

UNCLASSIFIED

AK2
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RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.5(D), B6

[REDACTED]
n/a
Case Number: S200200010

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ACTION ARA-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	ACDE-00	AID-01	AMAD-01	A-01	CA-02
	CCO-00	CG-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00	C-01	OASY-00
	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	DS-00	EAP-01	EB-01	EUR-01	FAAE-00
	FBIE-00	HA-09	H-01	IMMC-01	INM-02	TEDE-00	INR-00
	INSE-00	IO-16	L-01	ADS-00	M-00	NRCE-00	NSAE-00
	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OIS-01	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01
	P-01	SCT-03	SNP-00	SP-00	SR-00	SS-00	STR-01
	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01	RPE-01	PMB-00

/070W

-----3FD880 251453Z /38

O 251454Z APR 94
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6531
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USEC BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA
DIA WASHDC
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

[REDACTED] SECTION 01 OF 03 LIMA 03742

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

EXTEND CLASSIFICATION

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PHUM, PGOV, PTER, PE
SUBJECT: PRIESTS FROM NORTHERN HUANUCO
DISCUSS ARMY ATTACKS

REF: (A) LIMA 3729 AND PREVIOUS
(B) LIMA 3693
(C) LIMA 3623

n/a
[REDACTED]

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: WILLIAM E. LANDFAIR
DATE/CASE ID: 16 AUG 2002 S200200010
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 25X1

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

n/a

Case Number: S200200010

1. [REDACTED] ENTIRE TEXT

2. SUMMARY: POLOFFS SPOKE WITH CATHOLIC PRIESTS WHO HAD FIRST REPORTS OF THE ARMY OPERATION AND RELATED HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN THE NORTHERN HUANUCO JUNGLE. THEY CONFIRMED AND EXPANDED ON THE DISTURBING ACCOUNTS OF EVENTS THAT HAVE BEEN THE BASIS OF HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS ON MILITARY CONDUCT IN THAT AREA. THE PRIESTS REPORT THAT THE WITNESSES ARE FRIGHTENED AND UNLIKELY TO COME FORWARD PUBLICLY. END SUMMARY.

PRIESTS FIRST TO RECEIVE REPORTS OF KILLINGS

3. POLOFFS MET APRIL 22 IN A TOWN OUTSIDE LIMA WITH THE TWO PARISH PRIESTS OF AUCAYACU, A TOWN OF ABOUT 16,000 INHABITANTS ON THE EAST BANK OF THE HUALLAGA RIVER IN THE COCA REGION NORTH OF TINGO MARIA, HUANUCO DEPARTMENT.

[REDACTED]

B1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] WERE AMONG THE FIRST TO HEAR TESTIMONY OF EYEWITNESSES WHO ESCAPED ALLEGED ARMY ATTACKS AGAINST SETTLEMENTS ON THE WEST BANK OF THE RIVER. [REDACTED] HELPED MANY OF THOSE WITNESSES FIND SAFEHAVEN IN AUCAYACU, ANDA (A VILLAGE OF ABOUT 500 PEOPLE SOME TWENTY MINUTES SOUTH OF AUCAYACU) AND TINGO MARIA (SOME 45 MINUTES FURTHER SOUTH FROM ANDA BY ROAD).

B1, B6

B1

4. [REDACTED] FIRST BECAME AWARE OF THE ARMY OPERATION IN THE HUANUCO JUNGLE AREA WHEN HE WENT TO ANDA TO PERFORM MASS ON APRIL 10. VILLAGERS TOLD HIM THAT SOMEONE'S BODY HAD BEEN BROUGHT FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER, SO HE WENT TO PERFORM FUNERAL RITES. HE DESCRIBED THE CORPSE AS BEARING SIGNS OF TORTURE. THE BODY WAS BLOATED AND LOOKED BRUISED. PEOPLE FROM THE WEST BANK TOLD THE PRIEST THAT THERE WERE TEN MORE BODIES IN THE MOLLUNA AREA (A SETTLEMENT OF SOME 60 FAMILIES), AND THAT THE ARMY HAD KILLED THEM IN AN ATTACK ON THE AREA ON APRIL 8.

B1, B6

n/a

[REDACTED]

n/a

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5. [REDACTED] RETURNED TO ANDA ON APRIL 12 AND FOUND THAT THE VILLAGERS WERE PREPARING YET A ANOTHER BODY THAT HAD BEEN BROUGHT BACK FROM THE WEST BANK AREA OF MOLLUNA. THIS BODY HAD BEEN BROUGHT BACK FROM A DIFFERENT PART OF MOLLUNA WHERE IT WAS REPORTEDLY FOUND WITH TWO OTHER BODIES THAT WERE NOT BROUGHT BACK. ALSO IN ANDA AT THE TIME OF [REDACTED] VISIT WAS [REDACTED] [REDACTED] BOTH TOOK TESTIMONIES

B1, B6

B1, B6

PAGE 04 LIMA 03742 01 OF 03 251452Z FROM SEVERAL OF THE WITNESSES ABOUT ALLEGATIONS OF ARMY VIOLATIONS IN OPERATIONS ON THE EAST BANK OF THE HUALLAGA.

