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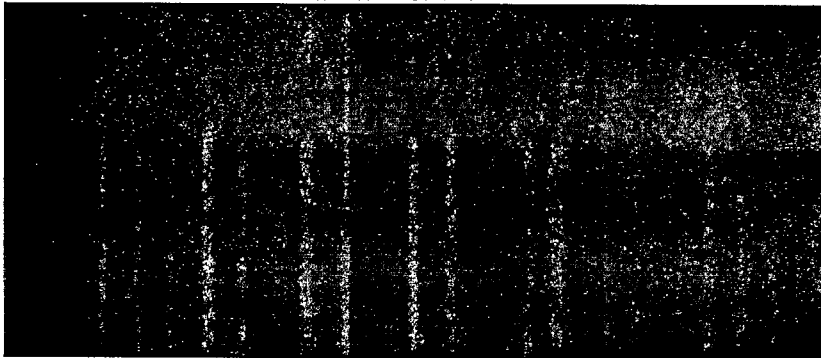
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INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC

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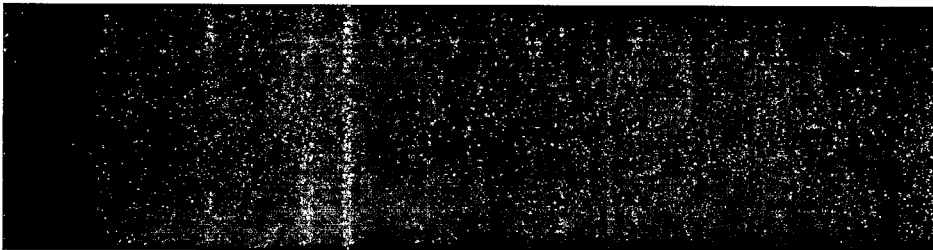
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CONTROLS

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SERIAL: (U) IIR [REDACTED] (b)(2)

/\*\*\*\*\* THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE \*\*\*\*\*/

CLASS

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BODY

COUNTRY (U) PERU (PE).

SUBJ: IIR [REDACTED] COUNTERTERRORIST OFFENSIVE IN HUANUCO (U)

WARNING: THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
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DOI: (U) 940420. (b)(2)

[REDACTED]

SOURCES: A. (U) DAILY NEWSPAPER, 'LA REPUBLICA' (940420), (CIRCULATION ABOUT 52,000 WITH A READERSHIP ABOUT 230,000), IS THE LEFT-OF-CENTER TREND-SETTER. IT IS THIRD IN LIMA AND NATIONAL READERSHIP. IT LEADS THE ANTI-FUJIMORI SENTIMENT IN THE DAILY PRESS.

B. (U) DAILY NEWSPAPER, 'EL COMERCIO' (940420; 940421), CONSERVATIVE AND INFLUENTIAL (CIRCULATION ABOUT 87,000 WITH A READERSHIP ABOUT 640,000), IS THE PRESTIGIOUS PAPER OF RECORD FOR THE PERUVIAN ELITE. IT LEADS IN LIMA AND NATIONAL READERSHIP.

[REDACTED] (b)(1)

SUMMARY: (U) ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, PERUVIAN ARMY UNITS ARE CONDUCTING AN OFFENSIVE AGAINST SENDERO LUMINOSO CELLS IN THE NORTHERN HUANUCO DEPARTMENT. ENCLOSURE.

TEXT: 1. (U) SOURCE A REPORTED THAT DURING AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH PERUVIAN ARMY (EP) CORONEL "JANO", CHIEF OF STAFF, HUALLAGA FRONT OPERATIONS, IT WAS REVEALED THAT THE PERUVIAN ARMY HAD UNLEASHED OPERATION "ARIES" AGAINST SENDERO LUMINOSO ENCAMPMENTS LOCATED ON THE LEFT BANK OF THE HUALLAGA RIVER.

CORONEL JANO [REDACTED] (b)(2)

