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AN: DB90184-0295

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PAGE 01 LIMA 03318 01 OF 02 040344Z  
ACTION ARA-00

INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 INR-07 SS-00 OIC-02 CIAE-00 H-01  
ID-19 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 HA-09 L-03 TRSE-00 PM-10  
PA-01 OMB-01 INN-07 INRE-00 USIE-00 SP-02 SNP-01  
C-01 PRS-01 DS-01 SCT-02 P-02 T-01 /071 W  
-----016107 050132Z /60

R 032339Z MAR 89  
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6455 DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA (X) RELEASE (X) DECLASSIFY  
USMISSION UNIN NEW YORK ( ) EXCISE ( ) DECLASSIFY  
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA ( ) DENY IN PART  
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ ( ) DELETE Non-Responsive Info  
AMEMBASSY QUITO FOIA Exemptions  
USAFSD HOWARD AFB PM PA Exemptions  
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PM  
DIA WASHDC

is, FPC/CDR *MLH* Date: *4/21/95*

MR Cases Only:  
EO Citations \_\_\_\_\_  
TS authority to:  
( ) CLASSIFY as ( ) S or ( ) C OADR  
( ) DOWNGRADE TS to ( ) S or ( ) C OADR

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LIMA 03318

DIA FOR OA-5/OS-10/DB-602/JSI-4B/DB-3C1  
USINCSO ALFO FOR POLAD JOHN YOULE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PTER, PHUN, ASEC, PE  
SUBJECT: SENDERO MASSACRES 39 VILLAGERS

1. (C) SUMMARY. 39 PEASANTS OF A REMOTE JUNGLE VILLAGE IN AYACUCHO DEPARTMENT HAVE BEEN MASSACRED BY SENDERO LUMINOSO. THE SLAUGHTER WAS APPARENTLY IN RETALIATION FOR VILLAGE EFFORTS TO ORGANIZE A CIVIL DEFENSE PATROL. BOTH THE CIVIL DEFENSE EFFORTS AND THE SL RESPONSE MAY ALSO BE RELATED TO THE GROWING COCA PRODUCTION IN THE MANTARO RIVER VALLEY. END SUMMARY.

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2. (U) INITIAL REPORTS OUT OF THIS REMOTE AYACUCHO DEPARTMENT VILLAGE SUGGESTED THAT IT HAD BEEN ANOTHER MILITARY MASSACRE. IT WAS NOT. 200 ARMED MEN, SOME IN POLICE AND SOME IN MILITARY UNIFORMS, ENTERED THE VILLAGE OF CANAIRE (200 KILOMETERS NORTH OF AYACUCHO IN THE MANTARO RIVER VALLEY) THE AFTERNOON OF FEBRUARY 27. THE TERRORISTS ROUNDED UP ALL THE VILLAGERS AND DIVIDED THEM INTO THREE GROUPS: MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN.

3. (U) THE WOMEN WERE HERDED INTO THE SMALL VILLAGE CHURCH. THE MEN AND CHILDREN WERE ASSEMBLED IN THE VILLAGE SQUARE. AFTER TYING THEIR HANDS BEHIND THEIR BACKS THE TERRORISTS BEGAN SYSTEMATICALLY SLITTING THE THROATS OF THE MEN AS THEY STOOD IN FRONT OF THEIR TERRIFIED CHILDREN. SOME OF THE WOMEN INSIDE THE CHURCH HEARD THE SCREAMS OF THE CHILDREN AND BEGAN TO FLEE. THEY AND THOSE STILL INSIDE THE CHURCH WERE CUT DOWN WITH MACHINE GUN FIRE. ONLY "LA REPUBLICANA" QUOTED ONE SURVIVOR WHO SAW A WOMAN GRAB HER NINE MONTH OLD CHILD AND ATTEMPT TO FLEE. A TERRORIST FIRED AT HER, THE WITNESS SAID, STRIKING HER IN THE BACK. THE BULLET PENETRATED HER BODY AND CAME OUT THROUGH HER CHEST, HITTING AND KILLING THE INFANT SHE WAS CLUTCHING TO HER BREAST.

