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ACTION ARA-00

INFO	LOG-00	ADS-00	AID-00	INR-07	SS-00	DPR-00	CIAE-00
EB-00	DINT-05	H-01	NSCE-00	NSAE-00	COME-00	SSD-00	
HA-09	L-03	LAB-04	CTME-00	TRSE-00	PM-10	PA-01	
CCO-00	DMB-01	STR-17	SIL-01	INRE-00	OCS-06	CA-02	
FBOE-05	DPM-01	A-00	USSS-00	USIE-00	SP-02	OC-01	
M-01	SR-06	SNP-01	PRS-01	DS-01	SCT-02	P-02	
T-01	/091 W						

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O 130023Z MAY 89
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8402

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

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

6, FPC/CDR *11/26* Date: *4/21/95*

RELEASE
 EXCISE
 DENY
 DELETE Non-Responsive Info
 FOIA Exemptions _____
 PA Exemptions _____

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 07107

DIA FOR OA-5/OS-1D/DB-6D2/JSI-4B/DB-3C1

USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD JOHN YOULE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, PGOV, ASEC, PE, ALOW

SUBJECT: THE SENDERO STRIKE: TERRORISTS WINNING
- THE WAR OF FEAR

REF: (A) LIMA 6969
(B) LIMA 6787

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT:
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2. SUMMARY. THE THREE DAY SENDERO ARMED STRIKE

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CP 11 LP 16

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PSC FR-4-3211

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IN JUNIN, PASCO AND HUANUCO DEPARTMENTS (REF A) HAS BEEN WIDELY RESPECTED BY MOST RESIDENTS OF THE AREA. SENDERO IS RANDOMLY BLOCKING ROADS AND DESTROYING ALL MOVING VEHICLES. ALL PASSENGERS EXCEPT POLICE ARE BEING ALLOWED TO FLEE. BANKS, SCHOOLS, SHOPS, AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN THE THREE DEPARTMENT CAPITALS WERE MOSTLY CLOSED. THE MILITARY STEPPED UP ITS PATROLS IN THE AREA, INCLUDING NIGHT-TIME PATROLS, BUT STILL SL BOMBED TARGETS IN ALL THREE CAPITALS, INCLUDING ONE BANK IN HUANCAYO TWICE IN ONE EVENING. PRESIDENT GARCIA VISITED HUANCAYO THE EVENING OF MAY 11. HIS VISIT, AND THE STRIKE, OCCURRED WHILE HE IS WITHOUT A GOVERNMENT; HIS CABINET RESIGNED EN MASSE MAY 8. THE SUCCESS OF THE STRIKE IS NOT EVIDENCE OF SL'S MILITARY STRENGTH BUT IS A RESULT OF GROWING FEAR IN THE SIERRA POPULATION. END SUMMARY.

3. SENDERO LUMINOSO'S THREE DAY ARMED STRIKE IN THE THREE CENTRAL PROVINCES OF JUNIN, PASCO AND HUANUCO IS NEARING ITS END. THE THIRD OF PERU'S POPULATION WHICH LIVES IN LIMA IS READING (BY CANDLELIGHT, SINCE THE CITY HAS BEEN IN A BROWNOUT SINCE MAY 11) WITH INTEREST NEWS REPORTS FROM THE THREE SIERRA DEPARTMENTS. THOSE RESULTS ARE NOT ENCOURAGING FOR THE GOVERNMENT.

4. IN THE THREE DEPARTMENT CAPITALS, NORTH TO SOUTH, HUANUCO, PASCO AND HUANCAYO, FROM ALL ACCOUNTS, RESPECT FOR THE STRIKE HAS BEEN NEARLY TOTAL. WE WERE TOLD BY A CONTACT WITH HIS
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WIFE AND FAMILY IN HUANUCO THAT BOTH DURING THE DAY AND AT NIGHT THE CITY HAS BEEN COMPLETELY CLOSED. BANKS, SCHOOLS, SHOPS, PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION; ALL ARE SHUT DOWN. THIS SOURCE TOLD US THAT THE STRIKE DID NOT REACH TINGO MARIA IN THE UPPER NORTHERN BORDER OF THE HUANUCO DEPARTMENT, BUT THAT SENDERO HAD CLOSED THE ROAD FROM TINGO TO HUANUCO. ALL TRAFFIC IS BEING STOPPED. PASSENGERS ARE BEING INSPECTED. CARS, TRUCKS AND BUSES ARE THEN BURNED.

5. A JOURNALIST SOURCE WITH CONTACTS IN JUNIN

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AND PASCO TELLS US THE SITUATION IS SIMILAR THERE. SENDERO DOES NOT CONTROL ALL OF THE ROADS, BUT WHERE SENDERO ROAD BLOCKS ARE SET UP, PASSENGERS ARE BEING FREED BUT ALL VEHICLES ARE BEING DESTROYED. THIS SOURCE TOLD US THAT BY THE SECOND DAY OF THE STRIKE THERE WAS NO MOVEMENT ON THE DEPARTMENT ROADS EXCEPT THOSE UNDER ESCORT BY MILITARY PATROLS.

