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AN: D881113-0880

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ACTION SCT-02

INFD	LDG-00	ADS-00	AID-00	INR-05	SS-00	CIAE-00	EB-00
NSCE-00	ARA-00	NSAE-00	COME-00	SSO-00	L-02	AMAD-01	
NRCE-00	TRSE-00	PM-05	PA-02	FAAE-00	CCD-00	INM-05	
INRE-00	CA-02	USSS-00	USIE-00	JUSE-00	FBIE-00	OC-02	
DOEE-00	M-01	FAIM-01	DS-01	ZOYD-00	P-02	T-01	

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

O 220057Z DEC 88
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
DEAHQS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
SECDEF WASHDC
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELEASE	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLASSIFY
<input type="checkbox"/> EXEMPT	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLASSIFY
<input type="checkbox"/> DENY	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PART
<input type="checkbox"/> DELETE Non-Responsive Info	
FOIA Exemptions _____	
PA Exemptions _____	

IS/FPC/CDR *MJS* Date: *4/2/95*
MR Cases Only:
EO Citations _____
_____ TS authority to
 CLASSIFY as S or C OADR
 DOWNGRADE TS to S or C OADR

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TERREP

STATE FOR INM, ARA/AND
HQS FOR OC, OF, DO, AO, OI
SECDEF FOR ASD:FMP/DEP
USCINCSO FOR SCJ1/SCJ5-S

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, PTER, ALOW, ASEC
SUBJECT: SENDERO LUMINOSO ATTACK NEAR TINGO MARIA

REF: A) LIMA 17323 B) LIMA 17367 C) LIMA 16528

- LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ENTIRE TEXT.
- ON 12/19/88 A SMALL CONVOY OF FIVE TRUCKS WITH PERSONNEL (APPROXIMATELY 50) OF THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNIT (DOES) OF THE PERUVIAN NATIONAL POLICE FORCE WERE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AMBUSHED BY A GROUP OF SUSPECTED SENDERO LUMINOSO (SL)

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TERRORISTS. ACCORDING TO MINISTER OF INTERIOR SOURCE (MOI) THE ATTACK TOOK PLACE NEAR A DOES CAMP NEAR SAN JUAN DE TULUMAYO, (APPROXIMATELY 20 KILOMETERS NORTH OF TINGO MARIA) AND ESTIMATES OF SL NUMBERS RANGE FROM A LOW OF 50 TO 100. DOES SUFFERED FOUR CASUALTIES WITH EIGHT WOUNDED. THERE ARE FIVE CONFIRMED SL CASUALTIES WITH AN UNKNOWN NUMBER WOUNDED ALTHOUGH POLICE REPORT EVIDENCE OF HEAVY LOSS OF BLOOD IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA OF WHERE THE ATTACK WAS INITIATED. THE DOES PERSONNEL WERE ATTACKED BY THE SL WHILE ENROUTE TO TINGO MARIA FOR CHRISTMAS BREAK. THE ATTACK ALLEGEDLY STARTED WHEN SL BOOBY TRAPPED THE ROADWAY WITH EXPLOSIVE CHARGES FORCING THE VEHICLES TO STOP. THERE WAS NO DISABLING DAMAGE TO THE VEHICLES. ONE VEHICLE RAN INTO A DITCH, ANOTHER RECEIVED A BULLET IN THE RADIATOR, WHILE ANOTHER WAS HIT IN A TIRE. VEHICLE DAMAGE WAS NOT EXTENSIVE. AFTER THE ATTACK ALL WERE REPAIRED WITHIN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME AND DRIVEN FROM THE SCENE. THE NEXT PHASE OF THE ATTACK CONSISTED OF HEAVY AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE FROM PERSONNEL POSITIONED APPROXIMATELY 300 METERS AWAY ON A HILLSIDE OVERLOOKING THE VEHICLES. THE ATTACK LASTED APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES AND INCLUDED INSTALAZAS" (RIFLE POWERED GRENADES). THE SL WERE LED BY AN INDIVIDUAL WHO GAVE INSTRUCTIONS TO THEIR PERSONNEL OVER A MEGAPHONE. IN ADDITION TO GIVING INSTRUCTIONS TO OTHER SL ATTACKERS, THE LEADER ALLEGEDLY SHOUTED COMMUNIST SLOGANS AT THE POLICE WHILE RETREATING FROM THE SCENE OF THE ATTACK.
3. ONE OF THE SL CASUALTIES WAS WEARING A PERUVIAN ARMY TEE SHIRT WITH MARKINGS INDICATING IT WAS FROM A MILITARY BATTALION IN AYACUCHO. THERE WAS NO OTHER ID ON THIS CORPSE. THIS INDIVIDUAL ALONG WITH THE OTHER FOUR SL
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CASUALTIES WERE ATTIRED IN PERUVIAN ARMY CAMOUFLAGE AND DARK COLORED T-SHIRTS. AGAIN, NO ID WAS FOUND ON THEM. ALSO RECOVERED WAS ONE AKM ASSAULT RIFLE WHICH HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS ONE OF NUMEROUS WEAPONS CAPTURED BY SL DURING AN ATTACK ON 12/2/88 ON A POLICE OUTPOST IN LA UNION, NEAR HUANUCO (SEE REFTTEL C). COMMENT: THE T-SHIRT FROM AYACUCHO SEEMS TO TRACK OTHER INFORMATION, ALTHOUGH VERY SKETCHY AT THIS POINT, REGARDING A MOVEMENT (NUMBERS UNKNOWN) OF SENDERO FROM THE AYACUCHO AREA INTO THE UHV. ALLEGEDLY THIS SL CONTINGENT FROM AYACUCHO IS SUPPOSED TO

