



Department of State

E36

SECRET

AN: D891063-0734

PAGE 01 LIMA 18298 01 OF 03 062144Z
ACTION DS-01

INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 INR-05 SS-00 CIAE-00 NSCE-00 ARA-00
NSAE-00 SSO-00 L-03 TRSE-00 PM-10 PA-01 FAAE-00
CCO-00 INM-08 INRE-00 OCS-06 CA-02 A-00 USSS-00
M-01 SCT-03 P-02 /042 W
-----243257 070128Z /66

P 062132Z DEC 89
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4046
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY QUITO
USAFSD HOWARD AFB PM
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS
DIA WASHDC
DEAHQS WASHDC
FBI WASHDC

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

() RELEASE () DECLASSIFY
(X) EXCISE (X) DECLASSIFY
() DENY IN PART
() DELETE Non-Responsive Info
FOIA Exemptions b1, b5, b6
PA Exemptions

IS/FPC/CDR 21776 Date 4/21/95

MR Cases Only:
EO Citations

TS-authority to
() CLASSIFY as () S or () C OADR
() DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C OADR

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 03 LIMA 18298

USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD
DIA FOR OA-5/OS-1D/DB-6D2/JSI-4B/DB-3C1
DEA FOR OF, OFL, PS, AD DO OI
FBI HQS FOR DIC/CTS
BOGOTA FOR DEA AND LEGATT DENNETT

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: ASEC, PTER, SNAR, PE
SUBJECT: SENDER PROBABLY NOT INVOLVED IN TODD SMITH
KIDNAPPING OR DEATH.

REF: LIMA 17862

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT

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PAGE 02 LIMA 18298 01 OF 03 062144Z

2. SUMMARY. INTERIOR MINISTER MANTILLA NOW CLAIMS

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THAT TODD SMITH WAS KIDNAPPED AND KILLED BY NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS. BOTH THE MOI AND THE ARMY INITIALLY REPORTED THAT SMITH WAS KIDNAPPED BY SENDERO. MANTILLA HAD ANNOUNCED NOVEMBER 27 THAT SENDERO SOLD SMITH TO THE TRAFFICKERS WHO KILLED HIM. WE AGREE THAT SENDERO INVOLVEMENT IS UNLIKELY. END SUMMARY.

3. THE LATEST OFFICIAL VERSION:

ON NOVEMBER 27 INTERIOR MINISTER MANTILLA ANNOUNCED THAT SMITH WAS KIDNAPPED BY SENDERO LUMINOSO TERRORISTS, AND THEN "SOLD" TO COLOMBIAN TRAFFICKERS WHO TORTURED AND KILLED HIM. THE MOI IS NOW REPORTING THAT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR BOTH SMITH'S DISAPPEARANCE AND DEATH. THE ARMY HAS DETAINED A COLOMBIAN NATIONAL IN UCHIZA WHO HAS REPORTEDLY "CONFESSED" TO HAVING PARTICIPATED IN SMITH'S MURDER (DETAILS SEPTTEL).

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5. SMITH IN THE EMBASSY:

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PAGE 03 LIMA 18298 01 OF 03 062144Z

POLOFF AND APOLCONS EACH GAVE ONE HOUR BRIEFINGS TO SMITH AND
ON NOVEMBER 8. [REDACTED] DOMINATED BOTH INTERVIEWS, IT WAS PLAIN FROM HIS QUESTIONS THAT SMITH WAS LOOKING FOR TWO STORIES. THE FIRST WAS ON THE ELECTIONS AND SENDERO LUMINOSO. THE SECOND WAS ON NARCOTICS AND OFFICIAL CORRUPTION. IF SMITH CARRIED THE SAME LIST OF QUESTIONS WITH HIM TO THE UHV, HE WOULD QUICKLY HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS ONE OF THOSE REPORTERS WHO WAS NOT GOING TO WRITE A

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FLATTERING ACCOUNT OF COCA PRODUCTION, DRUG
TRAFFICKING AND OFFICIAL GOP PRESENCE IN THE VALLEY.

6. SMITH WAS NOT OVERLY AGGRESSIVE NOR FLAMBOYANT,
BUT HE WAS PERSISTENT. HIS SPANISH WAS FAIR. HE DID
NOT HAVE AN IN-DEPTH BACKGROUND ON PERU OR THE
VALLEY. WE DO NOT KNOW IF HE SOUGHT OR RECEIVED HELP

IN OBTAINING NAMES OR APPOINTMENTS IN THE VALLEY.
FROM LOCAL PRESS ACCOUNTS BASED ON VALLEY WITNESSES,
SMITH APPEARS TO HAVE VISITED THREE VALLEY TOWNS. IN
EACH HE WANDERED AROUND, ASKED QUESTIONS, AND OPENLY
TOOK NOTES OF RESPONSES.

