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ACTION DS-01

INFO	LOG-00	ADS-00	AID-00	INR-07	SS-00	CIAE-00	EB-00
DODE-00	H-01	NSCE-00	ARA-00	NSAE-00	COME-00	SSO-00	
HA-09	L-03	CTME-00	NRCE-00	TRSE-00	PM-10	PA-01	
FAAE-00	CCO-00	OMB-01	INRE-00	CA-02	CG-00	ACDA-12	
A-00	USSS-00	USIE-00	JUSE-00	FBIE-00	SP-02	DOEE-00	
M-01	SNP-01	PRS-01	IMMC-01	DIS-01	SCT-03	P-02	
T-01	/060 W						

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O 022210Z NOV 89
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3105
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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

AMEMBASSY CARACAS RELEASE DECLASSIFY
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ EXCISE DECLASSIFY
 AMEMBASSY QUITO DENY IN PART
 USAFSD HOWARD AFB PM DELETE Non-Responsive Info
 USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PM FOIA Exemptions
 PA Exemptions

MR Cases Only:
 EO Citations _____
 TS authority o.
 CLASSIFY as S or C UADR
 DOWNGRADE TS to S or C UADR

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 16521

USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

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

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: ASEC, PTER, PGDV, ALOW, PE
SUBJECT: SENDERO CLASHES WITH POLICE IN DOWNTOWN LIMA

1. (C) SUMMARY. A NOVEMBER 1 CLASH BETWEEN SENDERO LUMINOSO AND THE POLICE IN DOWNTOWN LIMA LEFT NINE DEAD AND A DOZEN WOUNDED, MOSTLY INNOCENT BYSTANDERS. 234 PERSONS WERE ARRESTED. THE INCIDENT OCCURRED NEAR NOON, ABOUT ONE MILE FROM THE EMBASSY. ON NOVEMBER 1 PRESIDENT GARCIA TRANSFERRED TO THE

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MILITARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR SECURITY INSIDE THE

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CITIES OF LIMA AND CALLAO. END SUMMARY.

2. (U) ON NOVEMBER 1, APPROXIMATELY 100 SUSPECTED SENDERO LUMINOSO CADRE AND SYMPATHIZERS LAUNCHED A DOWNTOWN STREET DEMONSTRATION SIX BLOCKS FROM THE JUSTICE MINISTRY AND TEN BLOCKS FROM THE U.S. EMBASSY. THE MARCHERS BEGAN GATHERING AT ABOUT NOON AND WALKED IN THE DIRECTION OF THE PLAZA MANCO CAPAC. MANY WERE HOODED. BANNERS DISPLAYING THE HAMMER AND SICKLE WERE UNFURLED IN ROUTE. AT THE PLAZA, HOMEMADE EXPLOSIVE DEVICES AND DYNAMITE BOMBS WERE HURLED, A NUMBER IN THE DIRECTION OF THE BUSINESS OFFICES OF TELEVISION CHANNEL 11. CHANNEL 11 IS OWNED BY LIMA MAYORAL FRONT-RUNNER, INDEPENDENT RICHARD BELMONT.

3. (C) INITIAL REPORTS INDICATED THAT THE TERRORISTS' TARGET WAS THE TV STATION. POLICE QUICKLY RESPONDED, ARRIVING AT THE PLAZA A FEW MINUTES AFTER THE FIRST EXPLOSION. THE PLAZA WAS FILLED WITH HOLIDAYERS (NOVEMBER 1 WAS ALL SAINTS DAY, A NATIONAL HOLIDAY), AND WITH A HUNDRED EVANGELISTS INVOLVED IN A PUBLIC PRAYER MEETING. POLICE SOURCES TOLD US THE POLICE WERE FIRED ON BY THE DEMONSTRATORS. PRESS ACCOUNTS ARE CONFUSED AS TO WHO FIRED FIRST, BUT NINE PERSONS DIED IN THE SUBSEQUENT FIREFIGHT. THE POLICE PUBLICLY ACKNOWLEDGED ONLY THREE DEATHS. AT LEAST 15 WERE WOUNDED BY THE GUNFIRE AND EXPLOSIONS, INCLUDING ONE POLICE OFFICER WHO WAS SHOT BY A FELLOW OFFICER, AND WHOSE RIGHT LEG WAS SUBSEQUENTLY AMPUTATED. AS THE FIRING COMMENCED THE DEMONSTRATORS SCATTERED AND

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POLICE SWEEPED THE AREA, INCLUDING RESTAURANTS AND PUBLIC BUSES, ARRESTING "SUSPECTS."

4. (C) INTERIOR MINISTER MANTILLA CLAIMED THAT THE THREE (SIC) KILLED WERE TERRORISTS. HE ALSO TOLD THE PRESS THAT MOST OF THOSE DETAINED ALSO HAD "TERRORIST ANTECEDENTS." NEVERTHELESS, A SOURCE AT THE ANTI-TERRORISM POLICE TOLD US THAT ONLY TWO OF THE DEAD HAD CRIMINAL RECORDS AND THAT PERHAPS A DOZEN OF THE 234 DETAINEES HAVE POSSIBLE TERRORIST LINKS.

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5. (C) CAMERA CREWS CAUGHT MUCH OF THE ACTION FOR THE EVENING NEWS. THE IMAGES WERE OF MASS CONFUSION, FLEEING PEDESTRIANS, WOUNDED LYING IN THE STREETS, AND AGGRESSIVE POLICE DRAGGING SUSPECTS FROM BUILDINGS. THE POLICE CONSIDER THE OPERATION TO HAVE BEEN A SUCCESS. WE JUDGE PUBLIC REACTION TO BE GENERALLY SUPPORTIVE OF THE POLICE, LARGELY MOTIVATED, WE BELIEVE, BY THE PUBLIC'S GROWING IMPATIENCE WITH SENERO TACTICS, AND A GENERAL WILLINGNESS TO TOLERATE GREATER USE OF FORCE AGAINST SUSPECTED TERRORISTS.

6. (C) SUCH USE OF FORCE MAY BECOME MORE FREQUENT IN THE COMING WEEKS. ON NOVEMBER 1 PRESIDENT GARCIA ISSUED AN OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION TRANSFERRING TO THE MILITARY CONTROL OVER THE SECURITY OF THE CITIES OF LIMA AND CALLAO. BOTH WERE DECLARED EMERGENCY ZONES OCTOBER 22, BUT UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR.

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