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INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 AID-00 IHR-07 SS-00 CIAE-00 EG-00
DINT-05 DODE-00 H-01 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 COME-00 HA-00
1-03 LAB-04 TRSE-00 PH-10 PA-01 DNB-01 STR-18
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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
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INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
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USAFSO HOWARD AFB PH
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United States Department of State
Office of FOI, Privacy, & Classification Review
Review Authority: MOSKOWITZ, SAM
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C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 10750

S/IL, DOL/ILAB, ARA LABOR ADVISOR

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: ELAB, PTER, PHUN, PE
SUBJECT: SL'S WAR ON THE MINERS

1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY. ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL MINES OWNED BY THE
GOP'S CENTROMIN WAS ATTACKED BY SENDERO LUMINOSO
JULY 14. THE TERRORISTS DESTROYED KEY PRODUCTION
EQUIPMENT BUT THEIR REAL TARGET WAS INTIMIDATION OF
THE MINERS AND THEIR UNION WHICH HAD JUST REACHED
AGREEMENT WITH THE COMPANY ON A NEW CONTRACT. SL'S
CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE MINERS INCLUDES ASSASSINATIONS,
BOHBINGS AND ATTEMPTS TO PENETRATE THE ALREADY
RADICAL MINERS FEDERATION (MF). THE JUNE CONGRESS OF
THE FEDERATION, HOWEVER, STRONGLY REJECTED SL
OVERTURES. IT ALSO CALLED FOR A NATIONWIDE STRIKE IN
AUGUST, THE ORGANIZATION OF MINERS SELF-DEFENSE
COMMITTEES AND ELECTED A NEW LEADERSHIP. THE FUTURE
DOES NOT LOOK PEACEFUL FOR THE MINERS NOR THE MINING
SECTOR, PERU'S PRINCIPAL MONEY MAKER. END SUMMARY.

3. IN THE EARLY MORNING HOURS OF JULY 14, ABOUT
TWENTY SL TERRORISTS BROKE INTO THE COMPOUND HOUSING
THE COMPRESSORS AND SUBSTATIONS THAT PROVIDE AIR AND
ELECTRICITY TO CENTROMIN'S HOROCOCHA AND OTHER
SMALLER, NEIGHBORING MINES AND DYNAMITED THE
SENSITIVE AND EXPENSIVE EQUIPMENT. THE TERRORISTS
OVERPOWERED THE GUARDS AT THE SITE AND REPORTEDLY
BEAT UP TWO WORKERS WHO PROTESTED THE DESTRUCTION.
NEARBY POLICE WERE ALERTED BY THE SUCCESSIVE
DETONATIONS BUT DID NOT ARRIVE IN TIME TO PREVENT THE
EXTENSIVE DAMAGES. THERE WERE NO CASUALTIES. THE
ARMY MOVED IN THE NEXT DAY AND THE POLICE SET UP ROAD
BLOCKS TO PREVENT THE ESCAPE OF THE TERRORISTS.

4. CENTROMIN OFFICIALS ESTIMATE LOSSES IN THE
MILLIONS OF DOLLARS AND REPAIR TIME OF AT LEAST SIX
MONTHS. 3,000 WORKERS WILL BE IDLE AND 4,000
YOUNGSTERS OUT OF SCHOOL DUE TO THE LACK OF
ELECTRICITY IN THE TOWN. THIS IS THE SECOND ATTACK
BY SL ON HOROCOCHA IN SIX MONTHS. IN LATE DECEMBER
1988, TERRORIST DAMAGED EQUIPMENT THAT PREVENTED
OPERATIONS FOR NEARLY TWO MONTHS. THIS MOST RECENT
ATTACK PLACES THE ALREADY FINANCIALLY STRAPPED
CENTROMIN IN A POSITION OF CONTINUING TO BEAR LOSSES
OR SHUT DOWN.

5. SL'S ANGER WAS NOT DIRECTED AT THE GOP, THE
MINE'S OWNER, BUT AT THE MINERS' UNION WHICH HAD
REACHED AGREEMENT WITH THE COMPANY ON A NEW
COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT JULY 13. VICTOR
CUADROS PAREDES, SECRETARY GENERAL OF HOROCOCHA'S
MINERS' UNION, CONSIDERED THE ATTACK AN ACT OF
REVENGE BY THE SL. ANTONIO CAJACHAUHA, THE UNION'S
FORMER SECGEN, HAD BEEN ASSASSINATED BY SL IN THE
EARLY MORNING HOURS OF MAY 8 AS HE WALKED HOME WITH
AN ADVISER TO THE MINERS FEDERATION (MF). CAJACHAUHA
WAS KILLED BECAUSE HE OPPOSED SL'S ARMED STRIKE
SCHEDULED FOR MAY 10-12 IN THE CENTRAL DEPARTMENTS OF
JUNIN, CERRO DE PASCO AND HUANUCO. THE ADVISER'S
LIFE WAS SPARED BUT HE WAS WARNED NOT TO CONTINUE
SUPPORTING "REFORMISH" WITHIN THE MINERS MOVEMENT.

