



Department of State

E21

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AN: D890559-0465

EXCISE

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ACTION ARA-00

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PM-10 PA-01 OMB-01 INRE-00 USIE-00 SP-02 SNP-01
PRS-01 DS-01 DIG-04 SCT-02 P-02 T-01 /067 W
-----345360 082204Z /70

P 082048Z JUN 89
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9138
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY QUITO
USAFSO HOWARD AFB PM
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PM
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC
USMISSION GENEVA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/FPC/CDR

Date: 4/21/95

- RELEASE
- EXCISE
- DENY
- DELETE
- FOIA Exemptions b1, b7c
- PA Exemptions

MR Cases Only:
EO Citations

CLASSIFY as () S or () UADR
DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C UADR

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 04 LIMA 08497

DIA FOR DAH-5/OSC-2D/DB-6D2/JSI-4B/DB-3C1

USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD JOHN YOULE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PHUM, PTER, ASEC, PE
SUBJECT: A SENDERO HELICOPTER AND HUMAN RIGHTS
- VIOLATIONS IN PUNO

REFS: (A) 88 LIMA 17557
(B) 88 LIMA 7333

1. SUMMARY: IN RECENT TRIP TO PUNO, CONOFF
SPOKE WITH

FOCUSSED LARGELY ON VIOLATIONS BY SENDERO

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LUMINOSO (SL), AND ONLY TANGENTIALLY ON THOSE

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PSC 804-3211 132K64 CP 11 IP 16

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BY GOP SECURITY FORCES. THEY DESCRIBED A SITUATION WHERE SL WAS VERY ACTIVE IN THE AREA, YET IS BEING HELD IN CHECK BY OTHER INSTITUTIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT, NOTABLY THE LOCAL PEASANTS' FEDERATION. HR ABUSES BY GOP SECURITY FORCES WERE ALSO WIDESPREAD, CAUSED BY POOR TRAINING AND DRUNKENNESS. CONOFF WAS SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT RUMORS THAT SL HAS BEEN USING A HELICOPTER IN THE AREA WERE STRONGLY CREDITED BY THE MEMBERS.
END SUMMARY.

2. DURING A TRIP TO PUNO 11-14 MAY, 1989, TO PROVIDE MEMBERS OF THE RESIDENT AMCIT COMMUNITY WITH CONSULAR SERVICES, CONOFF HELD A LIVELY DISCUSSION WITH

_____ THE APPOINTMENT
WAS WITH _____

3. _____ PRODUCED A NOTEBOOK CRAMMED WITH SCRUPULOUS NOTES ABOUT INCIDENTS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THE AREA. MOST OF THE
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INCIDENTS _____ WERE SL. _____

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4. _____ WERE SOUNDLY CONVINCED THAT SL DOES INDEED OPERATE A HELICOPTER IN THE PUNO AREA. WE HAVE HEARD THIS RUMOR ON SEVERAL OCCASSIONS FROM DIFFERENT SOURCES, BUT WITHOUT CORROBORATING INFORMATION. _____ A DETAILED LIST OF DATES AND TIMES OF "CONFIRMED" SIGHTINGS OF THE HELICOPTER OVER THE LAST YEAR IN TOWNS ALONG THE NORTH SHORE OF AND TO THE NORTH OF LAKE TITICACA. _____ AND THE OTHERS HAD SPOKEN PERSONALLY WITH CAMPESINOS IN THE AREA WHO WERE SURE OF WHAT THEY SAW AND HEARD. _____ ONE OF THE MOST CONVINCING ASPECTS OF SUCH SIGHTINGS WAS THAT MANY WERE BY ILLITERATE PEOPLE WHOSE CONTACT WITH MODERN TECHNOLOGY IS LIMITED. _____ SAID THAT MANY OF THE WITNESSES WERE UNABLE TO NAME OR CLASSIFY WHAT THEY SAW, BUT AFTER PROVIDING A DESCRIPTION, THERE WAS NO DOUBT THAT WHAT THEY HAD SEEN WAS A HELICOPTER, AND THAT SL OFFICIALS HAD ALIGHTED FROM IT.