TESTIMONY OF SEVERE ABUSE

6. [REDACTED] PROVIDED POLOFFS WITH SEVERAL DETAILED ACCOUNTS OF THE TESTIMONY THEY RECEIVED FROM WITNESSES WHO HAD REACHED ANDA FROM THE WEST BANK.

B1, B6

-- A TWENTY-FIVE YEAR OLD FIELD-HAND DESCRIBED THAT ON APRIL 8 HE AND HIS "PATRONA" (A 56-YEAR-OLD WOMAN HE WORKED FOR) HAD BEEN ASSAILED ON THEIR FARM BY SOME TEN SOLDIERS. THE SOLDIERS ENTERED THE HOUSE AT 8:00 A.M. AND BEAT THE

NNNN

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INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	ACDE-00	AID-01	AMAD-01	A-01	CA-02
	CCO-00	CG-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTIME-00	C-01	OASY-00
	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	DS-00	EAP-01	EB-01	EUR-01	FAAE-00
	FBIE-00	HA-09	H-01	IMMC-01	INM-02	TEDE-00	INR-00
	INSE-00	IO-16	L-01	ADS-00	M-00	NRCE-00	NSAE-00
	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OIS-01	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01

n/a

[REDACTED]

n/a

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P-01	SCT-03	SNP-00	SP-00	SR-00	SS-00	STR-01
TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01	RPE-01	PMB-00
/070W						

-----3FD8A3 251453Z /38

O 251454Z APR 94
 FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6532
 INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
 AMEMBASSY ATHENS
 AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
 AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
 AMEMBASSY QUITO
 AMEMBASSY TOKYO
 USEC BRUSSELS
 USMISSION GENEVA
 DIA WASHDC
 USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

[REDACTED] SECTION 02 OF 03 LIMA 03742

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
 TAGS: PHUM, PGOV, PTER, PE
 SUBJECT: PRIESTS FROM NORTHERN HUANUCO
 WOMAN, DEMANDING THAT SHE TELL THEM WHERE HER
 HUSBAND WAS. SHE TOLD THEM THAT HER HUSBAND HAD
 GONE TO TINGO MARIA TO RECEIVE TREATMENT FOR AN
 AILMENT HE HAD AND THE SOLDIERS EVENTUALLY LET
 HER GO. THE SOLDIERS THEN TOOK THE FIELD-HAND
 INTO THE BUSH AND BEGAN TO BEAT HIM, ASKING THAT
 HE TELL THEM "WHERE THE GUNS WERE HIDDEN." HE
 CONVINCED THE SOLDIERS THAT HE DID NOT KNOW
 ANYTHING ABOUT GUNS, BUT WAS FORCED TO "GUIDE"
 THEM INTO THE BUSH. THE SOLDIERS PROCEEDED TO A
 SETTLEMENT WITH SOME SIX HOUSES, ONE OF WHICH HAD
 BEEN BURNED DOWN. THE FIELD-HAND WAS TIED-UP AND
 LEFT IN THIS STRUCTURE. THE SOLDIERS ALLEGEDLY
 TORTURED HIM BY PUSHING NEEDLES THROUGH HIS EARS B1, B6
 AND INTO HIS CHEST [REDACTED] (SAW NEEDLE MARKS).
 HE WAS ABLE TO OVERHEAR THE SOLDIERS' RADIO, AND

n/a
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
n/a

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FROM THE CHATTER SAID IT APPEARED THAT THE SOLDIERS WERE COMMANDED BY A "CAPTAIN" WHO WAS COORDINATING THE MOVEMENTS OF THREE DIFFERENT GROUPS OF SOLDIERS. THE FIELD-HAND SAID THE "CAPTAIN" URGED THE GROUPS TO KEEP "GOING DEEPER" INTO THE BUSH AND AT ONE POINT SAID OVER THE RADIO THAT "NO ONE SHOULD BE LEFT (ALIVE)" ("QUE NO QUEDE NADIE"). THE FIELD-HAND ALSO CLAIMED HE HEARD THE CRIES OF SEVERAL WOMEN COMING FROM SOMEPLACE NEARBY AND LATER HEARD SOME OF THE