6. ON THE EVE OF SL'S ARMED STRIKE, LUIS
RODRIGUEZ-MARIATEGUI, PRESIDENT OF THE ORGANIZATION
OF PRIVATE MINE OWNERS--THE NATIONAL MINING AND
PETROLEUM SOCIETY, SHMP--WARNED THAT THE SUCCESS OF
THE ARMED STRIKE THREATENED TO DO AWAY WITH LABOR
UNIONS IN THE MINES LEAVING THE OWNERS WITH NO ONE
BUT TERRORISTS TO NEGOTIATE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING
AGREEMENTS. ON MAY 8, THE SHMP ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE
CONDEMNING THE ASSASSINATION OF CAJACHAUHA AND
CALLING FOR TROOPS TO OCCUPY THE MINES IN THE THREE
CENTRAL DEPARTMENTS TARGETTED FOR SL ACTIVITY AND (A)
RESTORE PUBLIC ORDER, (B) INSURE THE LIVES OF MINERS
AND PROFESSIONALS, (C) PROTECT THE MINES THEMSELVES
AND THE RIGHT TO WORK.

7. ACCORDING TO OUR CALCULATIONS, AT LEAST THREE
MINERS LEADERS HAVE BEEN KILLED THIS YEAR. (THE
PERUVIAN COMMUNIST PARTY, PCP, CLAIMS THAT EIGHT

LEADERS HAVE BEEN KILLED AND TWENTY-EIGHT ATTACKS
REGISTERED AGAINST MINES SO FAR IN 1989.) HUNDREDS
OF LEADERS HAVE BEEN THREATENED BY BOTH SL AND THE
SELF-STYLED CRF (RODRIGO FRANCO COMMAND). MANY OF
THESE INCIDENTS HAVE NOT REACHED THE PRESS. AN

[REDACTED] WHO TRAVELS WEEKLY TO
THE MINES OF THE CENTRAL SIERRA REGULARLY INFORMS US
OF MAJOR INCIDENTS AGAINST THESE MINES. THE MODUS OF
THESE ATTACKS ARE THE SAME. THE SL DESTROYS SOME
COMPANY EQUIPMENT. THEY STEAL AS MUCH DYNAMITE AND
FUSES AS THEY ARE ABLE TO CARRY ON HORSEBACK OR IN
CONMANEERED VEHICLES. AND MINERS ARE WARNED NOT TO
CALL IN THE POLICE. NOTE: IF THE AMOUNT OF DYNAMITE
STOLEN IN THESE UNREPORTED INCIDENTS IS REFLECTIVE OF
SL STOCKPILING OF EXPLOSIVES, THE GROUP'S UNUSED
FIREPOWER IS FRIGHTENING. FOR EXAMPLE, IN AN
UNREPORTED JUNE 5 ATTACK ON THE PACOCOCHA MINE IN
JUNIN DEPARTMENT, SL SEIZED 120 BOXES OF DYNAMITE,
WITH 300 STICKS IN EACH BOX, 600 BOXES OF IGNITORS,
AND 2 LARGES SPOOLS OF FUSE. END NOTE.

8. CAUGHT BETWEEN THE THREATS FROM SL AND CRF, AND
THE SHMP'S REFUSAL TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE FEDERATION'S
PRINCIPAL DEMAND FOR A NATIONAL LEVEL COLLECTIVE
BARGAINING AGREEMENT (PLIEGO UNICO) AND THE GOP'S
LIP-SERVICE TO THE PLIEGO'S IMPLEMENTATION, 300
DELEGATES FROM 90 UNIONS AND REGIONAL FEDERATIONS MET
FOR THE SECOND NATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE MF. THE
CONGRESS WAS HELD AT MARCONA, BASE OF SAUL CAHTORAL,
THE FALLEN SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE MF, AND DEDICATED
TO HIS MEMORY. THERE WERE FOUR PRINCIPAL CONCLUSIONS:
(1) TO CALL A NATION-WIDE STRIKE ON AUGUST 14 IF
NEGOTIATIONS ON THE "PLIEGO UNICO" WITH THE SHMP DO

