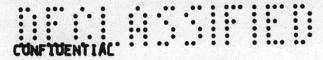


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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA TO SECSTATE WASHOC IMMEDIATE IMFO USAFSO HOWARD AFB PN AMEMBASSY BOGOTA AMEMBASSY CARACAS DIA WASHOC AMEMBASSY LA PAZ AMEMBASSY PANAMA	DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	OCT 3 1988
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	ENCE FAILS TO DISRUPT ELECTIONS	•
REF: 84 LIMA 12796 1. (C) SUMMARY. DESPITE A PUSH, SENDERO LUMINOSO (SL) DISRUPT CONCLUSION OF PERU PRESIDENTIAL (AND CONGRESS) EXPLODED IN SCATTERED POINT WELL AS IN OTHER MAJOR CIT; WITH EXCEPTION OF SINGLE IN CITY OF HUANCAYO, HOWEVER, CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL	'S "FIRST ROUND" OF IONAL) ELECTIONS. DYNAMITE TS OF GREATER LIMA, AS IES OF COAST AND SIERRA. NCIDENT IN CENTRAL SIERRA NO DEATHS RESULTED FROM	
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THESE INCIDENTS. SHORT-LT	VED ELECTRICAL BLACKOUTS	



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 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 CALLAD) 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. CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL

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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-HILITARY COMMAND IN AYACUCHO ISSUED COMMUNIQUE APRIL 12 FORMALLY DENYING SENSATIONAL REPORTS PRINTED IN SOME LIMA 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 DIPPING VOTERS' FINGERS IN INDELIBLE INK (STANDARD 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 MATER AND ELECTRICAL SUPPLY WHEN TERRORISTS BLOCKED CANAL SUPPLYING MATER FOR PROCESSING/HYDROELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT NIGHT OF APRIL 12. ELECTION DAY ITSELF PASSED APPARENTLY WITHOUT INCIDENT. UNLIKE NOVEMBER 1963, 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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