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SOLDIERS BOASTING ABOUT HOW THEY HAD RAPED THE WOMEN. HE LATER HEARD THE SOLDIERS TELL SOMEONE THAT HIS EMPLOYER HAD BEEN ALLOWED TO GO FREE. THE SOLDIERS WERE TOLD TO GO FIND AND KILL HER. AT ABOUT 0400, THE FIELD-HAND WAS ABLE TO LOOSEN HIS RESTRAINTS AND SLIDE DOWN AN EMBANKMENT INTO THE BUSH THE SOLDIERS REPORTEDLY FIRED AFTER HIM, BUT HE WAS ABLE TO ESCAPE INTO THE BUSH. HE LATER MADE IT ACROSS THE RIVER TO ANDA, AS DID HIS PATRONA. THE FIELD-HAND IS THOUGHT TO HAVE RETURNED TO HIS HOME AREA SOMEWHERE IN THE CERRO DE PASCO AREA, BUT THE OLD WOMAN WAS STILL IN ANDA AS FAR AS [REDACTED] KNEW.

B1, B6

-- ANOTHER TESTIMONY FROM A THIRTY-YEAR-OLD WOMAN AT ANDA TOLD OF A GROUP OF SEVEN PEOPLE WHO HID IN THE BUSH FOR THREE DAYS AFTER THE ARMY ATTACKED THEIR HOMES. THE WOMAN'S HUSBAND AND TWO OTHER MEN TRIED TO MAKE IT TO THE RIVER TO SEE IF IT WAS SAFE BUT FAILED TO RETURN AFTER FOUR HOURS. THE GROUP LATER FOUND THE THREE MEN DEAD.

-- [REDACTED] ONE OF THE FEW EYEWITNESSES TO HAVE GIVEN HER NAME AND REPORTEDLY WILLING TO TESTIFY PUBLICLY, TOLD THE PRIESTS THAT HER PREGNANT SISTER WAS KILLED BY TROOPS IN A GROTESQUE FASHION. SOLDIERS SLIT HER STOMACH OPEN AND THREW THE FETUS FROM HER BODY. [REDACTED] WAS AT PAINS TO INSIST THAT HE HAD ASKED [REDACTED] TO ENSURE THAT [REDACTED]

B1, B6

B1, B6

[REDACTED]
n/a
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
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B1, B6

[REDACTED] WAS BEING ACCURATE. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] ASSERTED THAT THEY FIND THIS ALLEGATION CREDIBLE. (COMMENT: WHILE SENDERO LUMINOSO HAS IN THE PAST COMMITTED THIS KIND OF HORRIBLE CRIME, WE HAVE NEVER HEARD SUCH ACCUSATIONS LEVELED AGAINST PERUVIAN SECURITY FORCES. END COMMENT.)

WITNESSES AFRAID AND UNWILLING TO COME FORWARD

7. [REDACTED] CONFESSED THAT THEY HAD MISLED SOME OF THE WITNESSES WITH PROMISES OF VISITS BY JOURNALISTS, HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS AND OTHER SUCH PERSONS IN ORDER TO GET THEM TO AGREE TO MOVE FROM ANDA TO TINGO MARIA -- A SAFER, LESS REMOTE LOCATION. THE PRIESTS SAID THE WITNESSES WERE EXTREMELY CONCERNED FOR THEIR SAFETY. THE WITNESSES HAD EVEN ARGUED THAT WHILE THEY WERE THANKFUL FOR [REDACTED] EFFORTS ON THEIR BEHALF, THEY WERE AWARE THAT THIS WAS ONLY TEMPORARY AND LIMITED IN NATURE. WHEN [REDACTED]

B1, B6

B1, B6

B1, B6

NNNN
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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ACTION ARA-01

INFO LOG-00 ACDA-17 ACDE-00 AID-01 AMAD-01 A-01 CA-02
CCO-00 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 CTME-00 C-01 OASY-00
DOEE-00 DOTE-00 DS-00 EAP-01 EB-01 EUR-01 FAAE-00
FBIE-00 HA-09 H-01 IMMC-01 INM-02 TEDE-00 INR-00
INSE-00 IO-16 L-01 ADS-00 M-00 NRCE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 OIC-02 OIS-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-00 PRS-01
P-01 SCT-03 SNP-00 SP-00 SR-00 SS-00 STR-01
TRSE-00 T-00 USIE-00 USSS-00 ASDS-01 RPE-01 PMB-00
/070W

-----3FD8CA 251454Z /38

O 251454Z APR 94
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

n/a
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
n/a
Case Number: S200200010

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6533
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USEC BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA
DIA WASHDC
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

[REDACTED] SECTION 03 OF 03 LIMA 03742

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
PAGE 02 LIMA 03742 03 OF 03 251454Z
USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PHUM, PGOV, PTER, PE
SUBJECT: PRIESTS FROM NORTHERN HUANUCO
CAME TO LIMA FROM THE AREA LATE ON APRIL 21, ONE
OF THE WITNESSES HAD EVEN RECRIMINATED HIM FOR
RENEGING ON HIS PROMISE TO THEM THAT HE WOULD
NOT LEAVE THEM UNTIL THINGS QUIETED DOWN. THE
WITNESSES FEEL AFRAID AND ARE UNLIKELY TO PRESS
FORMAL CHARGES OR SPEAK FRANKLY IN ANY BUT A
PRIVATE FORUM.