7. WHY IT WAS NOT SENDERO:

THERE ARE SEVERAL FACTS BELYING SENDERO LUMINOSO
PARTICIPATION IN THE ACT. THE DETAILS OF THE TORTURE
DO NOT CORRESPOND TO SENDERO METHODS. SOME PRESS
ACCOUNTS STATED THAT SMITH'S DEATH WAS MORE BRUTAL
THAN NORMAL FOR SL. THAT IS NOT CORRECT. SL CAN BE
AS BRUTAL AS IMAGINABLE. BUT THE METHOD OF TORTURE,

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PAGE 01 LIMA 18298 02 OF 03 062146Z
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S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 03 LIMA 18298

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A GRADUALLY APPLIED TOURNIQUET AROUND THE NECK, AND
EVIDENCE THAT SMITH WAS BEATEN WITH A BLUNT OBJECT,
IS NOT TYPICAL OF SENDERO (SEE PARA 9).

8. NOR IS THE FACT THAT HE WAS HELD AND QUESTIONED
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PAGE 02 LIMA 18298 02 OF 03 062146Z

FOR SEVERAL DAYS. THE ADMITTEDLY UNPROFESSIONAL
AUTOPSY INDICATED THAT SMITH WAS KILLED SHORTLY

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BEFORE HIS BODY WAS DUMPED IN AN UCHIZA PLAZA, THE EVENING OF NOVEMBER 20. EMBOFF WHO SAW THE BODY NOVEMBER 21 STATED THAT IT WAS STILL OOZING BLOOD FROM CUTS AND ABRASIONS AND THAT THE LIMBS WERE NOT YET STIFF FROM RIGOR MORTIS. IN OTHER WORDS, HE WAS KEPT ALIVE AND LIKELY TORTURED DURING MOST OF THE THREE DAYS.

9. ACCORDING TO TWO ARMY INTELLIGENCE SOURCES, SL RARELY KIDNAPS ARMY OFFICERS FOR INTERROGATION UNDER TORTURE. THE TORTURE METHODS IN THESE CASES DO NOT CORRESPOND TO THOSE USED IN SMITH'S DEATH. A POLICE ANTI-TERRORISM EXPERT AGREED THAT SL'S USUAL MODUS IS NOT TO KIDNAP OR TO HOLD HOSTAGES FOR A LENGTHY PERIOD. IN FACT, SL ALMOST ALWAYS OPTS FOR PROMPT EXECUTION OF POLITICAL TARGETS, EVEN WHEN IT MEANS EXTINGUISHING LIKELY SOURCES OF INTELLIGENCE. A GOOD EXAMPLE IS THE MARCH 27 ATTACK ON THE UCHIZA POLICE STATION IN WHICH THE THREE POLICE OFFICERS WERE ALMOST IMMEDIATELY ASSASSINATED, THOUGH THEY CERTAINLY WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION VALUABLE TO SL, AND EVEN THOUGH SL CONTROLLED THE TOWN AND COULD HAVE QUESTIONED THEM UNTIL MORNING OR COULD HAVE REMOVED THEM FROM UCHIZA FOR INTERROGATION.

10. COMMENT: THIS SL MODUS IS THE RESULT OF THE STRICT CELLULAR NATURE OF SL. LOCAL COMMANDERS ARE GIVEN MINIMUM INFORMATION ABOUT OVERALL SL STRATEGY. MILITANTS AND SYMPATHIZERS ARE WARNED AGAINST ASKING QUESTIONS OR QUESTIONING ORDERS. UNLESS A HIGH RANKING MEMBER OF THE PARTY (AS OPPOSED TO A MILITARY SECRET
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PAGE 03. LIMA 18298 02 OF 03 062146Z

COMMANDER) WAS CALLED IN TO SUPERVISE THE INTERROGATION, AN SL HIT SQUAD WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO CONDUCT OR WITNESS AN INTERROGATION, NOR WOULD INFORMATION GAINED FROM SUCH QUESTIONING BE SHARED EXCEPT IN VERY CLOSE CIRCLES. END COMMENT.