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JOIN RANKS WITH SL ALREADY POSITIONED IN THE UHV TO
REFORTIFY THE FRONT THERE.

4. DEA AND NAU DIRECTORS WERE CALLED EVENING OF 12/20/88
BY VICE MINISTER MANTILLA AT WHICH TIME HE EXPRESSED
CONCERN FOR THE SAFETY OF US PERSONNEL. IN HIS OPINION
THE SITUATION IN TINGO MARIA HAD BECOME DANGEROUS. ASIDE
FROM THE VICE MINISTER'S GENERAL SPECULATION ABOUT SL
WANTING TO HIT A SOFT TARGET, HE STATED THAT ONE OF THEIR
SOURCES WHO HAD PENETRATED A FACTION OF THE SL NEAR THE
TINGO MARIA AREA HAD RECENTLY PARTICIPATED AT A "FIESTA"
IN CELEBRATION OF A NEWLY INSTALLED SL COMMANDER FOR THE
TINGO MARIA AREA. THERE WERE ALLEGEDLY 80 TO 100 PEOPLE
IN ATTENDANCE, THE MAJORITY OF WHOM WERE SL MEMBERS.
ACCORDING TO THE SOURCE. THIS SOURCE ALLEGEDLY
PARTICIPATED IN OR OVERHEARD, WE ARE NOT REALLY CLEAR
WHICH, A CONVERSATION(S) BY SEVERAL SL CITING TARGETS TO
BE HIT OVER THE UPCOMING HOLIDAYS. THE TARGETS MENTIONED
WERE: THE TINGO MARIA AIRPORT, THE BRIDGE CONNECTING THE
AIRPORT TO THE TOWN OF TINGO MARIA, THE GUARDIA
REPUBLICANA POST NEAR THE NORTH END OF THE TOWN OF TINGO
MARIA AND THE TURISTA HOTEL IN THE TOWN. THE SOURCE
STATED THE TARGETS AT THE HOTEL WERE THE AMERICANS
PARTICIPATING IN THE ANTI-NARCOTICS PROGRAM. WHEN
QUESTIONED THE VICE MINISTER SPECIFICALLY SAID THE 64TH
POLICE COMMANDANCIA WAS NOT MENTIONED BY THESE SL MEMBERS

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ACTION SCT-02

INFO LDG-00 ADS-00 AID-00 INR-05 SS-00 CIAE-00 EB-00
NSCE-00 ARA-00 NSAE-00 COME-00 SSO-00 L-02 AMAD-01
NRCE-00 TRSE-00 PM-05 PA-02 FAAE-00 CCD-00 INM-05
INRE-00 CA-02 USSS-00 USIE-00 JUSE-00 FBIE-00 DC-02
DOEE-00 M-01 FAIM-01 DS-01 ZOVD-00 P-02 T-01
/032 W

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O 220057Z DEC 88
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4557
DEA HQS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
SECDEF WASHDC
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