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5. THE HELICOPTER, _____ USUALLY ARRIVED AT A COMMUNITY DURING THE NIGHT. _____ HAD NO

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SNP-01 FAIM-01 PRS-01 DS-01 DIG-04 SCT-02 P-02
T-01 /075 W

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P 082048Z JUN 89
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9139
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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 04 LIMA 08497

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA NUMBERING)

DIA FOR DAH-5/DSC-2D/DB-6D2/JSI-4B/DB-3C1

USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD JOHN YOULE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
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FIRM INFORMATION ON WHAT SIZE OF A HELICOPTER
IT WAS, HOW MANY PEOPLE IT CARRIED, AND WAS
AT A LOSS TO EXPLAIN FOR WHAT PURPOSES SL USED
IT. SAID THEY HAD NO
IDEA WHERE THE HELICOPTER WAS BASED, BUT SPECULATED
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THAT IT COULD BE COMING FROM EITHER BOLIVIA OR FROM
THE JUNGLES OF MADRE DE DIOS DEPARTMENT TO THE

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NORTH. CONOFF WAS UNABLE TO RECORD ALL OF THE SIGHTINGS, NOTES, BUT WAS ABLE TO RECORD ONE LANDING IN MAY 1988. THE LAST TWO SIGHTINGS RECORDED WERE FOR APRIL 8 AND 5, 1989 ON A HILL JUST OUTSIDE OF THE COMMUNITY OF PUCARA.
COMMENT: UFO'S ARE ALSO SEEN IN THE PUNO AREA AND WE ARE INCLINED TO PUT AN SL HELICOPTER IN THE SAME CATEGORY. BUT, ALTHOUGH WE CANNOT PUT OUR HANDS ON IT AT THE MOMENT, WE RECALL A LA PAZ CABLE SEVERAL MONTHS AGO THAT ALSO REPORTED SIGHTINGS OF A HELO IN THE AREA.
END COMMENT.

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SL PRESENCE IN PUNO DEPARTMENT

6. FOR THE DECEMBER 23, 1988 ATTACK ON THE PAMPA PROJECT (SPONSORED BY THE EEC) IN PUCARA (RETEL) MARKED BOTH A HIGH POINT OF AND A TURNING POINT FOR SL ACTIVITY IN THE AREA. THIS WAS, THEY SAID, THE FIRST TIME SL HAD ATTACKED DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN THE AREA.

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7. AGREED THAT THERE ARE CURRENTLY TWO SL COLUMNS, EACH WITH 30 GUERRILLAS, OPERATING IN THE AREA. ONE COLUMN OPERATES IN AZANGARO PROVINCE, AND PROBABLY OPERATES OUT OF AZANGARO INTO MELGAR PROVINCE. MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THE COLUMN OPERATING IN HUANCANE PROVINCE, SAYING THAT IT WAS COMPOSED OF THREE WOMEN AND 27 MEN. THEY WERE OBVIOUSLY NOT FROM THE AREA,
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AS THEY DID NOT SPEAK AYMARA AND WERE USING FORCIBLY CONSCRIPTED YOUTHS AS INTERPRETERS. THAT ONE OF THE GREATEST OBSTACLES TO SL BUILDING SUPPORT AMONG THE LOCAL POPULATION IS THAT THEY DO NOT SPEAK AYMARA.) THESE SL COLUMNS WERE PARTICULARLY ACTIVE IN THE "CORRIDOR" STRETCHING NORTH OF LAKE TITICACA THROUGH HUANCANE, AZANGARO AND MELGAR PROVINCES, CONTINUING WESTWARD INTO THE DEPARTMENT OF CUZCO. FOR NORMAL OPERATIONS, THE COLUMNS GENERALLY DIVIDE INTO GROUPS OF THREE. THEY

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LIVE BY DEMANDING FOOD FROM THE LOCAL POPULATION AS THEY MOVE AROUND. SIGNIFICANTLY, "THEY ARE AFRAID OF BEING POISONED BY THE LOCAL PEOPLE, AND ALWAYS FORCE THEM TO TRY IT" BEFORE THEY THEMSELVES WILL EAT. THIS IS ONE INDICATION OF THE MISTRUST AND LACK OF SUPPORT FOR SL AMONG THE LOCAL POPULATION. SL DID SEEM TO BE ACTIVE IN BUILDING BASES OF SUPPORT IN THE CHUCUITO PROVINCE SOUTH OF PUNO.

