

202

POW 27

202 R

05/20/88 134652 PRINTER: VK

SS LIMA 4906

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01

LIMA 04906 052107Z

ACTION SCT-02

INFO LOG-00	ADS-00	AID-00	INR-05	SS-00	CIAE-00	NSCE-00
ARA-00	NSAE-00	COME-00	SSO-00	L-02	AMAD-01	TRSE-00
PM-05	PA-02	CCO-00	INRE-00	CA-02	A-01	USSS-00
USIE-00	FBIE-00	OC-02	FAIM-01	DS-01	DSE-00	/024 W

-----245000 052108Z /38

O 052104Z MAY 88
 FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1494

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
 AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
 AMEMBASSY QUITO
 USAF SO HOWARD AFB PN
 USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PN
 DIA WASHDC
 DEAHQS WASHDC
 AMEMBASSY PANAMA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/FPC/CDR

Date: 9/14/94

REMOVE DECLASSIFY

 DELETE Non-Responsive Info
 FOIA Exemptions
 PA Exemptions

MR Cases Only:
 EO Citations
 TS authority to:
 CLASSIFY as S or C OADR
 DOWNGRADE TS to S or C OADR

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 04906

TERREP
 PANAMA FOR ADS
 DIA FOR AT-5/OS-1D/DB-3D2/JSI-4B-3C1
 DEA FOR OF, PS, OC OI
 E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
 TAGS: PTER, PHUM, PINS, MILI, ASEC, PE
 SUBJECT: TERRORISTS ASSASSINATE PERUVIAN ADMIRAL
 REF: LIMA 2778 ✓

1. (U) PRESUMED SENDERO LUMINOSO (SL) TERRORISTS SHOT AND KILLED PERUVIAN REAR ADMIRAL CARLOS PONCE CANESSA MORNING OF MAY 5 AS HE LEFT HOME FOR WORK.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02

LIMA 04906 052107Z

PONCE HAD BEEN THE CHIEF OF THE STRATEGIC OPERATIONS PLANNING OFFICE OF THE NAVY STAFF (ESTADO MAYOR); HE DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE HAD ANY DIRECT CONNECTION TO THE NAVY'S COUNTERTERRORIST ROLE. RANKED FIRST IN HIS CLASS, PONCE WAS IN LINE TO BE COMMANDER GENERAL OF THE NAVY IN 1993.

2. (C) COMMENT: PONCE IS THE FIRST GENERAL OR FLAG RANK VICTIM OF TERRORISTS. HIS MURDER IS THE LATEST IN A SERIES OF SL ASSASSINATIONS OF NAVY OFFICERS, IN APPARENT RESPONSE TO THE PRESENCE OF MARINE UNITS

(AN- INTEGRAL BRANCH OF THE NAVY) IN THE AYACUCHO EMERGENCY ZONE. IRONICALLY, HIS DEATH OCCURRED THREE DAYS AFTER NAVY CALLED TOGETHER SENIOR OFFICERS TO WARN THEM OF CONTINUED HIGH SL THREAT.

CONFIDENTIAL

86 LIMA 4906

CONFIDENTIAL

3. (C) **E** IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO EXAGGERATE IMPACT
 PONCE'S DEATH WILL HAVE ON THE NAVY. WE EXPECT THE
 NAVY NOW WILL PRESS THE GOP AS HARD AS POSSIBLE TO
 RETALIATE IN SOME WAY AGAINST SL. THE ATTACK WILL
 ALSO TEND TO INCREASE LATENT TENSION BETWEEN THE GOP
 AND THE MILITARY OVER GENERAL COUNTERTERRORIST STRATEGY
 (REF A). ONE NAVY OFFICER TOLD NAVAL ATTACHE THAT **R**
 "IF THE GOVERNMENT DOESN'T DO SOMETHING, THEN THE NAVY **BT**
 WILL." LATTER COURSE OF EVENTS IS QUITE LIKELY,
 GIVEN THE GENERAL INABILITY OF REGULAR POLICE AND
 COMBINED POLICE/MILITARY EFFORTS TO TARGET AND CAPTURE
 SL CELLS. **J**

JORDAN
CONFIDENTIAL