6. NOT ALL PASSENGERS ARE WALKING AWAY. AT LEAST THREE POLICE, TRAVELLING THE ROADS IN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION OF THE THREE DEPARTMENTS, HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED BY SENDERO AND SHOT. A SOURCE IN THE MINING INDUSTRY TOLD US THAT TWO ENGINEERS FROM HIS COMPANY WERE STOPPED BY SENDERO THE FIRST DAY OF THE STRIKE ON THEIR WAY TO INSPECT A MINE IN THE CERRO DE PASCO AREA. ONE OF THE TWO HAD A BIBLE AND CONVINCED THE SENDERO THAT THEY WERE EVANGELISTS ON THEIR WAY TO PREACH TO THE TOWN. THEY WERE ALLOWED TO PASS.

7. MOST MINES IN THE PASCO AND JUNIN DEPARTMENTS ARE NOT OPERATING DESPITE INCREASED MILITARY PATROLS AND EFFORTS TO PROVIDE PRO-

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 LIMA 07107

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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, PGOV, ASEC, PE, ALOW
SUBJECT: THE SENDERO STRIKE: TERRORISTS WINNING

TECTION TO MINE WORKERS. SIMILARLY, MOST
GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN HUANCAYO ARE CLOSED
OR OPERATING ON SKELETAL STAFFS. A LABOR
MOVEMENT SOURCE TOLD US THAT ONLY 15 OF 150
POSTAL WORKERS SHOWED UP AT THE OFFICES IN
HUANCAYO.

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8. SENDERO HAS ALSO BEEN ACTIVE AGAINST

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PHYSICAL PROPERTY. PRESS REPORTS AND OUR PRESS SOURCE TELL US THAT A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF BRIDGES HAVE BEEN BLOWN, INCLUDING IN THE HIGH JUNGLE AREAS OF EASTERN JUNIN DEPARTMENT. THERE ARE RELIABLE REPORTS OF DYNAMITE ATTACKS AGAINST BANKS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN PASCO AND HUANCAYO. THE ATTACKS REPORTEDLY ALL OCCURRED AT NIGHT. MILITARY SOURCES TOLD US THAT THEY ARE PATROLLING HUANCAYO CITY AT NIGHT. WE DO NOT KNOW THE EXTENT OF THE EVENING MILITARY PATROLS BUT WE DO KNOW THAT ONE BANK IN THE CITY WAS ATTACKED TWICE THE EVENING OF MAY 11.

9. IN THE MIDST OF THE STRIKE PRESIDENT GARCIA SCHEDULED, CANCELLED, THEN RESCHEDULED AND COMPLETED A TRIP TO HUANCAYO, THE EPICENTER OF THE STRIKE. REMINISCENT OF HIS TRIP TO THE UPPER HUALLAGA VALLEY, THE PRESIDENT APPEALED TO THE CITIZENS NOT TO SUCCUMB TO FEAR OR TO THE RUMOR OF REPRISALS. WHEN A REPORTER NOTED IN FRONT OF THE ROLLING TV CAMERAS THAT THE REPRISALS ARE MORE THAN RUMORS, THAT IN FACT FOLKS WHO HAD REFUSED TO HONOR THE LAST STRIKE HAD BEEN KILLED IN REPRISAL, GARCIA SEEMED AT A LOSS FOR WORDS.

10. GARCIA'S VISIT TO THE STRIKE AREA COMES IN THE MIDST OF ONE OF THE WORST CRISES OF HIS GOVERNMENT. IN FACT, HE VIRTUALLY HAS NO GOVERNMENT. THE SENDERO'S THREE DAY STRIKE
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COMES ON THE HEELS OF A MASS CABINET RESIGNATION (REF B). IN THESE THREE DAYS, THE DEFENSE AND INTERIOR MINISTRIES, WHICH LEAD THE GOP'S ANTI-TERRORISM EFFORT, HAVE BEEN VACANT. NEWLY APPOINTED PRIME MINISTER, LUIS ALBERTO SANCHEZ HAS YET TO NAME ANY OF HIS NEW CABINET.

11. THE APPARENT SUCCESS OF THE SL STRIKE SHOULD NOT BE VIEWED AS EVIDENCE THAT THE SL MILITARILY CONTROLS THESE THREE STRATEGICALLY CRITICAL DEPARTMENTS, NOR THAT IT HAS WON THE

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HEARTS OF THE PEASANTS, NOR THAT THE POLICE
AND MILITARY ARE POWERLESS. THE BIGGEST CHANGE
IN THE PAST 90 DAYS, WE BELIEVE, HAS BEEN IN
THE ATTITUDES OF THE SIERRA POPULATION.
THE LEVEL OF FEAR THERE HAS NOTICABLY RISEN,
AND THE WILLINGNESS OF THESE FOLKS TO TAKE
RISKS HAS NOTICABLY DROPPED. SENDERO IS
WINNING THE WAR OF WILLS, BUT THE
STRATEGIC AND MILITARY SITUATION, THOUGH
CONTINUING A VERY SLOW DETERIORATION, HAS NOT
SIGNIFICANTLY CHANGED.

WATSON

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