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NOT GO FORWARD. (THE SNMP IS REFUSING TO ABIDE BY GOP PROMISES MADE LAST YEAR AND REITERATED BY THE MINISTER OF LABOR ON MAY 9 ORDERING THE SNMP TO DISCUSS THE "PLIEGO" WITH THE MF.) THE SNMP HAS A COURT INJUNCTION AGAINST THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

(2) TO REJECT A MOTION PRESENTED BY SL SYMPATHIZERS ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE COUNTRY WAS AT WAR AND RECOGNIZING THE ACTIONS BY THE "GROUPS IN ARMS" LIKE THE SL AND MRTA. IT WAS ACCEPTED IN COMMITTEE BUT TURNED DOWN BY THE PLENARY BY A TWO-TO-ONE VOTE. A NEW MOTION EXPLICITLY REJECTING SL REMAINED TO BE DRAFTED.

(3) TO FORM MINERS SELF-DEFENSE COMMITTEES, OR THEIR OWN VERSION OF "RONDAS MINERAS", TO COUNTER SL, MILITARY AND PARA-MILITARY ACTIVITIES. THE MF HAD BECOME INCREASINGLY CRITICAL OF THE "MILITARIZATION" OF THE MINES AT THE HANDS OF THE PRIVATE SECURITY FORCES HIRED BY THE MINE OWNERS OR MILITARY/POLICE PRESENCE AT THE CAMPS. (SOUTHERN PERU COPPER CORPORATION (SPCC) OFFICIALS DENIED JULY 19 THE GOOD INTENTIONS OF THE SELF-DEFENSE GROUPS CLAIMING THEY WOULD ACT AS THE ARMED GROUP OF THE UNIONS FOR CONTROL/INTIMIDATION OF THE MINERS.)

(4) TO CRITICIZE THE EXTENSIVE--AND EXPENSIVE-- PUBLIC RELATIONS CAMPAIGN BY THE SNMP DISPLAYING THE VIRTUES OF MINERS AND THEIR LIFESTYLES.

9 THE CONGRESS ALSO ELECTED A NEW LEADERSHIP WITH PCP'S VICTOR TAYPE AS PRESIDENT AND PUH'S JORGE QUESADA, AN SPCC EMPLOYEE, AS SEGEN. IN SUBSEQUENT INTERVIEWS, TAYPE WAS RELUCTANT TO BLAME SL FOR THE RECENT ASSASSINATIONS OF THE MINERS' LEADERS WHEN ASKED POINT BLANK BY UNIDAD, THE PCP'S NEWSPAPER. HE LOOKED AT SL AND MRTA NOT AS WORKERS BUT AS "ORGANIZATIONS WHICH STEW FROM THE CRISIS THE COUNTRY IS GOING THROUGH." QUESADA ADMITTED TO CESAR WILDEBRANDT THAT WHILE HE DOES NOT SYMPATHIZE WITH SL AND REJECTS AND CONDEMNS SL "METHODS", HE "UNDERSTANDS" IT.

10. THE RESULTS OF THE CONGRESS WERE A SERIOUS BLOW TO SL'S ONGOING CAMPAIGN TO INFILTRATE OR INFLUENCE THE MINERS UNIONS AND THE FEDERATION. FROM SECONDARY SOURCES WE KNOW THAT THE DIVISION BETWEEN SL SYMPATHIZERS AND OTHER MINERS AT THE CONGRESS WAS SHARP. THIS SOURCE NOTED THAT RADICAL IU SENATOR

JAVIER DIEZ CANSECO, WHO ATTENDED THE MEETING, FOR THE FIRST TIME TOOK A FIRM POSITION AGAINST THE SL IN MOST OF THE CRITICAL VOTES. OUR SOURCE TOLD US THAT DIEZ CANSECO IS NOT AN SL SYMPATHIZER, BUT IN THE PAST WOULD HAVE SPEARHEADED EFFORTS TO REACH COMPROMISES ON SL DEMANDS.

11. THESE AND OTHER SOURCES TELL US THAT SL HAS BURNED TOO MANY BRIDGES INSIDE THE MINERS FEDERATION WITH ITS INDESCRIMINATE ATTACKS AGAINST UNION OFFICIALS. THOUGH SOME OF THE THREATS AGAINST MINERS OFFICIALS ARE UNDOUBTEDLY CRF, UNION OFFICIALS CORRECTLY LAY THE BLAME FOR MOST OF THE MURDERS AT THE FEET OF SL. WITH FEELINGS RUNNING HIGH, THE CONGRESS DEFEATED EVERY MOTION SUPPORTED BY SL SYMPATHIZERS, AND THE TERRORIST MOVEMENT HAS SUFFERED AT LEAST A TEMPORARY SETBACK INSIDE THE MF.

WATSON

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