

RELEASED

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INCOMING TELEGRAM

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INFO	LOG-00	ADS-00	AID-00	INR-07	EUR-00	SS-00	OIC-02
	CIAE-00	EU-00	N-01	IO-10	NSCE-00	ARA-00	NSAE-00
	COME-00	SSO-00	HA-00	L-03	ANAD-01	CTHE-00	NRCE-00
	TRSE-00	PH-10	PA-01	FAAE-00	CCO-00	OMB-01	SIL-01
	INM-07	INRE-00	CA-02	CG-00	USSS-00	USIE-00	JUSE-00
	FBIE-00	SP-02	OC-01	DOEE-00	N-01	SMP-01	FAIM-01
	C-01	PRS-01	OIG-04	SCT-02	P-02	T-01	/002 V

IN THE "LA REPUBLICA" STORY. WE AGREE THAT THE KILLERS WERE LIKELY SL. THE RAPIDITY OF PIESCHER'S DISAPPEARANCE (FOUR DAYS AFTER ARRIVAL), AND THE CONDITION OF THE CORPSE SHOWING SIGNS OF TORTURE OR MUTILATION, POINT TO SL GUILPABILITY.

4. (C) THE AUSTRIAN EMBASSY OFFERS NO EXPLANATION FOR THE DEATH. ACCORDING TO HOWARD ZATOREK, AUSTRIAN EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY, PIESCHER'S CREDENTIALS WERE WELL KNOWN AND THE PROJECT HAD SUFFERED NO PREVIOUS TERRORIST THREATS. THE AUSTRIANS BELIEVE IT WAS A CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY. WATSON

D 182319Z APR 89 ZEL  
FM AEMBASSY LIMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7709  
INFO AEMBASSY BOGOTA  
AEMBASSY LA PAZ  
AEMBASSY QUITO  
USAFSD HOWARD AFB PH  
USCINGSO QUARRY HTS PH  
AEMBASSY CARACAS  
DEA HQS WASHDC  
DIA WASHDC  
AEMBASSY VIENNA

CONFIDENTIAL LIMA 05758

CORRECTED COPY ADDING VIENNA AS ADDRESSEE

DEA FOR OF, PS, DC, OI

DEA FOR DAK-5/OSC-2D/DB-6D2/JSI-4B/0B-3C1

USCINGSO ALSO FOR POLAD JOHN YOULE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: ASEC, PTER, SHAR, PE  
SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN REPORTED KILLED BY SL

1. (U) AN AUSTRIAN, JOSE P. PIESCHER, WAS KIDNAPPED AND ASSASSINATED BY SENDERO LUMINOSO ON APRIL 16 IN PUCALLPA. ACCORDING TO THE AUSTRIAN EMBASSY, THE MAN WAS WORKING FOR THE AMAZONIAN FLUVIAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT, A MEDICAL AID PROJECT PROVIDING FREE MEDICAL TREATMENT IN THE AREA AROUND PUCALLPA. HE HAD ARRIVED IN THIS EASTERN JUNGLE CITY ON APRIL 12. THE AUSTRIAN EMBASSY CONFIRMED THAT HE WAS SNATCHED IN FRONT OF HIS HOTEL IN PUCALLPA ON APRIL 16. HIS BODY WAS FOUND ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN THE FOLLOWING MORNING. POLICE STATED THAT THE MAN HAD BEEN TORTURED, THEN SHOT THROUGH THE FOREHEAD WITH A HIGH CALIBER WEAPON.

2. (U) PRO-APRA, SENSATIONALIST DAILY "EL NACIONAL" NOTED IN ITS COVERAGE OF THE KILLING THAT RUMORS IN PUCALLPA INDICATED THAT PIESCHER WAS AN UNDERCOVER AGENT FOR DEA. HE WAS A FAMOUS AGENT OF THE DEA ARRIVED IN PUCALLPA WITH THE MISSION OF IDENTIFYING POWERFUL PERUVIAN AND COLOMBIAN MARGO-TRAFFICKERS OPERATING IN THIS CITY. PUCALLPA IS KNOWN TO BE A TRANSHIPMENT POINT FOR COCA PRODUCTS ORIGINATING IN PERU AND BOUND FOR FOREIGN MARKETS. "EL NACIONAL" SAYS PIESCHER WAS KILLED BY TRAFFICKERS.

3. (U) LEFTIST "LA REPUBLICA" REPORTED THAT AN ANONYMOUS CALLER TO A PUCALLPA RADIO STATION CLAIMED THE KILLING WAS THE WORK OF THE SL. THE CALLER REPORTEDLY CLAIMED THAT PIESCHER WAS A CIA AGENT "SENT TO EFFECT COUNTER-INSURGENCY WORK IN PUCALLPA." THE ALLEGED CIA LINK WAS THE LEAD

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Office of FOI, Privacy, & Classification Review  
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