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PAGE 01 STATE 328524
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E.O. 12356: DECL. OADR

TAGS: PE, PINS, PGOV

SUBJECT: PERU'S SENDERO LUMINOSO: WAR IN THE CORNER
OF THE DEAD

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PAGE 02 STATE 328524

1. THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF A RECENTLY PUBLISHED

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INR ASSESSMENTS AND RESEARCH INTELLIGENCE REPORT
PREPARED BY WILLIAM H. CRANE, INR/IAA. THE FULL REPORT
WILL BE SENT TO YOU BY POUCH.

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2. A TERRORIST CAMPAIGN BY THE ENIGMATIC LEFTIST GROUP
SENDERO LUMINOSO BEGAN AFTER PERU'S RETURN TO DEMOCRACY
IN 1980. THE INSURGENCY, WHICH SPREAD FROM THE COUN-
TRY'S REMOTE INTERIOR TO THE CAPITAL, HAS BEEN MARKED BY
HIGH LEVELS OF VIOLENCE ON BOTH SIDES. THE MILITARY'S
HARSH RESPONSE AND PERIODIC DISREGARD FOR LEGALITY AND
RESTRAINT THREATEN THE CONTINUANCE OF DEMOCRACY. WITH
NO SOLUTION IN SIGHT, PRESIDENT BELAUNDE AND WHOEVER
SUCCEEDS HIM IN 1985 FACE AN INCREASINGLY BLEAK
SITUATION. ARMACOST

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