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8. RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COMMUNITY OF MOHO ON THE NORTH SHORE OF LAKE TITICACA. STATED THAT BEGINNING 11 FEB 89, THERE HAD BEEN NO POLICE PRESENCE IN MOHO; ON THAT DATE TWO UNITS OF THE PERUVIAN INVESTIGATIVE POLICE (PIP) HAD GOTTEN DRUNK AND HAD KILLED TWO YOUNG MEN IN THE COMMUNITY. THE COMMUNITY RAN THE PIP FORCE OUT OF TOWN. FEARING THEIR VULNERABILITY TO SL RAIDS IN THE AREA, HOWEVER, THE COMMUNITY HAD PETITIONED THE GOVERNMENT FOR A GUARDIA CIVIL (GC) FORCE. FINALLY, ON 11 APRIL 89, A DETACHMENT OF 24 GC UNITS ARRIVED IN MOHO, AND HAD BY ALL ACCOUNTS BEEN BEHAVING THEMSELVES. ABOUT THE FIRST OF MAY, THERE WERE UNCONFIRMED REPORTS THAT POLICE

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HAD CAPTURED TWO SL MEMBERS NEAR MOHO,

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PRS-01	DS-01	DIG-04	SCT-02	P-02	T-01	/067 W	
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P 082048Z JUN 89
 FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9140
 INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
 AMEMBASSY QUITO
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 04 LIMA 08497

DIA FOR DAH-5/OSC-2D/DB-6D2/JSI-4B/DB-3C1

USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD JOHN YOULE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
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POLICE ABUSES

9. PEOPLE IN THE AREA MAKE
 A CLEAR DISTINCTION BETWEEN MEMBERS OF THE PIP,
 WHO ARE INFAMOUS FOR GETTING DRUNK, COMMITTING
 ABUSES AND, IN GENERAL, BEHAVING BADLY, AND THE
 GC, WHICH IS A MUCH MORE DISCIPLINED FORCE.

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DESCRIBED A RECENT SWEEP THROUGH THE AREA
 BY A COMBINED PIP, GC, AND GUARDIA REPUBLICANA

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(GR) FORCE OF 18 POLICEMEN COMMANDED BY A LIEUTENANT DAVILA THAT HAD BEEN PARTICULARLY ABUSIVE, ROBBING VILLAGERS OF MONEY AND FOOD, STRIKING PEOPLE WITH THEIR RIFLE BUTS, ETC. (NOTE: THE THREE POLICE FORCES WERE COMBINED INTO THE NATIONAL POLICE IN JANUARY 1989).

10. "THE BEHAVIOR OF THE POLICE IN PUNO IS CRUCIAL IN STOPPING THE SPREAD OF SL, [REDACTED] WAS UNDERSTANDING OF POLICE BEHAVIOR NOTING THAT THEY WERE POORLY TRAINED

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AND THAT THEY WERE PAID SUCH A PITTANCE THAT CORRUPTION WAS ALMOST NECESSARY FOR SURVIVAL. [REDACTED] NOTED THAT POLICE IN THE AREA HAD ALWAYS BEEN KNOWN FOR UNRULY BEHAVIOR UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL, BUT SAID THAT DRUNKENNESS AMONG THE POLICE HAD INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY OVER THE LAST YEAR. HE ATTRIBUTED THIS TO A NATURAL REACTION TO AN INCREASED SENSE OF FEAR AMONG THE POLICE AS THEY FACE AN INCREASINGLY ACTIVE SL WITH INADEQUATE SUPPORT FROM THEIR GOVERNMENT. "THEIR FEAR IS REAL; THEY KNOW THEY CAN BE ATTACKED AT ANY MOMENT AND KILLED BY SL," [REDACTED] CATEGORICALLY THAT ABUSES BY THE POLICE WERE "ALMOST ALWAYS COMMITTED WHEN THEY'RE DRUNK. THEY DRINK OUT OF FEAR."