11. OUR ANALYSIS OF SENDERO'S PRACTICES IN THE UHV MUST BE TEMPERED BY THE HYBRID NATURE OF SL THERE. SENDERO HAS BEEN CORRUPTED BY ITS CONTACT WITH THE TRAFFICKERS AND THEIR DOLLARS. THERE ARE RELIABLE REPORTS OF TRAFFICKERS OPERATING UNDER SENDERO COVER

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AND VICE VERSA. NEVERTHELESS, ALL OUR VALLEY SOURCES INSIST THAT THE BASICALLY CONSERVATIVE AND PURITANICAL NATURE OF SL, COMMON TO THE GROUP OUTSIDE THE VALLEY, IS ALSO THE NORM IN THE UHV.

12. ARMY AND POLICE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES ALSO DOUBT THE AUTHENTICITY OF THE "REVOLUTIONARY" POSTER FOUND NEAR SMITH'S BODY. THEY TELL US THAT THE POSTER'S LANGUAGE DOES NOT RING TRUE AS A SENDERO DOCUMENT. THE USE OF THE WORD "SUBVERSIVE", A TERM SENDERO NEVER USES TO DESCRIBE ITSELF, AND THE PRESENCE OF THE WORD "PENTAGON", ARE NOT TYPICAL OF SENDERO RHETORIC. WE AGREE, BUT NOTE THAT BOTH TERMS HAVE APPEARED IN RECENT "EL DIARIO" COVERAGE OF THE USG'S PLAN TO FIGHT SENDERO UNDER THE GUISE OF ANTI-NARCOTICS ASSISTANCE (SIC).

13. THE NARCOS HAVE FALLEN OUT WITH SENDERO:

INITIAL REPORTS THAT SENDERO HAD KIDNAPPED SMITH WERE SUPPORTED BY [] WHO REPORTED CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN APPARENT TRAFFICKERS ALLEGING SL'S TORTURE

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AND KILLING OF SMITH. THE "TRAFFICKERS" LAMENTED THE
PROBLEMS SENDERO IS CREATING FOR THEM IN THE VALLEY.
THE CONVERSATION OCCURRED THE DAY FOLLOWING THE
DISCOVERY OF SMITH'S BODY AND THE ALLEGATION OF SL
INVOLVEMENT WAS ALREADY PUBLICLY KNOWN.

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PAGE 02 LIMA 18298 03 OF 03 062147Z

14. BUT THE NOTION THAT SENDERO SOLD THEIR VICTIM TO

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COLOMBIAN TRAFFICKERS APPEARS HIGHLY UNLIKELY. THE LINK BETWEEN UCHIZA AREA TRAFFICKERS AND THE SL IS CURRENTLY STRAINED. VARIOUS SOURCES FROM THE VALLEY RECORD TRAFFICKER COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE ON-GOING "WAR" BETWEEN TRAFFICKERS AND TERRORISTS, INCLUDING REPORTS OF SENDERO MURDERS OF TRAFFICKERS. b1

REPORTS NUMEROUS CASES OF ALLEGED SENDERO ASSASSINATIONS OF TRAFFICKERS IN THE UCHIZA AREA. THIS "WAR" APPEARS TO BE A SENDERO REACTION AGAINST UCHIZA AREA TRAFFICKERS NO LONGER HONORING OR SEEKING SENDERO PROTECTION FOR THEIR ACTIVITIES. IF SENDERO SNATCHED SMITH IT WAS FOR THEIR OWN PURPOSES. WE DO NOT BELIEVE SENDERO WOULD WILLINGLY COOPERATE WITH UCHIZA AREA TRAFFICKERS, EVEN FOR FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS.

15. CONCLUSION:

THE INVESTIGATION INTO SMITH'S DEATH IS FAR FROM FINAL. OUR JUDGEMENT THAT SENDERO WAS NOT INVOLVED IS BASED ON THE INFORMATION WE HAVE GATHERED TO DATE. ASSIGNING RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE KILLING WILL REQUIRE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND FURTHER

IT WILL BE UNEXPECTED IF THE WHOLE TRUTH ABOUT TODD SMITH'S DEATH EVER EMERGES FROM THE INFORMATION MORASS THAT IS THE UPPER HUALLAGA VALLEY. EVEN "CONFESSIONS" FROM A DETAINED COLOMBIAN KILLER WILL NOT WHOLLY DISPEL THE IMPRESSION THAT WE WILL NEVER KNOW FOR CERTAIN WHO b1

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PAGE 03 LIMA 18298 03 OF 03 062147Z

KILLED HIM, OR WHY. WE WILL REPORT ANY ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENTS, AND OUR ANALYSIS OF THEM, AS THEY APPEAR.
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