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ACTION SCT-03

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AID-01	ARA-01	A-01	CA-02	CCO-00
	CG-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00	C-01	OASY-00	DODE-00
	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	DS-00	EB-01	FAAE-00	FBIE-00	IMMC-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	INSE-00	JUSE-00	L-01	ADS-00	M-00
	NRCE-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIS-01	PA-01	PM-01	PRS-01
	P-01	SS-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01	/035W

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O 220048Z JAN 94
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4323
INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LIMA 00651

DEPT ALSO FOR DS/ITA AND DS/OP/ARA
SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, ASEC, AMGT, PE
SUBJECT: SL OFFENSIVE RUMORED FOR FEBRUARY;
U.S. ASSETS POSSIBLE TARGET

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

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2. SUMMARY: A JOURNALIST BRIEFED POLOFF
RECENTLY ON A MEETING WITH A SOURCE DESCRIBED AS
A SENIOR MEMBER OF SENDERO'S LIMA METROPOLITAN
COMMITTEE, WHO CLAIMED THAT SENDERO WOULD LAUNCH
A MAJOR VIOLENCE CAMPAIGN IN LIMA IN FEBRUARY
THAT WOULD SPECIFICALLY TARGET "YANKEE
IMPERIALISM." THERE WAS NO INFORMATION ON A
SPECIFIC DATE OR TARGET ASSOCIATED WITH THE U.S.
THE SENDERISTA ALSO MENTIONED AN UPCOMING
SENDERO PARTY CONGRESS, POSSIBLY IN MARCH. END
SUMMARY.

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POSSIBLE SL FEBRUARY OFFENSIVE

3. A JOURNALIST WITH CONTACTS TO SENDERO LUMINOSO MEMBERS BRIEFED POLOFF ON JANUARY 20 AFTER HE HAD MET WITH A "SENIOR HARD-LINE MEMBER OF THE LIMA REGIONAL COMMITTEE" WHO HAS BEEN A SOURCE OF THE JOURNALIST'S FOR SOME TIME. THE SENDERISTAS TOLD THE JOURNALIST THAT SENDERO WAS GEARING UP FOR A "MAJOR CAMPAIGN" (READ: WAVE OF TERRORIST ACTIVITY) FOR FEBRUARY AND THAT A PRIMARY TARGET WOULD BE "YANKEE IMPERIALISM." THE JOURNALIST ASKED THE SENDERISTA IF THIS MEANT AN ATTACK ON THE U.S. EMBASSY OR ON PRIVATE U.S. CONNECTED ASSETS SUCH AS COCA-COLA OR IBM (BOTH ATTACKED WITH LARGE CAR-BOMBS IN EARLY 1993). THE SENDERISTA DECLINED TO GO INTO DETAIL ON THE POSSIBLE TARGET OR THE PRECISE TIMING OF THE POSSIBLE ATTACKS, BUT REITERATED

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 THAT "U.S. IMPERIALISM" WOULD BE A TARGET.

4. ACCORDING TO THE SENDERISTA, THE WAVE OF VIOLENCE WOULD BE CENTERED IN LIMA AND HAVE AS ONE OF ITS AIMS TO GAIN INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION. THE BEST WAY TO ACHIEVE THIS, SAID THE SENDERISTA, WAS THROUGH THE USE OF CAR-BOMBS. THE SENDERISTAS ALSO MENTIONED THAT FELICIANO HAD HELD A THREE DAY MEETING IN HUANCAYO, JUNIN DEPARTMENT, DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF JANUARY WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM LIMA'S REGIONAL COMMITTEE TO COORDINATE THE FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES IN JUNIN.

BOASTING OF SENDERO'S PROWESS

5. THE SENDERISTA ALSO TOLD THE JOURNALIST THAT SENDERO HAD CONCLUDED A HIGHLY PROFITABLE WAVE OF "CONFISCATIONS" BETWEEN JANUARY 1-15 (CONFISCATIONS IS SENDERO SPEAK FOR ROBBERIES OF GAS STATIONS, ARMORED CARS AND BANKS). THE LIMA METROPOLITAN COMMITTEE NOW HAD THE FINANCIAL WHEREWITHALL TO CONTINUE FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, INCLUDING THE UPCOMING VIOLENCE CAMPAIGN

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FOR LIMA. AS AN ASIDE, THE JOURNALIST MENTIONED THAT A SOURCE IN POLICE INTELLIGENCE (DIRIN) CONFIRMED THAT AN ATTACK ON AN ARMORED CAR IN LIMA'S MAGDALENA DEL MAR DISTRICT DURING THE DATES MENTIONED HAD IN FACT BEEN CARRIED OUT BY SENDERO BUT HAD BEEN CREDITED TO COMMON

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CRIMINALS IN THE LIMA PRESS.

