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PAGE 01 LIMA 10681 01 OF 02 202332Z
ACTION ARA-00

INFO	LOG-00	ADS-00	AID-00	INR-07	SS-00	CIAE-00	EB-00
H-01	NSCE-00	NSAE-00	COME-00	SSO-00	HA-09	L-03	
LAB-04	TRSE-00	PM-10	PA-01	OMB-01	STR-18	SIL-01	
INRE-00	ANAE-00	DPM-01	USIE-00	SP-02	SNP-01	PRS-01	
DS-01	SCT-02	P-02	T-01	/066 W			

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O 202326Z JUL 89

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0352

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

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/FPC/CDR *MGE* Date: *4/21/95*

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELEASE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECLASSIFY
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<input type="checkbox"/> DENY	IN PART
<input type="checkbox"/> DELETE Non-Responsive Info	
FOIA Exemptions _____	
PA Exemptions _____	

MR Cases Only:	
EU Citations _____	
	TS authority to:
<input type="checkbox"/> CLASSIFY as	<input type="checkbox"/> S or <input type="checkbox"/> C OADR
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LIMA 10681

USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD JOHN YOULE

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

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PINS, PTER, ALOW, PE
SUBJECT: SENDERO LAUNCHES "ARMED STRIKE" IN LIMA

REFS: (A) LIMA 10545, (B) LIMA 9719, (C) LIMA 10678

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: SENDERO LUMINOSO (SL) LAUNCHED ITS PREVIOUSLY-DECLARED 24-HOUR ARMED STRIKE IN LIMA THURSDAY, JULY 20, BY DOWNING POWER LINES AND BURNING GOVERNMENT OWNED BUSES THE DAY BEFORE. PRIVATELY CONFIDENTIAL
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PAGE 02 LIMA 10681 01 OF 02 202332Z

OWNED PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ALSO CALLED A ONE-DAY

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STRIKE FOR JULY 20. THE DRIVERS UNION BOSS CLAIMED THE TWO STRIKES WERE NOT CONNECTED BUT ADMITTED TO FEAR OF SL RETALIATION. OTHER THAN THE DELAYS AND INCONVENIENCES DUE TO THE LACK OF TRANSPORTATION, THE DAY PASSED WITHOUT MAJOR INCIDENTS. END SUMMARY.

3. SENDERO LAUNCHED ITS 24-HOUR ARMED STRIKE IN TWO OF LIMA'S INDUSTRIAL CORRIDORS THURSDAY, 20 JULY AS SCHEDULED (REF A). POLICE SOURCES REPORTED THAT SECTIONS OF BOTH THE CARETERRA CENTRAL AND AVENIDA ARGENTINA WERE BLOCKED DURING THE MORNING RUSHHOURS BY SL, WITH NO TRAFFIC PRESENT. AS THE POLICE CLEARED UP ONE SET OF BARRICADES AND TIRE-FIRES, OTHERS WOULD APPEAR AT DIFFERENT POINTS ALONG THE ROADS. THE PAN-AMERICAN HIGHWAY WAS REPORTED TEMPORARILY CLOSED JUST NORTH OF LIMA EARLY IN THE MORNING, BUT THE POLICE CLEARED IT. POLICE SOURCES ALSO REPORT HAVING KILLED EIGHT "SENDERISTAS" THURSDAY MORNING IN AT LEAST 5 SEPARATE CLASHES AROUND LIMA (CANTO GRANDE, VILLA EL SALVADOR, COMAS, CARETERRA CENTRAL, AND SAN MARTIN DE PORRAS). POLICE SOURCES EXPECT A REPEAT OF THE EARLY MORNING ACTIONS DURING THE AFTERNOON RUSHHOUR AND THROUGH THE EVENING.

4. NOT ONLY WERE MANY LIMENOS WITHOUT ELECTRICITY THUSDAY MORNING, BUT FEW OF THE PRIVATE MICROBUSES WERE OPERATING. ACCORDING TO DAVID QUINTANA, LEADER OF THE 12,000-STRONG FEDERATION OF DRIVERS, 97% OF THE INDEPENDENTLY-OWNED MICROBUSES WERE IDLED IN A ONE-DAY STRIKE OVER THE GOVERNMENT'S REFUSAL TO GRANT THEM A FARE INCREASE TO COVER THEIR GROWING OPERATING COSTS. QUINTANA SAID THE DECISION TO GO OUT ON

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PAGE 03

LIMA 10681 01 OF 02 202332Z

STRIKE CAME ONLY LATE WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, AFTER "IT WAS CLEAR THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION WOULD NOT MEET WITH US." QUINTANA STRESSED TO POLOFF THAT THE TIMING OF THE ACTION "WAS ONLY A COINCIDENCE" AND WAS NOT COORDINATED WITH SL'S ARMED STRIKE. HE DID NOTE HOWEVER, THAT "OF COURSE WE ARE WORRIED." UNLIKE DRIVERS OF THE STATE-OWNED BUSES, HE ASSERTED, "OUR DRIVERS ARE NOT PROTECTED BY THE POLICE." HE ALSO SAID THAT THE STATE-OPERATED BUS LINES WERE RUNNING ONLY "MINIMAL SERVICE," ESTIMATED AT 40% OF NORMAL.

