



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ACTION MCT-05

INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 AID-00 INR-05 SS-05 CIAE-00 NSCE-00
ARA-00 NSAE-00 SSO-00 SY-05 L-02 AMAD-01 TRSE-00
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R 151528Z MAY 85
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3775
INFO USAFSO HOWARD AFB PN
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
DIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PN

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Date:

9/12/94

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() DELETE Non-Responsive Info.

FOIA Exemptions

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MR Cases Only:

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TERREP

DIA FOR IR BRANCH; PANAMA FOR ADS

E.O. 12356: DECL: 5/13/91

TAGS: PTER, SHUM, PE

SUBJECT: GOP PLACES PROVINCE OF PASCO UNDER STATE OF
EMERGENCY

REFS: (A) LIMA 5109, (B) LIMA 3763, (C) 84 LIMA 3698, (D) DIA WASHINGTON DC//OS-1B// MESSAGE P 101200Z
MAY 85

1. (U) IN REACTION TO MAY 8 ASSASSINATION OF
APRISTA DEPUTY-ELECT LUIS AGUILAR NEAR HIGH SIERRA
CITY OF CERRO DE PASCO (REF A), GOP ISSUED SUPREME
DECREE MAY 11 THAT PLACED ENTIRE PROVINCE OF PASCO
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SUNDER A 60-DAY "STATE OF EMERGENCY." PASCO THUS JOINS

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NEIGHBORING PROVINCE OF DANIEL CARRION, WHERE PRE-EXISTING STATE OF EMERGENCY WAS RENEWED FOR ADDITIONAL 60 DAYS ON APRIL 4, AND SEVEN PROVINCES IN NEARBY DEPARTMENTS OF HUANUCO AND SAN MARTIN IN WHAT IS NOW A NINE-PROVINCE NORTH-CENTRAL SIERRA EMERGENCY ZONE (REF B).

2. (C) COMMENT: GOP HAS LEGITIMATE GROUNDS FOR ACTING IN PASCO, INASMUCH AS SENDERO LUMINOSO (SL) TERRORISTS HAVE BEEN OPERATING IN AREA FOR SOME TIME--AND, AS RECALLED IN REF A, WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR SHOOTING DEATH OF CITY'S MAYOR IN NOVEMBER 1983. WHAT IS NOT SO CLEAR IS EXTENT TO WHICH CURRENT SL ACTIVITY IN PROVINCE REPRESENTS AN INCREASE IN LEVEL OF TERRORIST VIOLENCE THERE OR IS SIMPLY A DISPLACEMENT EFFECT, THE CONSEQUENCE OF SENDERISTAS UNDER PRESSURE FROM SECURITY FORCES IN DANIEL CARRION AND SOUTHERN HUANUCO MOVING INTO "SAFER" TERRITORY TO OPERATE.

3. (C) TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, AGUILAR IS FIRST PROMINENT (OR SEMI-PROMINENT) APRISTA FIGURE TO HAVE BEEN VICTIMIZED BY SENDERO. AT LEAST UNTIL RECENTLY, ~~SOME~~ APRISTAS HAVE ASSERTED--ON BASIS, WE BELIEVE, OF WISHFUL THINKING--THAT APRISTAS HAVE ENJOYED A FORM OF "IMMUNITY" FROM SL. BEING "THE PARTY OF THE PEOPLE," AS APRISTAS SEE THEMSELVES, THESE INDIVIDUALS HELD THAT SENDERISTA REVOLUTIONARIES WOULD RESPECT APRISTAS' DEDICATION TO CHANGING PERUVIAN SOCIETY AND, ACCORDINGLY, WOULD NOT TARGET THEM IN SAME MANNER AS MORE CONSERVATIVE POLITICIANS (OR, AS IN CASE OF MARXIST POLITICAL FIGURES, "RENEGADE REVOLUTIONARIES"). SUCH ILLUSIONS CAN NO
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LONGER EXIST. WITHIN LAST FEW WEEKS A NUMBER OF KEY AIDES TO ALAN GARCIA, SUCH AS LUIS GONZALEZ POSADA AND HUGO OTERO, HAVE ASKED FOR AND RECEIVED 24 HOUR POLICE PROTECTION FOR FIRST TIME. IN INFORMAL COMMENT TO PRESS WHILE ATTENDING AGUILAR'S FUNERAL MAY 10, VIRTUAL FIRST VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT LUIS ALVA CASTRO SAID THAT NEW GOVERNMENT WOULD "UPROOT" TERRORISM, CONFRONTING PHENOMENON BOTH IN REGARD TO ITS MANIFESTATIONS AND SOCIAL-ECONOMIC CAUSES.

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4. (C) AS FOR OTHER RECENT SHOOTING INCIDENTS IN LIMA (REF A), ATTRIBUTION OF RESPONSIBILITY REMAINS UNCLEAR. SL REMAINS A PRIME SUSPECT IN CASE OF ELECTIONS BOARD HEAD GARCIA RADA, AND CANNOT BE ENTIRELY DISCOUNTED IN CASE OF TV PERSONALITY RICARDO BELMONT. IN LATTER CASE, HOWEVER, PRESS IS SPECULATING THAT BELMONT MAY HAVE BEEN VICTIM OF PERSONAL VENDETTA--FOR BUSINESS OR "PASSIONATE" REASONS--OR, FOR THAT MATTER, THE HAPPENSTANCE TARGET OF RANDOM BULLET FIRED BY GANG OF ROBBERS THAT HIT A NEARBY PHARMACY MINUTES EARLIER AND FLED IN HIS DIRECTION. BACKGROUND, NON-POLITICALLY MOTIVATED VIOLENCE IN PERU HAS BEEN ON UPSWING FOR MANY MONTHS (REF C). WE ACCORDINGLY CAUTION WASHINGTON ANALYSTS (REF D) AGAINST ASSUMING THAT ALL PUBLICLY PROMINENT VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE IN PERU ARE TARGETS OF TERRORISTS. JORDAN

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