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CONTROLS
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TERREP

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E.O. 12345: DECL:OADR

TEXT
TAGS: ASEC, PTER, CASE, PE
COMBINE: COMPLETE

SUBJECT: EAC DISCUSSES SENDERO LUMINOSO
- ANNIVERSARY DATES, AND OTHER ISSUES

REFS: A) STATE 165335, B) LIMA 6565

1. (C) SUMMARY: A/DCM CHAIRED EAC JUNE 14 TO
REVIEW NEEDED COMMUNITY GUIDANCE BEFORE THE JUNE
18 TO 19 "HERO'S DAY" SENDERO LUMINOSO (SL)
ANNIVERSARY, DISCUSS THE DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSAL

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FOR A POLOFF TO TRAVEL TO AUCAYACU TO INVESTIGATE AN ALLEGED MASSACRE OF 30 PERSONS BY THE PERUVIAN ARMY, AND TO REVISIT PRIOR EAC RECOMMENDATION TO

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FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS OF ABOVE ISSUES, EAC AGREED TO RECOMMEND TO CHARGE THAT: A WARDEN MESSAGE INFORM THE COMMUNITY OF THE SL ANNIVERSARY DATES, AN EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE NOT TRAVEL TO AUCAYACU AT THIS TIME BUT CONTINUE TO PURSUE THE MATTER VIA CONTACT WITH WITNESSES IN LIMA, AND THAT THE

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CONTINUE. END SUMMARY.

THREAT ASSESSMENT

2. THE JUNE 18 TO 19 SL ANNIVERSARY - HERO'S DAY - WAS AN IMPORTANT DATE TO THE TERRORIST GROUP AND, AS A RESULT, INCREASED TERRORIST ACTIVITY MAY BE LIKELY.

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ADDED NO INFORMATION WAS KNOWN THAT SPECIFICALLY TARGETED U.S. OFFICIAL OR PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS OR INDIVIDUALS AT THIS TIME.

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REMINDED EAC THAT SL EMBARKED ON ITS 1992 SUMMER CAR-BOMBING OFFENSIVE IN JUNE OF LAST YEAR, NOTING SL'S PRESENT ABILITY TO CARRY OUT A SIMILARLY EFFECTIVE OPERATION WAS UNLIKELY DUE TO ARRESTS OF SIGNIFICANT SL LEADERSHIP FIGURES AND MANY OF THE GROUPS EXPERIENCED OPERATIVES.

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3. (C) POLOFF ADDED INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM TWO JOURNALIST CONTACTS THAT SL WAS REPORTEDLY PLANNING SOMETHING SIMILAR TO ANOTHER "TARATA," REFERRING TO THE HIGHLY DESTRUCTIVE JULY 16, 1992 TARATA STREET CAR-BOMB IN MIRAFLORES. DESPITE SKEPTICISM OF SL'S CURRENT CAPABILITY TO EFFECTIVELY DUPLICATE LAST YEAR'S ATTACKS, THE EAC RECOMMENDED DISSEMINATING A WARDEN MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY OF A SWELL IN SL ACTIVITY AROUND THE "HERO'S DAY" TIME FRAME.

GUIDANCE TO THE COMMUNITY

4. (U) AFTER DISCUSSING ALL AVAILABLE THREAT INFORMATION, THE EAC AGREED TO RELEASE THE FOLLOWING WARDEN MESSAGE TO THE OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE AMERICAN COMMUNITY. BEGIN QUOTE: THE UPCOMING SENDERO LUMINOSO ANNIVERSARY OF "HERO'S DAY," JUNE 18 TO 19, MAY BRING INCREASED TERRORIST ACTIVITY. PERSONNEL ARE CAUTIONED TO AVOID PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS, HIGH DENSITY COMMERCIAL AREAS, DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS, AND TO TAKE ADDED SECURITY MEASURES THROUGHOUT

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THIS PERIOD. END QUOTE.

NOTE: THE U.S. COMMERCIAL SECTOR HAS ALREADY RECEIVED A WARDEN MESSAGE REGARDING THE "HERO'S DAY" ANNIVERSARY PER REF A.

INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGED AUCAYACU MASSACRE

5. (C) A/DCM BRIEFED EAC ON DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST THAT POLOFF FOLLOW-UP WITH AN ON-SITE VISIT TO THE SCENE OF THE ALLEGED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS PER REF B. RSO RECOMMENDED AGAINST POLOFF GOING TO AUCAYACU TO INVESTIGATE THE REPORT. THE AREA IS CONSIDERED TO BE HIGHLY DANGEROUS WITH BOTH SENDERO LUMINOSO AND DRUG TRAFFICKING GROUPS EXERCISING CONSIDERABLE CONTROL. ASIDE FROM IMMINENT DANGER TO U.S. OFFICERS IN THE AREA, RSO NOTED THAT WITNESSES WOULD BE PLACED IN CONSIDERABLE JEOPARDY ONCE SEEN TALKING TO AN EMBOFF ABOUT ALLEGATIONS AGAINST PERUVIAN ARMED FORCES, AND RECOMMENDED WITNESSES BE MOVED TO A LOCATION LESS PRONE TO EXPOSE THEM AS SOURCES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INVESTIGATORS. [

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] RECOMMENDING INSTEAD THAT THE MATTER BE HANDLED AS IN PARA 13 OF REF B -- THAT INDIVIDUALS CLAIMING TO HAVE FIRSTHAND KNOWLEDGE OF THE MASSACRE BRING IT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE NATIONAL FISCAL FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. EAC AGREED AND RECOMMENDED TO CHARGE THAT EMBOFF NOT TRAVEL TO AUCAYACU TO INVESTIGATE THE ALLEGED MASSACRE. CHARDAS MADE NO DETERMINATION THUSFAR ON WHETHER TO SEND EMBOFFS TO AUCAYACU TO PURSUE INVESTIGATION.

USE OFHOTELS IN MIRAFLORES

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ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE



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