8. AS AN EXAMPLE OF WHY THE WITNESSES WERE
UNWILLING TO COME FORWARD, [REDACTED] SAID THAT
ONE WITNESS NAMED [REDACTED] HAD
ASKED [REDACTED] IN TINGO MARIA TO
HELP HIM LOCATE HIS DAUGHTER WHO WAS MISSING.
THEY ACCOMPANIED HIM TO THE LOS LAURELES ARMY
BASE IN TINGO MARIA TO ASK ABOUT HER WHEREABOUTS.
AT THE BASE, A "REPENTANT" TERRORIST RECOGNIZED
HIM AND ACCUSED HIM OF BEING A SENDERO MILITARY
COMMANDER. THE ARMY TOOK HIM IN FOR QUESTIONING.
THE SUB-DELEGATE COUNTERED THAT HE WOULD NOT
LEAVE THE BASE UNTIL HE COULD LEAVE WITH
[REDACTED] WHEN [REDACTED] WAS RELEASED,
(REPORTEDLY BECAUSE HE HAD POLICE PAPERS PROVING

B1, B6

B1

B6

[REDACTED]
n/a

[REDACTED]

n/a

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THAT HE, TOO, WAS A REPENTANT TERRORIST) [REDACTED] B1

[REDACTED] THAT HE WANTED NOTHING FURTHER TO DO WITH HIM. B6

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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9. THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES ARE ALSO REPORTEDLY RESPONDING INADEQUATELY TO THE REPORTS OF SERIOUS ABUSE. THE FISCAL (PROSECUTOR/DISTRICT ATTORNEY) IN TINGO MARIA TOLD [REDACTED] THAT THERE WERE NO BODIES IN THE JUNGLE. WHEN [REDACTED] CHALLENGED HIM, HE OFFERED THEM A PASS TO GO SEE FOR THEMSELVES, BUT ADDED THAT HE COULD NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR SAFETY. B1

WEST BANK CONSIDERED A "RED ZONE"

10. WHEN ASKED IF THEY WERE AWARE OF THE PRESENCE OF SENDERO LUMINOSO IN THE AREA, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] STATED THAT THE PEOPLE OF AUCAYACU CONSIDERED THE WEST BANK AREA TO BE SENDERO TERRITORY ("RED ZONE"). MANY BELIEVED IT WAS DANGEROUS TO CROSS THE RIVER. THIS DID NOT MEAN THAT EVERYONE WHO LIVED OR WORKED ON THE OTHER SIDE BELONGED TO SL, HOWEVER. MOST OF THE VILLAGERS HAD HAD CONTACT WITH A SENDERO COLUMN, THOUGH, AND HAD OFTEN BEEN FORCED TO "COLLABORATE" (E.G., PROVIDE FOOD AND OTHER SUPPLIES) AT GUNPOINT. [REDACTED] HAD HEARD STORIES THAT THE ARMY OFTEN EXTORTED AND THREATENED THE VILLAGERS AS WELL. THERE UNDOUBTEDLY WERE SOME SL SYMPATHIZERS, BUT THE PRIESTS COULD NOT ESTIMATE THE PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION. [REDACTED] WERE CONVINCED THAT THE ARMY HAD USED INDISCRIMINATE VIOLENCE AND HAD B1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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KILLED AND COMMITTED ATROCITIES AGAINST CIVILIAN
NON-COMBATANTS.

n/a

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

n/a

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11. COMMENT: [REDACTED] WERE THE FIRST ONES TO RAISE THE ALARM OVER THE HUANUCO OPERATIONS, AND TOGETHER WITH THE JOURNALISTS' TESTIMONY (REFS B AND C), FORMS THE BASIS FOR ALL EARLY INFORMATION ON WHAT OCCURRED IN HUANUCO. THEIR INFORMATION WAS LARGELY DRAWN FROM THE SAME SOURCES AND THEREFORE CORROBORATES EACH OTHER'S VERSIONS.
BRAYSHAW

B1

[REDACTED]

NNNN

n/a
[REDACTED]