

125



Department of State

TELEGRAM

125

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PAGE 01 LIMA 04124 01 OF 02 161438Z  
ACTION ARA-00

INFO	LOG-00	COPY-01	ADS-00	AID-00	INR-10	SS-00	CIAE-00
H-01	NSCE-00	NSAE-00	SSO-00	SY-06	HA-08	L-03	
PM-10	PA-01	MCT-03	OMB-01	INRE-00	A-02	SYE-00	
SP-02	SNP-01	PRS-01	SLPD-01	SPD-02	/053 W		

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O 161439Z APR 85  
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3038  
INFO USAFSO HOWARD AFB PN  
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
DIA WASHDC  
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
AMEMBASSY QUITO  
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PN  
USIA WASHDC 4024

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

OCT 3 1988

REVIEWED BY [Signature] 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

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 02 LIMA 04124

DIA FOR IR BRANCH; USIA FOR AR P/G M/S; PANAMA FOR ADS

E.O. 12356: DECL: 4/15/91  
 TAGS: PTER, PGOV, PE  
 SUBJECT: LAST MINUTE VIOLENCE FAILS TO DISRUPT ELECTIONS

REF: 84 LIMA 12796 ✓  
 1. (C) SUMMARY. DESPITE AN APPARENT LAST-MINUTE  
 PUSH, SENDERO LUMINOSO (SL) TERRORISTS FAILED TO  
 DISRUPT CONCLUSION OF PERU'S "FIRST ROUND" OF  
 PRESIDENTIAL (AND CONGRESSIONAL) ELECTIONS. DYNAMITE  
 EXPLODED IN SCATTERED POINTS OF GREATER LIMA, AS  
 WELL AS IN OTHER MAJOR CITIES OF COAST AND SIERRA,  
 WITH EXCEPTION OF SINGLE INCIDENT IN CENTRAL SIERRA  
 CITY OF HUANCAYO, HOWEVER, NO DEATHS RESULTED FROM  
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PAGE 02 LIMA 04124 01 OF 02 161438Z  
 THESE INCIDENTS. SHORT-LIVED ELECTRICAL BLACKOUTS

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AFFECTED PARTS OF LIMA, ICA, CUZCO, AND AYACUCHO. SOME ROADS IN DEPARTMENTS OF AYACUCHO AND PASCO WERE BLOCKED, AND DYNAMITE EXPLOSIONS DAMAGED AN OCCASIONAL BRIDGE OR TRANSMISSION TOWER. UNLIKE NOVEMBER 1983 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, POLLS WERE OPEN THROUGHOUT "EMERGENCY ZONE" (EZ), AND BALLOTING TOOK PLACE NORMALLY. IRONICALLY, MOST POLITICALLY DANGEROUS INCIDENTS DID NOT INVOLVE SENDERO, BUT INFLAMED APRA AND IU ACTIVISTS WHOSE ELECTION EVE BRAWLING RESULTED IN TWO DEATHS IN LIMA. WE BELIEVE SL'S FAILURE TO DISRUPT ELECTIONS STEMS NOT ONLY FROM MAXIMAL SECURITY FORCE EFFORTS TO SAFEGUARD ELECTORAL PROCESS, BUT ALSO FROM TERRORISTS' DEBILITATED CONDITION IN ALL OF PERU'S MAJOR URBAN CENTERS--NOW INCLUDING CITY OF AYACUCHO ITSELF. END SUMMARY.

2. (LOU) METROPOLITAN LIMA. DYNAMITE EXPLOSIONS IN AND AROUND LIMA PUNCTUATED ELECTION DAY, APRIL 14, AND 24-HOUR PERIOD PRECEDING. SOME CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED, BUT NO ONE DIED AS RESULT OF TERRORIST VIOLENCE. SENDERO'S BEST ORGANIZED EFFORT INVOLVED SERIES OF ATTACKS EARLY EVENING APRIL 13 DIRECTED AGAINST NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICES OF MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES. POPULAR CHRISTIANS (PPC) BORE BRUNT OF ATTACK, WITH FOUR OFFICES (IN ATE VITARTE, CARABAYLLO, MIRAFLORES, AND CALLAO) HIT BY DYNAMITE EXPLOSIONS. SIX PPC ACTIVISTS WERE INJURED. NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICES OF UNITED LEFT (IU) AND APRA IN WORKING CLASS ZONE NORTH OF LIMA ALSO WERE TARGETED. SHORT-LIVED BLACKOUTS AFFECTED PARTS OF CITY, BUT IT WAS NOT CLEAR IF THESE WERE PRODUCT OF SL DYNAMITINGS OF ISOLATED TRANSMISSION TOWERS OR OF DAMAGE TO ELECTRICAL CABLE SUSTAINED DURING STREET CONSTRUCTION NEAR DOWNTOWN SUBSTATION.

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PAGE 03 LIMA (4124 01 OF 02 -161438Z

ELECTION DAY INCIDENTS APPEARED LESS WELL COORDINATED. EXPLOSIONS TOOK PLACE IN ISOLATED AREAS AROUND METROPOLITAN PERIPHERY BEGINNING IN EARLY MORNING HOURS AND CONTINUED THROUGH FIRST HOURS AFTER POLLS OPENED. FOR MOST PART, HOWEVER, SECURITY FORCES APPEAR TO HAVE FRUSTRATED SL EFFORTS TO INTERRUPT REGION'S ELECTRICAL SUPPLY OR CUT LOCAL RAIL LINES, AND DAMAGE APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN LIMITED TO GLASS SHATTERED IN EXPLOSIONS. VOTERS QUEUING UP AT MIRAFLORES' VON HUMBOLDT (GERMAN) SCHOOL WERE STARTLED WHEN

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DYNAMITE WENT OFF BEHIND EDIFICE; NEITHER INJURIES NOR DAMAGES WERE REPORTED, HOWEVER.

3. (U) EMERGENCY ZONE. POLITICAL-MILITARY COMMAND IN AYACUCHO ISSUED COMMUNIQUE APRIL 12 FORMALLY DENYING SENSATIONAL REPORTS PRINTED IN SOME LINA NEWSPAPERS THAT SL HAD THREATENED TO CUT OFF FINGERS OF PERSONS CAUGHT VOTING. NEVERTHELESS, AS PRECAUTION, VOTING AUTHORITIES IN CITIES OF AYACUCHO, HUANTA, HUANCAVELICA, AND OTHER PARTS OF EZ REFRAINED FROM DIPPING VOTERS' FINGERS IN INDELIBLE INK (STANDARD PRACTICE ELSEWHERE) ONCE BALLOTS HAD BEEN CAST. ROADS IN PARTS OF ZONE WERE BLOCKED, AND SL PAMPHLETS APPEARED IN CITY STREETS. ONLY SERIOUS INCONVENIENCE SUFFERED BY RESIDENTS OF DEPARTMENTAL CAPITAL, HOWEVER, INVOLVED TEMPORARY INTERRUPTION OF AYACUCHO'S WATER AND ELECTRICAL SUPPLY WHEN TERRORISTS BLOCKED CANAL SUPPLYING WATER FOR PROCESSING/HYDROELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT NIGHT OF APRIL 12. ELECTION DAY ITSELF PASSED APPARENTLY WITHOUT INCIDENT. UNLIKE NOVEMBER 1983, WHEN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS EITHER WERE NEVER SCHEDULED OR ELSE CANCELED AT LAST MINUTE, BALLOTING TOOK PLACE ROUTINELY THROUGHOUT ZONE.

4. ELSEWHERE IN PERU. DYNAMITE EXPLOSIONS OCCURRED

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