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11. [REDACTED] AGREED THAT PEOPLE IN THE AREA ARE AFRAID OF BEING ARRESTED, "DISAPPEARED," AND TORTURED BY THE POLICE, "AND WITH REASON." POLICE WILL COMMONLY ENGAGE IN RAIDS AND ROADBLOCKS, DEMANDING THAT THE LOCAL PEOPLE PRODUCE IDENTITY DOCUMENTS. "BUT MANY OF THESE PEOPLE ARE ILLITERATE, AND DON'T HAVE ANY DOCUMENTS," [REDACTED] ADDED THAT THE POLICE WILL TAKE PERSONAL BELONGINGS AND MONEY, AND WILL PHYSICALLY AND PSYCHOLOGICALLY MISTREAT PEOPLE DURING THESE ACTIVITIES.

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12. _____ SAID THAT SL COMMONLY WEARS "RANGER" CAMOUFLAGED UNIFORMS. SO NOW, WHEN VILLAGERS SEE A UNIT OF ARMED MEN APPROACHING THEIR VILLAGE, THEY DON'T KNOW WHO IT WILL BE -- BUT ARE FEARFUL IN ANY CASE.

OBSTACLES TO SPREAD OF SL INFLUENCE

13. BESIDES THEIR LACK OF AYMARA ABILITY, THE MAIN OBSTACLES TO THE SPREAD OF SL INFLUENCE IN THE DEPARTMENT WERE INSTITUTIONS: (1) THE "FEDERACION DEPARTAMENTAL DE CAMPESINOS", WHICH EFFECTIVELY ORGANIZES STRIKES AND LAND SEIZURES; (2) THE CATHOLIC CHURCH; (3) HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS LIKE CODEH; (4) OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTIES, "ESPECIALLY THE UNITED LEFT" (IU); AND (5) LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. ALL OF THESE, _____ SAID, "ARE ACTIVELY SEEKING ALTERNATIVES TO VIOLENCE." IN PARTICULAR, SL SEEMED TO VIEW THE PEASANTS' FEDERATION AS A RIVAL FORCE. _____ ILLUSTRATED THIS BY SAYING THAT IN THE AZANGARO AREA SL HAD CALLED SEVERAL

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 04 OF 04 LIMA 08497

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"ARMED STRIKES" TO TRY TO DEMONSTRATE WHO REALLY
 DICTATED THE LEFTIST AGENDA IN THE AREA. THESE
 ARMED STRIKES ALWAYS SEEMED TO BE CALLED RIGHT
 BEFORE THE PEASANTS' FEDERATION HAD PLANNED
 A STRIKE, AND WERE ATTEMPTS TO STEAL THE FEDERATION'S
 THUNDER. INVARIABLY, THE MEMBERS SAID, THERE
 WAS LITTLE OBSERVANCE OF THE SL ARMED STRIKES,
 WHILE THE FEDERATION'S STRIKES WERE VERY EFFECTIVE.

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_____ PARTICULARLY STRESSED THAT PUNO DEPARTMENT RESIDENTS DID NOT WANT TO SEE THE "MILITARIZATION" OF THE DEPARTMENT BY THE GOP DECLARING IT AN EMERGENCY ZONE.

15. COMMENT: THE PUNO DEPARTMENT FEDERATION OF CAMPESINOS (SEE REF B) IS DOMINATED BY THE PUM, ONE OF THE MOST RADICALLY LEFTIST OF IU CONSTITUENT PARTIES. ANALYSIS OF WHAT IS STOPPING SL IN PUNO IS ONE WE OFTEN HEAR FROM IU MEMBERS OR SYMPATHIZERS: "POPULAR (I.E. LEFTIST) MOBILIZATION." IU MEMBERS ALSO CITE VILLA EL SALVADOR IN LIMA AS A PARALLEL CASE. THERE IS SOME MERIT TO THIS VIEW, IN OUR OPINION.

16.

OUTSIDE LIMA, PUNO IS ABOUT THE ONLY DEPARTMENT CAPITAL WITH AN ACTIVE AND WELL-ORGANIZED HUMAN RIGHTS MOVEMENT.

WATSON

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