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(THE DRIVERS UNION NOW HAS A FRIDAY MORNING MEETING WITH THE MAYOR OF LIMA.)

5. A MID-AFTERNOON DRIVE BY POLOFFS THROUGH THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR ALONG AVENIDA ARGENTINA AND ENVIRONS REVEALED THE ROADS TO BE OPEN, NO BARRICADES (ONLY ONE TIRE-FIRE), BUT WITH MINIMAL TRAFFIC. FEW PRIVATE CARS AND EVEN FEWER BUSES WERE PRESENT. MANY INTERSECTIONS WERE LINED WITH HUNDREDS AWAITING TRANSPORTATION. EMBASSY CONTACTS REPORTED THAT MOST LARGE FACTORIES WERE OPERATING, BUT MANY WORKERS CAME IN LATE. FOR THE MOST PART, HOWEVER, SMALL SHOPS IN THE AREA WERE LOCKED UP TIGHT. WHAT GRAFITTI THERE WAS IN SUPPORT OF THE ARMED STRIKE APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN RECENTLY PAINTED OVER.

6. SECURITY PRESENCE WAS SURPRISINGLY LIGHT ALONG THE ROUTES TRAVELLED BY POLOFFS. THERE WERE, HOWEVER, SOME FIFTEEN ARMY TROOPS ON FOOT PATROL WEARING THE DISTINCTIVE BLACK COMBAT SWEATERS AND (FACE-SHIELDING) HOODS MORE OFTEN EMPLOYED IN THE MOUNTAIN EMERGENCY ZONES THAN IN LIMA. THERE WAS A GOVERNMENT HELICOPTER SURVEILLING THE AREA. SAN MARCOS UNIVERSITY, A TRADITIONAL TROUBLE SPOT, HAD ITS THE GATES LOCKED APPARENTLY ON GOVERNMENT

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PAGE 04

LIMA 10681 01 OF 02 202332Z

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PAGE 01 LIMA 10681 02 OF 02 202332Z
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ORDERS. "MASSIVE" MILITARY PRESENCE AT JORGE CHAVEZ
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WAS ALSO OBSERVED.

7. THE STRIKE WAS PRECEDED BY A NUMBER OF SL ARMED
ACTIONS IN AND AROUND LIMA, 19 JULY. FIVE PUBLIC
BUSES OF THE STATE-OWNED ENATRUPERU COMPANY WERE
BURNED IN DIVERSE PARTS OF LIMA IN A COORDINATED
ACTION AT 6:20 AM JULY 19. IN EACH CASE, THE
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PAGE 02 LIMA 10681 02 OF 02 202332Z

TERRORISTS APPROACHED THE BUS DRIVER, FORCED HIM TO
STOP AND ORDERED ALL PASSENGERS OFF AT GUNPOINT. THE

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BUSES WERE THEN GUTTED BY INCENDIARY BOMBS. POLICE SOURCES REPORT THAT AT LEAST THREE ADDITIONAL BUSES WERE BURNED IN THE SAME WAY THROUGHOUT THE DAY. BY NIGHTFALL, POLICE HAD ARRESTED AT LEAST 18 SUSPECTED SL MEMBERS FOR INVOLVEMENT IN THESE AND OTHER ACTIONS THE SAME DAY.

8. PARTS OF GREATER LIMA ARE STILL BLACKED-OUT AS OF 6:00 PM, JULY 20. A SPOKESMAN FOR ELECTROPERU BLAMED THE OUTAGES ON DYNAMITE ATTACKS AGAINST THE NATIONAL POWER GRID BY PRESUMED SL TERRORISTS. IN PREDICTING THAT POWER WOULD NOT BE FULLY RESTORED FOR SEVERAL DAYS, HE NOTED THAT A NUMBER OF DEPARTMENTS IN NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN PERU ALSO HAD HAD THEIR POWER SUPPLY INTERRUPTED. PRESS REPORTS NOTE BLACKOUTS IN THE NORTHERN COASTAL CITIES OF CHICLAYO (LAMBAYEQUE DEPARTMENT), TRUJILLO (LIBERTAD DEPARTMENT) AND CHIMBOTE (ANCASH DEPARTMENT) AND AS FAR SOUTH AS ICA (ICA DEPARTMENT). AT LEAST TWO POWER PYLONS WERE DOWNED IN VILLA EL SALVADOR, ONE OF LIMA'S OUTLYING "PUEBLOS JOVENES."

9. COMMENT: OUR PREDICTION THAT SL WOULD BLACK OUT LIMA "SOMETIME NEAR THE END OF JULY" (REF B) CAME A FEW DAYS EARLIER THAN THE JULY 28 PERUVIAN INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS. WHATEVER SUCCESS THE STRIKE MAY HAVE ACHIEVED THUS FAR PROBABLY STEMS FROM THE INTIMIDATION PRIOR TO THE STRIKE PLUS THE LAST MINUTE TRANSPORTATION WALK-OUT RATHER THAN POPULAR ENDORSEMENT OF SL'S CALL.

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PAGE 03

LIMA 10681 02 OF 02 202332Z

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