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B6 Department of State

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

(X58)
PE

PAGE 01 LIMA 05361 112341Z
ACTION HCRC-00

6025

guerrillas

INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 H-01 ARA-00 HA-09 /010 W
-----320540 120409Z /38

R 112221Z APR 89
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7507

UNCLAS LIMA 05361

H PASS

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PHUM, PE
SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE: SENATOR NUNN

REF: STATE 87867

SENATOR SAM NUNN
75 SPRING STREET, SW
SUITE 1700
ATLANTA, GA 30303

DEAR SENATOR NUNN:

THIS IS IN RESPONSE TO THE CONCERN EXPRESSED BY
YOUR CONSTITUENT, [REDACTED] ABOUT VIOLENCE
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN CRISTOBAL DE HUAMANGA
IN AYACUCHO, PERU.

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SINCE 1980, WHEN THE SENDERO LUMINOSO
(SHINING PATH) GUERRILLAS BEGAN THEIR
TERRORIST INSURGENCY, AYACUCHO AND THE UNIVER-
SITY OF HUAMANGA HAVE EXPERIENCED SIGNIFICANT,
SUSTAINED LEVELS OF VIOLENCE. POLITICAL
ASSASSINATIONS AND OTHER SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES
ARE BEING COMMITTED BY SEVERAL GROUPS: PRINCIPALLY
BY SENDERO LUMINOSO, WHICH TARGETS LOCAL ELECTED
AND APPOINTED CIVILIAN AUTHORITIES, DEVELOPMENTAL
WORKERS, CIVIC LEADERS AND -- IN SUBSTANTIAL
NUMBERS -- INDIAN PEASANTS WHO REFUSE TO COLLABORATE.
THE MILITARY HAS ALSO COMMITTED SERIOUS HUMAN
RIGHTS ABUSES AND, SINCE AUGUST 1988, A PARAMILI-
TARY GROUP CALLING ITSELF THE RODRIGO FRANCO
COMMAND HAS ALSO COMMITTED ABUSES, KILLING ONE
PERSON IN LIMA AND ENGAGING IN THREATS AND BOMBINGS
(WHICH HAVE NOT YET CAUSED INJURIES) IN AYACUCHO.
IT IS NOT CLEAR WHO IS BEHIND THE RODRIGO FRANCO
COMMAND. IT MAY HAVE LINKS TO ELEMENTS OF THE
GOVERNMENT; IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT PRIVATE,
POLITICAL GROUPS ARE RESPONSIBLE.

THE STATE DEPARTMENT REPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN
PERU PROVIDES THOROUGH DOCUMENTATION ON THE
SITUATION IN PERU GENERALLY AND ON THE SITUATION
IN AYACUCHO AND OTHER EMERGENCY ZONES. I ASSURE
YOU THAT PROMOTING RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND
ENDING SUCH ABUSES, WHATEVER THEIR SOURCE,
REMAINS ONE OF OUR HIGHEST PRIORITIES IN PERU.

SINCERELY,
ALEXANDER F. WATSON
AMBASSADOR
WATSON

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United States Department of State
Office of FOI, Privacy, & Classification Review
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