4. (U) THERE IS NO RADIO COMMUNICATION FROM CANAIRE TO

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THE DEPARTMENT CAPITAL AND NO POLICE OR MILITARY PRESENCE IN THIS AREA OF THE MANTARO VALLEY. SURVIVORS BEGAN REACHING AYACUCHO THREE DAYS LATER. ON MARCH 2, THE MILITARY DISPATCHED A PATROL BY HELICOPTER AND VERIFIED THE DETAILS OF THE MASSACRE. ONE OFFICER STATED: "IT WAS TRULY HORRIBLE. THE SURVIVORS WERE RESTRAINED IN THEIR DESCRIPTIONS". IN OTHER WORDS, WHAT HE SAW IN CANAIRE WAS WORSE THAN HE HAD EXPECTED

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FROM THE TESTIMONIES OF THOSE WHO ESCAPED.

(5) (U) ACCORDING TO NORMALLY SKEPTICAL HUMAN RIGHTS SOURCES WE HAVE SPOKEN WITH THE CANAINE VILLAGERS WERE LIKELY TARGETED BECAUSE OF THEIR EFFORTS TO ORGANIZE A CIVIL DEFENSE PATROL TO DEFEND THEMSELVES AGAINST TERRORIST ATTACKS. THESE SOURCES JUDGE THAT THE MASSACRE WAS NOT MILITARY BECAUSE OF THE TOTAL ABSENCE OF MILITARY PATROLS IN THE AREA AND BECAUSE OF THE WAY THE AYACUCHO MILITARY COMMAND RESPONDED TO THE REPORTED KILLINGS. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, THE VILLAGERS LEARNED THAT THEIR ATTACKERS WERE TERRORISTS TOO LATE, AFTER THEY HAD OPENED THE GATES INTO THE VILLAGE THINKING THE GROUP TO BE MILITARY. MILITARY SOURCES STATED THAT THEY FOUND SL LITERATURE AMONG THE CORPSES. THEY ALSO FOUND MOST OF THE VILLAGE BURNED, APPARENTLY TORCHED BY THE SL AS THEY LEFT.

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AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
AMEMBASSY QUITO  
USAFSD HOWARD AFB PM  
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PM  
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 LIMA 03318

DIA FOR OA-5/OS-1D/DB-6D2/JSI-4B/DB-3C1  
USINCSO ALFO FOR POLAD JOHN YOULE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PTER, PHUM, ABEC, PE  
SUBJECT: SENDERO MASSACRES 39 VILLAGERS

ONE PAPER STATED THAT THE MASSACRE  
LEFT 200 ORPHANED CHILDREN.

6. (C) COMMENT: THE MASSACRE SITE IS A  
VILLAGE ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE MANTARO  
RIVER IN THE HUANTA PROVINCE NEAR THE  
CONFLUENCE OF ENO, APURIMAC AND MANTARO  
RIVERS. THE MANTARO AND THE APURIMAC RIVER  
VALLEYS ARE ALSO THE SITE OF A BURGEONING

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COCA ECONOMY ACCORDING TO SEVERAL RELIABLE  
SOURCES. MOST OF THE COCA GROWERS IN THIS

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AREA ARE PEASANTS BROUGHT INTO THE AREA BY THE SL, OR DRAWN IN BY THE LURE OF EASY DOLLARS. ACCORDING TO A HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICIAL, CANAIRE VILLAGE IS AN OLDER COMMUNITY AND NOT INVOLVED IN COCA PLANTATION BUT RATHER IN TRADITIONAL TROPICAL CROPS. IT IS POSSIBLE THE VILLAGER'S ATTEMPTED DEFIANCE OF THE SL AND THE RESULTANT MASSACRE MAY BE RELATED TO THE CONFLICT OVER COCA PRODUCTION.  
WATSON

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