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Peru: 33 Members Of Soviet Fishing Fleet Injured In Bombing Incident

by John Neagle
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On July 5, some 33 members of a Soviet fishing fleet were injured when a bomb exploded under buses taking them on a shopping trip in downtown Lima. Two unidentified youths tossed explosive devices under two buses carrying a total of 50 Soviet fishermen, who are in Peru as part of a bilateral fishing agreement. Most sustained only minor injuries. The incident occurred on La Marina Avenue which links Lima to the nearby port of Callao. Four of injured fishermen were still hospitalized on Wednesday evening. Callao prefect Jose Villanueva Vasquez said the Soviets' ships docked in Callao late July 4 to buy supplies. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack. Police told AFP that the manner in which the attack was carried out suggested involvement of the Sendero Luminoso rebels. Sendero Luminoso has been blamed for several previous attacks on the Soviet Embassy and other entities linked to the Soviet Union. On July 8, 1986, three Shining Path guerrillas armed with guns and explosives attacked the Soviet Embassy in Lima. One of the rebels was blown up by his own bomb after being shot by police guarding the facility. On Sept. 1, 1986, six Soviet sailors were injured in a bombing at a market in Callao. One of the sailors lost both arms, legs and eyes in the attack. Sendero Luminoso has often condemned the USSR's alleged "revisionism." (Basic data from AFP, 07/05/89)

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