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PAGE 81 LIMA #5193 #62#28Z ACTION SCT-83

ADS-88 AID-88 1MR-85 SS-88 CIAE-89 EB-88 INFO LOG-DE HSCE-96 ARA-88 MSAE-88 COME-88 SSO-88 HA-89 H-81 L-83 CTHE-86 MRCE-88 TRSE-98 PM-98 EPA-01 PA-81 INH-88 INRE-88 CA-82 CG-88 FAAE-88 CCO-88 OMB-81 USSS-88 USIE-88 JUSE-88 FBIE-88 SP-88 ACDA-13 A-88 DOEE-88 H-81 SMP-88 PRS-BE DS-BB IHMC-81 015-81 T-81 /857 ¥ P-92

-----246426 862184Z /66

P 652827Z APR 98
FM AMEHBASSY LINA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7241
INFO AMEHBASSY BOGOTA
AMEHBASSY CARACAS
AMEHBASSY LA PAZ
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PM
SECDEF WASHDC
DIA WASHDC

CONFIDENTIALLIMA 95193

USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

DIA FOR 0A-5/10/DB-6D2/JS1-4B/DB3C1

E.O. 12356: DECL: CADR
TAGS: PTER, ASEC, PGOV, PE
SUBJECT: SECURITY OUTLOOK ON EVE OF NATIONAL
ELECTIONS

REF: 1 IMA 4561

1. (U) DURING THE WEEK LEADING UP TO THE APRIL 8
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, THERE HAS BEEN VERY LITTLE
ANTI-ELECTION VIOLENCE IN LIMA. THE LAST MAJOR
INCIDENTS MERE THE SCATTERED BOMBINGS THE NIGHT OF
MARCH 28 AS SENDERO CLOSED OUT ITS ATTEMPTED ARMED
STRIKE. 33 OF THE 128 SUSPECTED TERRORISTS ARRESTED
THE MEEK OF THE STRIKE NAVE BEEN FORMALLY CHARGED.
COLONEL JAVIER PALACIOS PARADED TWO DOZEN OF THEM
BEFORE TELEVISION CAMERAS THIS WEEK, AND EXPLAINED
THAT THE POLICE HAVE THE SITUATION IN LIMA UNDER
CONTROL.

- 2. NJ THE LEVEL OF VIOLENCE IN THE INTERIOR REMAINS NIGN. AYACUCHO HAS BLACKED OUT AGAIN APRIL 2, ONE DAY AFTER POWER WAS RESTORED FOLLOWING EIGHT DAYS WITHOUT LIGHTS. THERE ARE DAILY BOMBINGS AND KILLINGS IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN AYACUCHO, JUNIN, PASCO AND ANCASH DEPARTMENTS. ARHED STRIKES HAVE BEEN CALLED IN PARTS OF ALL THESE DEPARTMENTS.
- 3. (U) A DEATE THREAT WAS ISSUED AGAINST THE OHNERS AND DRIVERS OF INTER-DEPARTMENTAL BUSES TRAVELING BETWEEN LIMA AND CITIES IN JUNIN AND PASCO DEPARTMENTS. THE THREE COMPANIES WHICH RUN REGULAR ROUTES HAVE SUSPENDED ALL TRIPS UNTIL AFTER THE ELECTIONS. BUS TRAVEL NORTH AND SOUTH ALONG THE COAST APPEARS UNAFFECTED BY SENDERO THREATS AGAINST COMMUTING VOTERS.
- 4. W) THERE ARE NO REPORTS OF DISTURBANCES AT ANY OF PERU'S PRISONS. CURRENT POWER RATIONING IN LIMA IS DUE TO LOW MATER AT HYDROELECTRIC PLANTS, NOT SE ACTION. THERE HAVE BEEN NO SERIOUS ATTEMPTS AGAINST CANDIDATES SINCE THE MEMO 23 KILLING OF A FREDENO PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATE IN LIMA. SL IS BELIEVED RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BOMBING OF AN APRIL 4 APRA RALLY IN TRUJILLO. TWO CHILDREN IN THE CROWD LISTENING TO

LIMA 85193 852828Z LUIS ALVA CASTRO WERE INJURED BY THE SMALL DYNAMITE CHARGE.

5. 4C) WE DO NOT EXPECT SE VIOLENCE IN THE NEXT 48 HOURS TO SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACT THE ELECTIONS IN LIMA OR ALONG THE COAST. WE BELIEVE THAT TRANSPORTATION DIFFICULTIES IN THE EMERGENCY ZONES, COMBINED WITH SEDENTH THREATS AGAINST VOTERS, WILL RESULT IN AN ABSENTEE RATE FOR THESE ELECTIONS HIGHER THAN THE 1985 ELECTION'S SEVER PERCENT. IT IS ALSO LIKELY THAT THERE WILL BE ISOLATED ACTS OF VIOLENCE FOLLOWING THE ELECTION, DIRECTED AGAINST VOTERS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS. THEN WE EXPECT SE ACTIVITY TO TAPER OFF UNTIL RESUMING JUST PRIOR TO THE SECOND ROUND PRESIDENTIAL VOTING IN JUNE.

QUAINTON

United States Department of State
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