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TERREP

STATE FOR INM; ARA/AND
HQS FOR DC, DF, DO, AD, OI
SECDEF FOR ASD:FMP/DEP
USCINCSO FOR SCJ1/SCJ5-S

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, PTER, ALOW, ASEC
SUBJECT: SENDERO LUMINOSO ATTACK NEAR TINGO MARIA

AS BEING ONE OF THE TARGETS. THE ATTACKS WOULD OCCUR AT
NIGHT. THE ATTACK AT THE HOTEL WOULD BE EXECUTED BY THE
SL SO AS NOT TO INJURE ANY NON-US CIVILIANS LODGED THERE.
THE SOURCE ACCORDING TO THE VICE MINISTER STATED THE SL
HAD A GOOD IDEA OF WHERE THE AMERICANS WERE STAYING
WITHIN THE HOTEL COMPLEX.

5. MOI OFFICE ALSO BELIEVES THAT THEIR DOES AND
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REGULAR POLICE RADIO TRANSMISSIONS ARE BEING MONITORED
BY SL. THEY CITED TWO INCIDENTS; ONE WHERE THEY

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BELIEVE SL TRANSMITTED FALSE INFORMATION TO A POLICE UNIT; THE OTHER INTENTIONAL VOICE OVER INTERFERENCE OF REGULAR POLICE TRANSMISSIONS. VICE MINISTER MANTILLA LAMENTED THE FACT THAT THE DOES UNIT HAS BEEN EQUIPPED WITH SECURE VOICE RADIO EQUIPMENT BUT THAT THE FIELD UNITS FIND IT CUMBERSOME TO OPERATE AND NOT RELIABLE FOR RAPID TRANSMISSIONS.

6. EMBASSY COMMENT: THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THAT THE MOI OFFICE HAS ADVISED THAT ALL OF OUR PERSONNEL BE REMOVED FROM THE HOTEL IN TINGO. IN THE PAST WE HAVE HAD TO TEMPORARILY RELOCATE IN HUANUCO AND EVEN AS FAR AS PULCALPA AS A RESULT OF SL AND NARCO TRAFFICKER THREATS TO DEA/NAU AND CONTRACT PERSONNEL. AS THE THREATS WERE ALWAYS VERY VAGUE AND NOT ATTRIBUTABLE TO ANY ONE INDIVIDUAL, WE ALWAYS RETURNED TO THE TURISTA AFTER A PERIOD OF TIME AND AFTER ASSESSING THE THREAT LEVEL. THE THREAT LEVEL FOR THE PAST MONTH OR MORE HAS BEEN CRANKED UP CONSIDERABLY AS A RESULT OF INCREASED ERADICATION AND INTERDICTION EFFORTS. THE RECENT DEPLOYMENT OF THE POLICE SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNIT (DOES) IN THE AREAS NORTH OF TINGO MARIA HAS ALSO SIGNIFICANTLY CONTRIBUTED TO DISRUPTION OF SL AND TRAFFICKER ACTIVITIES IN THOSE AREAS. MOI HAS SENT AN ADDITIONAL 80 MAN COMBINED DOES AND GUARDIA REPUBLICANA FORCE TO TINGO MARIA TO COVER STRATEGIC POSITIONS IN AND AROUND THE TINGO AREA. THIS ADDITIONAL UNIT WILL STAY IN THE TINGO AREA THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS UNTIL THE EARLY PART OF JANUARY. MOI BELIEVES THE SL ATTACKS, IF THEY OCCUR AT ALL, WILL TAKE PLACE AT NIGHT BETWEEN THE 24TH OF DECEMBER AND THE 2ND OF JANUARY. THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION HAS ASSISTED THE POLICE IN PROVIDING THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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USE OF SEVERAL VACANT SCHOOLS IN THE TINGO AREA FOR NEEDED POLICE TEMPORARY HOUSING. THE VICE MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR AND THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION WILL BE TRAVELING TO TINGO ON 12/23/88 VIA NAU LEASED AIRCRAFT TO REVIEW THE SECURITY SITUATION.

7. AS A RESULT OF INCREASED SL ACTIVITY IN TINGO AREA AND INFORMATION PROVIDED BY MOI, WE HAVE DECIDED TO MOVE ALL US HELICOPTERS AND PERSONNEL TO HUANUCO. IN LIGHT OF CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES WE ARE ASSESSING BASING STRATEGY FOR FUTURE COUNTER NARCOTICS OPERATIONS AND

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WILL PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS VIA SEPTEL.

8. DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT BY DEA ONLY. WATSON

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