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Department of State

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ACTION DS-01

INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 AID-00 INR-07 SS-00 CIAE-00 EB-00
NSCE-00 ARA-00 NSAE-00 COME-00 SSD-00 L-03 CTME-00
NRCE-00 TRSE-00 PM-10 PA-01 FAE-00 CCO-00 INRE-00
CA-02 CG-00 ACDA-12 A-00 USSS-00 USIE-00 JUSE-00
FBIE-00 DOEE-00 M-01 IMMC-01* OIS-01 SCT-03 P-02
/044 W

-----357444 031911Z /49

P 031813Z NOV 89
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3142
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY QUITO
USAFSD HOWARD AFB PM
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PM
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
DIA WASHDC

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/FPC/CDR *11/24*

Date: *4/21/95*

RELEASE DECLASSIFY
 EXCISE DECLASSIFY
 DENY IN PART
 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 16588

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

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: ASEC, PTER, PHUM, ALOW, PE
SUBJECT: THE MARINE HOUSE BOMBING: IT WAS SENDERO

REF: LIMA 16123

- CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT
- SUMMARY. AN IMPROPERLY CONSTRUCTED GAS-ENHANCED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE PREVENTED A LARGER TRAGEDY AT THE OCTOBER 24 BOMBING ATTEMPT AT THE MARINE HOUSE. THE CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL

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PERPETRATORS MAY NOT HAVE KNOWN HOW TO ASSEMBLE THE

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BOMB, OR MAY HAVE HAD TOO LITTLE TIME TO DO SO. WHILE THE MODUS OPERANDI ORIGINALLY APPEARED TO SUGGEST MRTA RESPONSIBILITY, THE NOVEMBER 1 "EL DIARIO" SAYS IT WAS SL. WE BELIEVE IT. "EL DIARIO" WAS RAIDED BY THE POLICE, NOVEMBER 2. NEWSPRINT AND OFFICE EQUIPMENT WERE SEIZED, AND A DOZEN EMPLOYEES ARRESTED. END SUMMARY.

3. IT COULD HAVE BEEN WORSE:

THE EVIDENCE SUGGESTS THAT THE OCTOBER 24 BOMBING ATTEMPT AT THE MARINE HOUSE COULD HAVE BEEN MUCH MORE SERIOUS. THE EXPLOSIVE DEVICE, DYNAMITE WITH A PRESSURIZED PROPANE GAS-ENHANCER, WAS IMPROPERLY CONSTRUCTED AND DID NOT FULLY EXPLODE. THE DEVICE AT THE CHINESE EMBASSY SIMILARLY FAILED TO FULLY EXPLODE.

4. EXPLOSIVES EXPERTS HAVE TOLD US THAT THE CONSTRUCTION OF BOTH BOMBS, THOUGH BASED ON A SOUND PRINCIPLE INVOLVING A PRESSURIZED GAS-ENHANCER, WAS AMATEURISH. IT APPEARS THAT THE CONSTRUCTORS OF THE BOMBS UNDERSTOOD THE BASIC CONCEPT BUT HAD LITTLE OR NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE CAREFUL BALANCE OF FORCES NEEDED TO MAXIMIZE THE EXPLOSIVE POWER OF THE DEVICES.

5. PART OF THE FAILURE MAY HAVE BEEN THE SPEED WITH WHICH THE CAR BOMBS WERE ASSEMBLED. THE DRIVER OF THE CAR USED IN THE MARINE HOUSE ATTEMPT WAS KIDNAPPED AT APPROXIMATELY 1800 HOURS, THE DAY OF THE ATTEMPT. THREE PERSONS DRESSED IN MEDICAL GARB HAILED THE CAB, INJECTED THE DRIVER WITH SOME KIND OF
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ANESTHETIC, DUMPED HIM IN A PARK, AND TOOK HIS CAR. THAT GAVE THE TERRORISTS TWO HOURS TO MOUNT THE DEVICE IN THE CAR, AND TO EXECUTE THE ATTEMPT WHICH OCCURRED AT 2030 HOURS.

6. IT WAS THE SL:

THE MODUS OPERANDI OF THE ATTEMPT INITIALLY SUGGESTED MRTA RESPONSIBILITY. THE MRTA WAS UNQUESTIONABLY

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INVOLVED IN A SIMILAR CAR BOMBING IN AUGUST AGAINST A SAN ISIDRO MILITARY CUARTEL; BUT THE TARGETING OF THE SOVIETS AND CHINESE ARGUED AGAINST THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE CASTROITES.

7. "EL DIARIO" OF NOVEMBER 1 CLAIMS THE ATTEMPTS WERE SL. THE SENDERO MOUTHPIECE, IN ITS PAGE TWO WEEKLY SUMMATION OF SENDERO LUMINOSO ACTIVITY, LISTS THE THREE BOMBING ATTEMPTS. WE ACCEPT "EL DIARIO'S" ATTRIBUTION AS PERSUASIVE EVIDENCE THAT THE ATTEMPT WAS SL.

8. "EL DIARIO" IS RAIDED:

THE NOVEMBER 1 "EL DIARIO" MAY BE THE LAST WE SEE OF THE PAPER FOR A WHILE. PERUVIAN ANTI-TERRORISM POLICE RAIDED THE PAPER'S EDITORIAL OFFICE EARLY PM, NOVEMBER 2. THE POLICE SEIZED THE REMAINING UNDISTRIBUTED COPIES OF THE NOVEMBER 1 EDITION, AS WELL AS TYPEWRITERS, TELEPHONES AND OTHER OFFICE EQUIPMENT. POLICE ALSO ARRESTED 12 EMPLOYEES FOUND AT THE SITE.

9. OUR SOURCE WHO ADVISED US OF THE DETAILS OF THE

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RAID STATED THAT THE NOVEMBER 1 EDITION CROSSED OVER
THE LINE IN ITS FRONT PAGE CALL FOR SUPPORT FOR THE
NOVEMBER 3 ARMED STRIKE. UNDER THE HEADLINED STRIKE
CALL, "EL DIARIO" ALSO REPEATED THE LIST OF STRIKE
TARGETS WHICH APPEARED IN THE OCTOBER 25 EDITION.
THE "YANQUI IMPERIALISTS" REMAIN THE NUMBER ONE
TARGET.

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