXPECT TO WITNESS ANY BASIC CHANGE IN THIS DELIBERATE SL TACTIC. JORDAN

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