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CS  
RELEASED IN PART  
B1, 1.4(D), B6

DTG

022145Z MAR 93

FROM

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5614

CONTROLS

CONFIDENTIAL BOGOTA 03346

NSC FOR RICHARD FEINBERG

DEA FOR OF, OFL, DO, AO, AX, OK, NK

CINCSO AND CINCLANT ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR

BODY

TAGS: SNAR, PINS, ASEC, PINR, CO

SUBJECT: ANOTHER NARCO KILLED, TWO SURRENDER

REFS: A) BOGOTA 3263; B) BOGOTA 2707; C) BOGOTA 3270

1. (C) SUMMARY: COLOMBIAN POLICE KILLED A MAJOR ESCOBAR HENCHMAN, AND TWO OTHER MEDELLIN CARTEL ASSOCIATES SURRENDERED, ALL ON MARCH 1. THE "PEPES" ORGANIZATION'S MURDER CAMPAIGN AND THE UNRELENTING PRESSURE OF THE POLICE SEEM TO BE MOTIVATING NARCOS TO SURRENDER IN ATTEMPTS TO STAY ALIVE. END SUMMARY.

2. (U) HOURS AFTER HIS BROTHER LUIS GUILLERMO'S DEATH, APPARENTLY AT THE HANDS OF THE PRIVATE VENGEANCE GROUP "PERSECUTED BY ESCOBAR" ("LOS PEPES," REF A), FERNANDO DIEGO LONDONO WHITE SURRENDERED TO COLOMBIAN AUTHORITIES MARCH 1. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, FERNANDO DIEGO IS WANTED ON CHARGES OF CONSPIRACY AND AIDING IN KIDNAPPING. HE SURRENDERED TO THE IVTH BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS IN MEDELLIN.

3. (C) LIKE HIS LATE BROTHER LUIS GUILLERMO, FERNANDO DIEGO IS HEAVILY INVOLVED IN THE COCAINE DISTRIBUTION AND MONEY LAUNDERING OPERATIONS OF THE CARTEL,

[REDACTED] BOTH BROTHERS HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN ARRESTED AND RELEASED BY COLOMBIAN AUTHORITIES.

4. (U) ALSO IN MEDELLIN, THE COLOMBIAN TASK FORCE HUNTING ESCOBAR (GRUPO DE BUSQUEDA) KILLED ESCOBAR HENCHMAN HERNAN DARIO HENAO QUINTERO ("HH") WHEN THE LATTER RESISTED ARREST DURING A RAID MARCH 1. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS AN ANONYMOUS TIPSTER REVEALED

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HENAO'S LOCATION IN EXCHANGE FOR THE 100 MILLION PESO (APPROXIMATELY USD 136,000) REWARD OFFERED BY THE GOC. HENAO WAS THE BROTHER OF ESCOBAR'S WIFE, MARIA VICTORIA HENAO VALLEJO.

5. (C) [REDACTED] CONFIRM PRESS REPORTS HENAO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING SOME OF ESCOBAR'S PROPERTIES AND COCAINE LABS, AS WELL AS FOR MONEY LAUNDERING AND RUNNING SOME OF THE CARTEL'S PARAMILITARY GROUPS. HENAO WAS PERHAPS THE LAST OF ESCOBAR'S MOST TRUSTED CONFIDANTS, AND HE IS IRREPLACEABLE.

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6. (U) WILLIAM CARDENAS CALLE, ("LENGUAS," TONGUES) SURRENDERED MARCH 1 TO REGIONAL FISCAL FERNANDO ENRIQUE MANCILLA SILVA IN SOUTHERN MEDELLIN AND WAS BROUGHT TO ITAGUI PRISON. THE PRESS REPORTS CARDENAS SERVED AS ONE OF ESCOBAR'S TERRORISM ADVISORS AND IS LINKED TO SOME OF THE RECENT BOMBINGS IN BOGOTA. [REDACTED]

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7. (C) COMMENT: THE FEBRUARY 17 SURRENDER OF CARLOS MARIO ALZATE ("ARETE", REF B), COMBINED WITH THE DEATH OF HENAO, AND THE SURRENDERS OF CARDENAS AND FINANCE MAN JOSE FERNANDO POSADA (REF C) FURTHER REDUCES ESCOBAR'S ENTOURAGE OF TRUSTWORTHY LIEUTENANTS. FERNANDO DIEGO'S BRUSH WITH DEATH IN THE FEBRUARY 27 ATTEMPT AGAINST HIS LIFE (REF A) MAY HAVE MOTIVATED HIS SURRENDER IN AN ATTEMPT TO AVOID HIS BROTHER'S FATE. THE PEPES'S MURDEROUS INTIMIDATION COULD ALSO BE BEHIND THE OTHER SURRENDERS OF ESCOBAR ASSOCIATES, AND WILL NO DOUBT INCREASE THE ALREADY INTENSE PRESSURE AGAINST ESCOBAR.

BUSBY

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