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ASSAULT HELICOPTERS INTO THE SL STRONGHOLDS OF EL SALVADOR, BIJAO AND BLANQUILLO, STATED THAT THE EP HAD MANAGED TO DISBAND TWO OF THE THREE SENDERO LUMINOSO (SL) BATTALIONS THAT HAVE BEEN OPERATING IN THE AREA FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS. CORONEL JANO WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE ARMY SUCCESSFULLY CLOSED ALL POSSIBLE AVENUES OF ESCAPE IN MOENA, MOYUNA, AUCAYACU, PUCATE, BIJAO, BLANQUILLO AND BOLOGNESI. CORONEL JANO SAID THAT THE HELICOPTERS DID NOT DROP BOMBS; INSTEAD THEY USED LONG-RANGE HEAVY ARMAMENT. CORONEL JANO REVEALED THAT TWO SL COLUMNS CONSISTING OF 180 MEN AND WOMEN WERE NOT ABLE TO WITHSTAND THE SYSTEMATIC ATTACK INFLECTED BY THE ARMY DURING THE PAST TWO DAYS, AND THAT THE TWO SL COLUMNS WERE FLEEING THE AREA TOWARD THE SAN MARTIN FRONTIER. THE THIRD COLUMN CONSISTING OF 40 COMBATANTS WAS HEADING IN THE DIRECTION OF HUANUCO. CORONEL JANO STATED THAT THERE WERE SOME CIVILIANS KILLED DURING THE OPERATION. THE DAUGHTER OF THE LOCAL SENDERISTA LEADER "EL MANCO" WAS ALSO KILLED DURING AN ARMY AERIAL ATTACK IN THE VALLE DE MONZON. EL MANCO, WOUNDED IN THE ATTACK, MANAGED TO ESCAPE.

(b)(2)

2. (U) [REDACTED] THE PERUVIAN ARMY UNLEASHED A COUNTERTERRORIST OFFENSIVE AGAINST SENDERO LUMINOSO CELLS IN DIVERSE ZONES IN THE LEONCIO PRADO PROVINCE, HUANUCO DEPARTMENT. THE MILITARY OPERATIONS, WHICH INCLUDED HELICOPTERS, COMMENCED ON 940408 AND HAVE LEFT AN UNDETERMINED NUMBER OF PERSONS DEAD. OFFICIALS FROM THE HUALLAGA FRONT WERE INFORMED THAT THESE OPERATIONS TOOK PLACE ON 8 AND 12 APRIL. DURING THESE OPERATIONS, TEN SL WERE KILLED AND THREE SENIOR SL LOCAL LEADERS WERE CAPTURED. OFFICIALS ASSIGNED TO THE ARMED FORCES JOINT COMMAND AND TINGO MARIA CONFIRMED THAT A SERIES OF CONFRONTATIONS BETWEEN EP AND SL HAVE TAKEN PLACE, BUT THEY HAVE NOT DISCLOSED IN DETAIL IF THE COUNTERTERRORIST OPERATIONS ARE CONTINUING. THE SAME OFFICIALS DENIED THAT THE ARMY WAS BOMBARDING OR SHOOTING CIVILIANS IN THE AREA. OFFICIALS IN TINGO MARIA ANNOUNCED THAT MILITARY OPERATIONS WERE BEING CONDUCTED IN MOENA, MOYUNA, EL SALVADOR, BOLOGNESI AND PRIMAVERA. ON 940408, PERUVIAN ARMY GENERAL ALFREDO ((RODRIGUEZ)) RIVEROS, HUALLAGA FRONT COMMANDER, WAS CONDUCTING AN INSPECTION IN TINGO

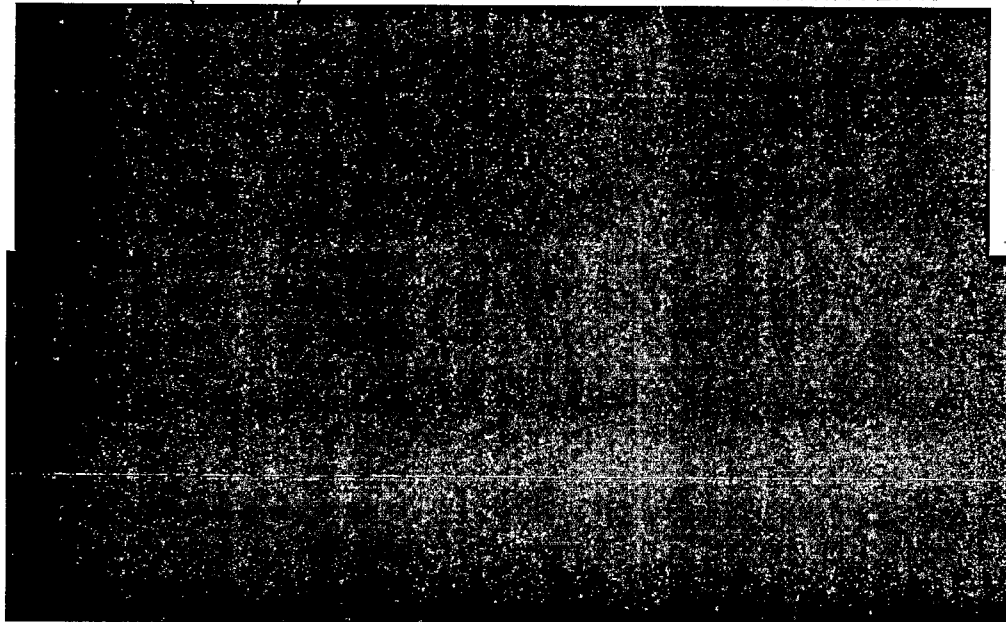
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MARIA, THE SAME DAY THE MILITARY OPERATIONS COMMENCED. GENERAL RODRIGUEZ STATED THAT SENDERO LUMINOSO CONTINUES TO HAVE A STRONG PRESENCE IN THE LEONCIO PRADO PROVINCE IN MONZON, YAJANKAY, VILLA PRIMAVERA AND PROGRESO.

