

[REDACTED]  
n/a  
Case Number: S200200010

RELEASED IN FULL

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ACTION SCT-03

|      |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| INFO | LOG-00  | ACDA-13 | ADS-00  | AID-01  | ARA-01  | A-01    | CA-02   |
|      | CCO-00  | CG-00   | CIAE-00 | SJK-01  | COME-00 | CTME-00 | DODE-00 |
|      | DOEE-00 | DS-00   | EB-01   | EUR-01  | FAAE-00 | FBIE-00 | HA-09   |
|      | IMMC-01 | INRE-00 | INR-01  | INSE-00 | IO-19   | JUSE-00 | L-03    |
|      | M-01    | NRCE-00 | NSAE-00 | NSCE-00 | OIC-02  | OIS-01  | PA-01   |
|      | PM-01   | P-01    | SSO-00  | SS-01   | TRSE-00 | USIE-00 | USSS-00 |

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P 282139Z AUG 91  
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0993  
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
AMEMBASSY QUITO  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
US MISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PM

[REDACTED] LIMA 11840

ROME PLEASE PASS TO VATICAN  
SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PTER, PHUM, ASEC, PGOV, SCUL, PE  
SUBJECT: SL ASSASSINATES ITALIAN PRIEST

REF: LIMA 108979

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1. SUMMARY: [REDACTED] AN ITALIAN PARISH PRIEST WAS SHOT TO DEATH AUGUST 25 IN NORTHERN COASTAL ANCASH DEPARTMENT, APPARENTLY BY SENDERO LUMINOSO (SL), ONLY SIXTEEN DAYS AFTER SL KILLED TWO POLISH PRIESTS IN THE SAME REGION (REF A). SL HAS NOW KILLED SIX FOREIGNERS CONNECTED TO RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS SO FAR THIS YEAR. LOCAL PERUVIAN POLICE BELIEVE CLERICS IN THE CHIMBOTE AREA ARE A SPECIFIC SL TARGET, WHICH THE

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RAPID SUCCESSION OF SL ATTACKS THERE WOULD SEEM TO BEAR OUT. END SUMMARY.

2. (U) TWO ALLEGED SL TERRORISTS FORCED FR. ALESSANDRO GUISEPPE DORDI NEGRONI (60) , AND AT LEAST TWO LAY WORKERS TRAVELING WITH HIM NEAR THE TOWN OF SANTA (IN THE FAR NORTHERN COASTAL AREA OF ANCASH DEPARTMENT,) FROM THEIR CAR AT ABOUT 6:30 PM ON AUGUST 25 AND SHOT THE PRIEST TWICE IN THE HEAD. THE TERRORISTS REPORTEDLY TOLD THE LAY WORKERS "THIS IS WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN TO ALL PRIESTS" AND DROVE OFF TOWARDS NEARBY MOUNTAINS IN THE CAR, WITHOUT HURTING THE LAY WORKERS.

3. [REDACTED] THIS KILLING BRINGS TO SIX THE NUMBER OF FOREIGNERS CONNECTED TO RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN KILLED BY SL IN 1991. IT ALSO OCCURRED WITHIN SIXTEEN DAYS OF SL'S DOUBLE MURDER OF TWO POLISH PRIESTS AND FOLLOWS AN UNSUCCESSFUL ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON SPANISH PRIEST MIGUEL COMPANY IN JULY. ALL THESE ATTACKS TOOK PLACE WITHIN THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CHIMBOTE.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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4. [REDACTED] MISSION HAD RECEIVED REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON OF A POSSIBLE THREAT AGAINST AMERICAN MISSIONARIES IN CHIMBOTE DURING THE WEEK OF AUGUST 18. MONSI GNOR BAMBAREN, BISHOP OF CHIMBOTE, WAS CONTACTED AUGUST 17 AND BOTH CONSULAR AND SECURITY ASSISTANCE WAS OFFERED TO AMERICANS CONNECTED TO RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS IN THE CHIMBOTE DIOCESE. BAMBAREN THANKED EMBASSY FOR ITS CONCERN BUT DECLINED ASSISTANCE AT THAT TIME, DENYING THAT HE HAD RECEIVED ANY SPECIFIC THREATS. CONTACTED AGAIN FOLLOWING THE MURDER OF FATHER DORDI, BAMBAREN ADMITTED WEARILY THAT HE NOW EXPECTED FURTHER ATTACKS AGAINST FOREIGN PRIESTS IN HIS DIOCESE.

5. (U) LIMA MEDIA CONDEMNED THE ASSASSINATION AND CLAIMED THE EXISTANCE OF AN SL CAMPAIGN AGAINST FOREIGN RELIGIOUS WORKERS TO FORCE THEM TO LEAVE PERU. THE PRESS ALSO HIGHLIGHTED A PAPAL CONDEMNATION OF THE ATTACK THAT CALLED IT "AN ACT OF

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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UNJUSTIFIABLE VIOLENCE."

6. COMMENT: THE THREE ATTACKS ON FOREIGN CLERICS IN THIS REGION SINCE JULY, COUPLED WITH EARLIER ATTACKS AGAINST OTHER FOREIGN RELIGIOUS-AFFILIATED PERSONS ELSEWHERE IN PERU, INDICATES SL MAY BE CONSCIOUSLY TARGETING FOREIGN MISSIONARIES. IF SO, SL WOULD HAVE MADE THE POLITICAL DECISION TO TARGET THIS PARTICULAR GROUP PRIOR TO THE FIRST ASSASSINATION, AND SUBSEQUENTLY AUTHORIZED ITS MILITARY COMMANDERS TO MOVE AGAINST

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[REDACTED]

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SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS FITTING THE CRITERIA. THERE IS, HOWEVER, NO CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE AS YET THAT THIS IS A SPECIFIC SL CAMPAIGN RATHER THAN AUTONOMOUS DECISIONS MADE BY LOCAL COMMANDERS. END COMMENT.  
QUAINTON

[REDACTED]

NNNN

n/a

[REDACTED]