6. THE SENDERISTA BOASTED THAT HE HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE DECEMBER 28 CAR BOMBING OF THE LIMA PREFECTURE COMPLEX. HE STATED THAT THE LIMA METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COMMITTEE HAD GATHERED A TEAM OF THE MOST EXPERIENCED SENDERO CADRE FOR THE ATTACK AND WAS EXTREMELY PLEASED WITH THE RESULT. ABDON CRUZATT CARDENAS REPORTEDLY LED THE OPERATION PERSONALLY. THE SENDERISTA CLAIMED THAT THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE WOULD CONTINUE TO ASSEMBLE THE SAME ELITE TEAM COMPOSED OF SELECT MEMBERS FROM THE DIFFERENT SENDERO ZONAL COMMITTEES TO CARRY OUT OTHER MAJOR ATTACKS. PART OF THE THINKING WAS THAT SHOULD THE SECURITY FORCES CAPTURE A TEAM

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AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
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DEPT ALSO FOR DS/ITA AND DS/OP/ARA
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 TAGS: PTER, ASEC, AMGT, PE
 SUBJECT: SL OFFENSIVE RUMORED FOR FEBRUARY;

MEMBER, THEY WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO EASILY ROLL UP
 THE ENTIRE UNIT, WHICH WOULD BE DISPERSED AMONG
 THE VARIOUS LIMA ZONAL COMMITTEES.

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7. THE JOURNALIST MENTIONED THAT THE SENDERISTA
 HAD "CONFIRMED" FOR HIM THAT SENDERO'S CENTRAL
 COMMITTEE HAD MET IN MID-1993 IN THE EASTERN
 CITY OF HUANUCO UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF
 "PRESIDENT FELICIANO" AND ELIZABETH GONZALEZ
 OTOYA. (COMRADE FELICIANO (OSCAR ALBERTO
 RAMIREZ DURAND) HAD ASSUMED THE PARTY LEADERSHIP
 IN AN EARLIER CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING IN
 DECEMBER 1992 IN CHICLAYO.) AT THAT TIME,
 SENDERO AGREED TO HOLD A PARTY CONGRESS IN
 1994. THE SENDERISTA MENTIONED THAT
 PREPARATIONS FOR A PARTY CONGRESS TO BE HELD IN
 MARCH WERE WELL UNDERWAY AND THAT DOCUMENTS FOR
 DISCUSSION AT THE CONGRESS WERE ALREADY BEING
 CIRCULATED. (COMMENT: AT A JANUARY 19 RECEPTION
 FOR A/S WATSON IN LIMA, ANOTHER EMBASSY CONTACT
 SAID THAT ONE OF THE DOCUMENTS WAS ENTITLED "TO
 FIGHT TOWARDS A PEACE ACCORD." THE CONTACT WAS
 DISTURBED BY THE UNRECONSTRUCTED MAOIST RHETORIC
 IN THE DOCUMENT THAT BELIED INTERPRETING THE
 TITLE AS A POSITIVE STEP TOWARDS PACIFICATION OR
 A SENDERO WILLINGNESS TO ENTER INTO GOOD FAITH
 NEGOTIATIONS AND ACCEPTING THE DEMOCRATIC
 PROCESS. END COMMENT.)

B. COMMENT: THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL RECENT
 UNCONFIRMED REPORTS OF AN IMPENDING SENDERO
 VIOLENCE CAMPAIGN. IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT

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SENDERO WILL STAGE SOME SORT OF INCIDENT AGAINST
A U.S.-CONNECTED TARGET IN THE WAKE OF THE HIGH

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PROFILE VISIT BY A/S WATSON. U.S. TARGETS
REMAIN AT RISK OF SENDERO ATTACK AT AN/ GIVEN
MOMENT IN PERU, AND THAT RISK HAS NOT ABATED IN
SPITE OF GOVERNMENT GAINS IN THE CONTINUING WAR
AGAINST SENDERO. HOWEVER, WE HAVE NO
INFORMATION ABOUT ANY SPECIFIC TARGETING OF A
U.S.-CONNECTED FACILITY OR PERSON AT THIS
TIME. ADAMS

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