3. ~~(CONF)~~ [REDACTED] THE COMMANDO COMPANY (b)(1) ASSIGNED TO THE HUALLAGA FRONT IS PARTICIPATING IN THE OPERATION. AN ELEMENT OF THE COMMANDO COMPANY WAS AMBUSHED BY AN SL ELEMENT ON 940414; THREE COMMANDOS WERE WOUNDED AND SUBSEQUENTLY EVACUATED TO TARAPOTO. THE HUALLAGA FRONT HEADQUARTERS IN TARAPOTO ALSO RECEIVED A LATER MESSAGE FROM THE UNIT IN CONTACT THAT IT HAD PURSUED THE SAME SL ELEMENT AND KILLED EIGHT MEMBERS OF THIS SL ELEMENT. ONE COMMANDO COMPANY MEMBER WAS KILLED IN ACTION (KIA) IN THIS OPERATION ON 940415.

4. (U) ON 940421, [REDACTED] CLOSE TO (b)(2) 2,000 MILITARY PERSONNEL ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE ONGOING COUNTERSUBVERSIVE OPERATIONS. THE OPERATIONS ARE BEING CONDUCTED IN THE LEONCIO PRADO PROVINCE, HUANUCO DEPARTMENT AND WERE ORDERED BY THE COMMANDER OF THE HUALLGA FRONT, MAJOR GENERAL ALFREDO ((RODRIGUEZ)) RIVEROS, AND COORDINATED WITH THE ARMED FORCES JOINT COMMAND. COMMANDOS FROM TARAPOTO AND SPECIAL FORCES ELEMENTS (DIFFEE) FROM LIMA ARE PART OF THE CONTINGENT.

