



Department of State

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TELEGRAM

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ACTION ARA-16

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 AID-07 INR-10 SS-10 CIC-02  
CIAE-00 CODE-00 H-01 IC-15 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 SSC-01  
MC-02 SY-06 HA-08 -03 TRSE-00 PM-08 PA-01  
MCT-02 CMB-01 INRE-00 JSIE-00 SP-02 SNP-01 PRS-01  
1098 #

-----202566 290018Z /61

O R 282310Z MAY 83  
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9019  
INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PM  
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

DISPATCH CONTROL	IS/FP/CDR
CLASSIFICATION	MR Code Only
EXEMPTION	ED Exemptions
RESPONSIVE INFO	
BIAS	
EXEMPTIONS	

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E O 12356 DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PINT, PINS, PE  
SUBJ: PERUVIAN TERRORISTS CARRY OUT CONCERTED OPERATION IN LIMA

1. (LOJ) BEGINNING AT 1930 MAY 27 TERRORISTS DEMONSTRATED CONCLUSIVELY THAT THEY RETAINED THE CAPABILITY OF STAGING COORDINATED ATTACKS THROUGHOUT THE LIMA METROPOLITAN AREA. EXPLOSIVE CHARGES DOWNED TEN TRANSMISSION TOWERS ON LINES BRINGING POWER FROM THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS, THE SOUTHERN GRID AND THAT WHICH ENTERED LIMA FROM THE NORTH. LARGE PARTS OF LIMA AND THE SUBURBS BLANKET OUT (IT IS A TRIBUTE TO THE ELECTRIC COMPANY EMPLOYEES THAT THE ENTIRE SYSTEM DID NOT GO DOWN) AND ROLLING OUTAGES AFFECTED LARGE AREAS OF THE CITY FOR HOURS AFTERWARD.

2. (LOJ) ADDITIONAL TERRORIST GROUPS, OBVIOUSLY ALERT FOR THE OUTAGES, SWUNG QUICKLY INTO ACTION. IN WHAT IS THEIR MAJOR OPERATION IN THE CITY TO DATE, A WELL DRILLED SQUAD OVERWHELMED THE SECURITY DETAIL AT THE LARGE BAYER PLANT LOCATED NEAR THE AIRPORT. ONCE INSIDE THE PERIMETER THEY ORDERED THE 120 PLANT EMPLOYEES ON THE NIGHT SHIFT TO RUN FOR THEIR LIVES AND THEN

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METHODICALLY SET CHARGES WHICH TRIGGERED SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS

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AND LED TO THE NEAR COMPLETE LOSS OF THIS MAJOR CHEMICAL FACILITY. DAMAGE IS ESTIMATED IN THE HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS. POLICE FORCES CAPTURED AT LEAST ONE LOOKOUT AND CLAIM TO HAVE THROUGH HIM, PICKED UP TWO MORE.

3. (C) MEANWHILE, TWO EXPLOSIONS OCCURRED IN THE PARK/ OVERPASS AREA ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE EMBASSY. POLICE REPORT FINDING A FAILED BAZOOKA-TYPE HOMEMADE WEAPON ALLEGEDLY POINTED TOWARD THE SHERATON HOTEL, ALSO ADJACENT TO THE PARK. OTHER PRESS ACCOUNTS CALIM SIMILAR INEFFECTIVE DEVICES WERE FOUND NEAR THE NATIONAL PALACE. FROM SPEEDING CARS TERRORISTS THREW OTHER DYNAMITE DEVICES AT BANKS, STORES AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS THROUGHOUT THE CITY. THERE WAS LITTLE PROPERTY DAMAGE; NO ONE WAS INJURED IN THESE INCIDENTS. FOR THE SECOND TIME, A FLAMING HAMMER AND SICKLE APPEARED ON FAMOUR SAN CRISTOBAL HILL WHICH OVERLOOKS THE CITY. POLICE CLAIM TO HAVE ARRESTED SEVERAL OF THOSE INVOLVED IN THIS OPERATION.

4. (C) POLICE FORCES CLAIM ADDITIONAL ARRESTS AND PROMISE MORE BASED ON LEADS FROM THOSE DETAINED. BEYOND THOSE ALREADY LISTED, A GROUP IN A PICKUP TRUCK WAS CAUGHT IN THE SAN BORJA AREA WITH SMALL ARMS, PROPAGANDA AND EXPLOSIVES. THIS IS THE VICINITY OF THE MARINE HOUSE BUT THERE IS NO REASON TO BELIEVE ANY JSG FACILITIES WERE TARGETS.

5. (C) COMMENT: THE VIOLENT LEFT SHOWED ITSELF CONSIDERABLY MORE ORGANIZED AND POTENT THAN WAS THOUGHT. WHILE IT IS IMPORTANT NOT TO EXAGGERATE THE STRENGTH AND COORDINATION OF THOSE INVOLVED, NEITHER CAN ONE IGNORE THE FACT THAT A NUMBER OF GROUPS OF INDIVIDUALS SECRETLY PULLED TOGETHER A SERIES OF ATTACKS, SOME OF WHICH REQUIRED CONSIDERABLE ADVANCE PLANNING AND A DEGREE OF CONFIDENTIAL

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RISK.

6. (C) ALTHOUGH LOCAL MEDIA HAVE GONE EASY ON THE SECURITY SERVICES-- PUTTING THE BEST POSSIBLE FACE ON THE CAPTURES MADE AND STRESSING THE RAPIDITY WITH WHICH POLICE APPEARED IN THE CITY, THIS HAS BEEN A SORRY WEEK FOR THE FORCES OF INTERNAL ORDER. SENCERO LUMINOSO'S DRAMATIC SHOW OF FORCE IN AYACUCHO WAS JUST LAST FRIDAY. THE MID-WEEK WILDCAT STRIKE OF THE CIVIL GUARD CAST NO CREDIT ON THAT INSTITUTION NOR THE DETECTIVE SQUAD (PRIME MINISTER SCHWA-3.)

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[IN TELLING THE PUBLIC THAT NEARLY FIVE THOUSAND POLICE MAY  
BE DISCIPLINED, GAVE AN IDEA OF THE SURPRISINGLY LARGE NUMBERS  
WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE BRIEF STOPPAGE.) AND THE MAY 27  
INCIDENTS AT THE LEAST REVEAL THE CONTINUED SERIOUS ABSENCE  
OF INTELLIGENCE ABOUT THE TERRORISTS.]  
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