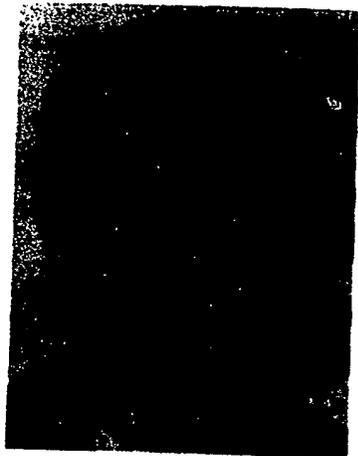


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### A Hard Act To Follow

Shadowy Sendero Luminoso founder Abimael Guzman has practiced a leadership style that leaves the organization poorly prepared to carry on without him. As a philosophy professor at a provincial university in the 1960s, Guzman gathered students and other adherents into the nucleus of the future Sendero; the brainwashing effect of his rhetoric earned him the nickname "Shampoo," [REDACTED]. He has twice broken with mainstream Communists who rejected his eclectic mix of Maoism and glorification of the country's Inca past, and has built a cult of personality around himself. He has insisted on strict obedience and ideological uniformity among his followers and has resisted the emergence of strong subordinates who might turn into rivals. He has been willing to purge or kill any he saw as threats. The subordinates Guzman leaves behind are unaccustomed to thinking for themselves, in many cases have operated independently, and in some cases do not even know each other.

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**PERU: Braced for Violent Reprisals**

The arrest of top Sendero Luminoso leader Abimael Guzman Saturday night almost certainly will spark reprisals by the insurgents but may disrupt the group's planning capabilities, at least in the short run. [REDACTED] Guzman, who is being held under intense security, and several members of Sendero's central committee were captured at an insurgent safehouse in Lima during a major meeting. Security forces in Lima are on maximum alert. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Terrorism almost certainly will increase in Lima in coming days as Sendero tries to show viability and to minimize the political benefit to the regime. The guerrillas probably will mount such highly visible attacks as daytime car-bombings because they require little advance preparation and carry relatively low risk to operatives. Without direction from the central committee, insurgents may feel freer to strike civilian targets in Lima at random, which would increase the risk of incidental injury to US citizens. The arrests may disrupt the insurgents' highly centralized planning for a national campaign of terror before the late November congressional election. [REDACTED]

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14 September 1992