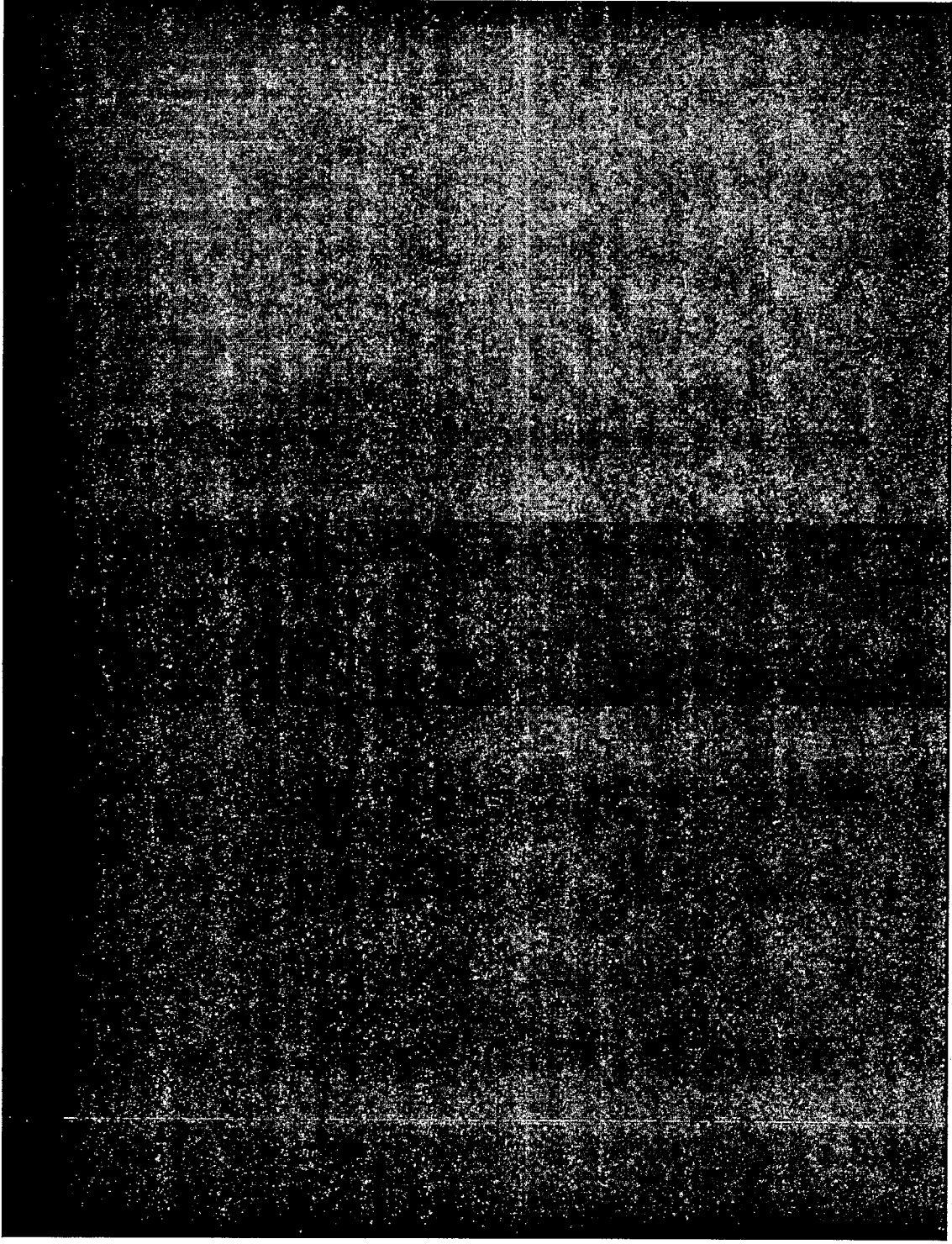


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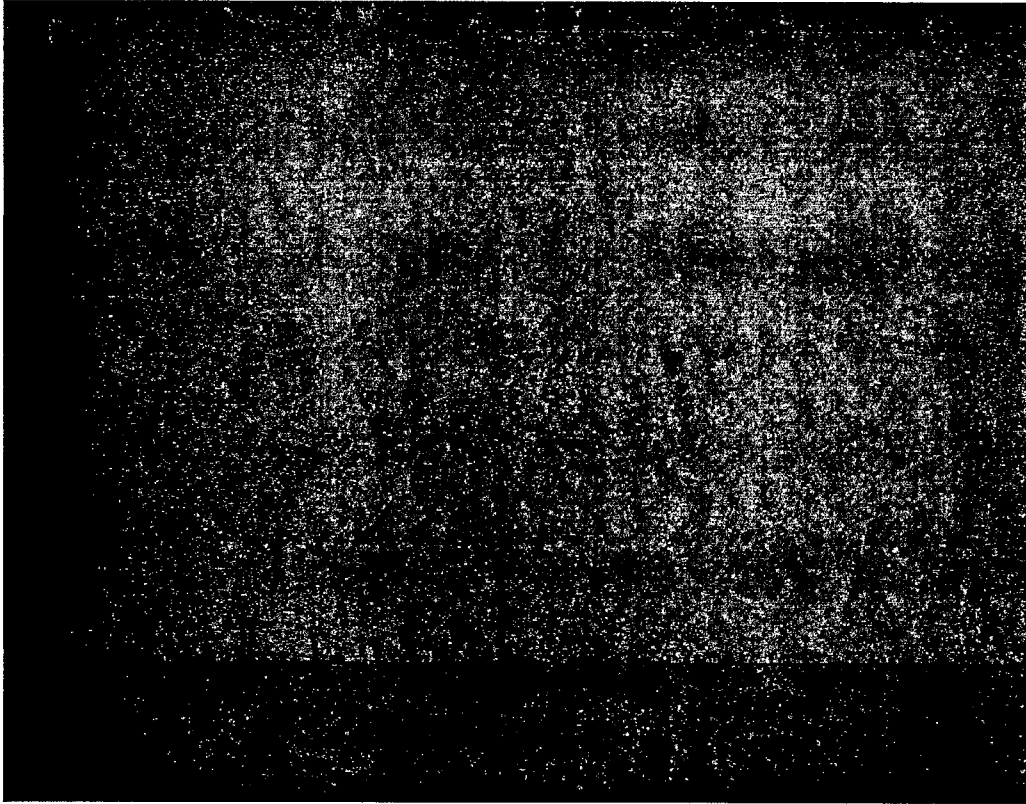
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(U).



(b)(1)

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(b)(2)

ADMIN

PROJ: (U)

INSTR: (U) U.S. NO.

(b)(2)

ENCL: (U) TO FOLLOW: 1 ENCLOSURE.

NEWSPAPER SKETCH, COLOR, MAP OUTLINING THE AREAS OF  
CONFRONTATION (U), 1 COPY, 940420 (U).

(b)(2)

SENT TO: DIA SV-5C W/ENCL.

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