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TITLE: SUBJECT: "EXTRADITABLES" PROMISE TO FREE ONE KIDNAP

- VICTIM

ORIGDATE: 199102051558

SOURCE: STATE

DOCNO: BOGOTA 01863

TEXT:

TAGS: SNAR, KJUS, CJAN, CO

COMBINE: COMPLETE

SUBJECT: "EXTRADITABLES" PROMISE TO FREE ONE KIDNAP

- VICTIM

1. (U) IN YET ANOTHER COMMUNIQUE, THE MEDELLIN CARTEL'S "EXTRADITABLES" HAVE PROMISED TO FREE ONE OF THREE REMAINING KIDNAP VICTIMS (EL TIEMPO EDITOR FRANCISCO SANTOS, MARIA PACHON AND HER SISTER-IN-LAW BEATRIZ VILLAMIZAR) IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. LIKEWISE, IN THAT FEBRUARY 3 COMMUNICATION, THE NARCOS VOWED TO CONTINUE THEIR UNILATERAL TRUCE IN THE WAR AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT. FOLLOWING IS AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION.

2. (U) BEGIN TEXT:

THE EXTRADITABLES TO THE PEOPLE OF COLOMBIA:

A. THAT SOME COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA SAY THAT WITH THE KIDNAPPING OF THE JOURNALISTS, THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY IS BEING PRESSURED TO DELIBERATE.

B. THAT IT HAS BEEN 105 YEARS SINCE A DEMOCRATIC AND POLITICAL EVENT OF THE MAGNITUDE AND IMPORTANCE OF THE NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY LAST TOOK PLACE.

C. THAT THE PEOPLE OF COLOMBIA HAVE ENTRUSTED THE ASSEMBLY WITH THEIR LONGING FOR THE PEACE THAT OUR COUNTRY SO BADLY LACKS.

D. THAT THE EXTRADITABLES ARE NOT PRESSURING THE ASSEMBLY IN ITS DELIBERATIONS, SINCE THE HOLDING OF THE

REVIEW AUTHORITY: James Cooper, Senior
Reviewer

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KIDNAP VICTIMS IS ONLY ANOTHER OF THE POLITICAL-MILITARY ACTIONS THAT WE HAVE CARRIED OUT DURING EIGHT YEARS OF STRUGGLE AGAINST EXTRADITION AND THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

E. THAT WE ARE PART OF THE CONFLICT THAT THE COUNTRY IS LIVING, AND FOR THAT REASON WE WANT TO VERY RESPECTFULLY PRESENT SOME OF OUR CONSIDERATIONS, SUCH AS:

-- POPULAR ELECTION OF REGIONAL PROCURATORS (OFFICIALS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S INDEPENDENT WATCHDOG AGENCY) WITH AUTONOMY TO DECIDE MATTERS RELATING TO HUMAN RIGHTS.

-- CREATION OF SPECIAL DETENTION CENTERS UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PROCURADURIA.

-- PROSECUTION OF THE POLICE AND MILITARY BY CIVILIAN AUTHORITIES.

-- PROHIBITION OF EXTRADITION OF NATIONALS TO OTHER COUNTRIES.

F. THAT WE HAVE APPROXIMATELY 100 MILITANTS DETAINED IN DIFFERENT JAILS AROUND THE COUNTRY FOR THE SAME CRIMES FOR WHICH OTHER CITIZENS HAVE BEEN PARDONED.

G. THAT WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THE CREATION OF A COMMISSION AUTHORIZED TO LISTEN TO OUR PROPOSALS.

H. THAT WE REMAIN FIRM IN OUR DECISION TO CONTINUE OUR UNILATERAL TRUCE, AND THAT AS A GESTURE OF GOOD FAITH, WE WILL FREE ONE OF OUR KIDNAP VICTIMS IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

THE EXTRADITABLES, FEBRUARY 3, 1991.

END TEXT.

3. (C) COMMENT: PRESUMABLY, PABLO ESCOBAR ORIGINATED THIS COMMUNICATION, AND LIKE THAT OF JANUARY 30, SOME

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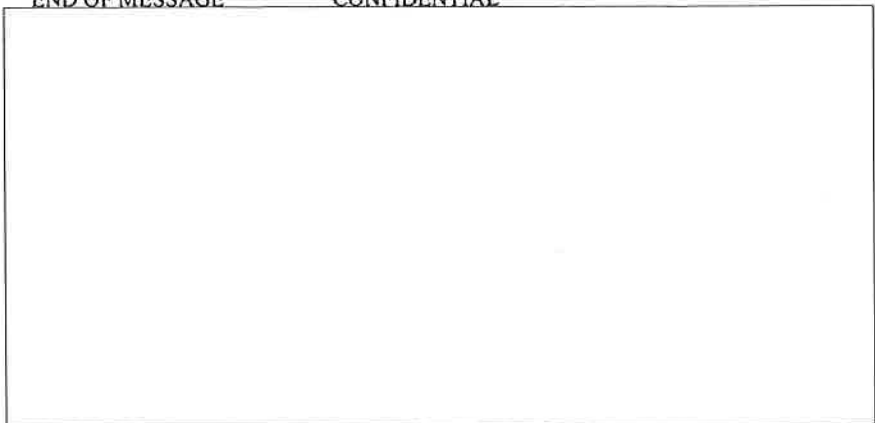
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SENTENCES LACK CLARITY. IT DOES, HOWEVER, APPEAR TO BE AIMED AT THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, WHICH CONVENES FEBRUARY 5. PERHAPS THIS IS ESCOBAR'S IDEA OF A CARROT AND STICK APPROACH AS WHAT IS IMPLICIT IN THE COMMUNIQUE -- PARDON FOR NARCO CRIMES. INDEED, THOUGH IN COLOMBIA AS ELSEWHERE, THE PUBLIC'S MEMORY IS SHORT, ESCOBAR MAY RECOGNIZE THAT KILLING MARINA MONTOYA WAS A TACTICAL ERROR. THAT COLD-BLOODED MURDER WAS THE FIRST EVENT IN MONTHS TO PROVOKE A PUBLIC OUTCRY AGAINST "THE EXTRADITABLES." POLICE, NOT HER KIDNAPPERS, WERE BLAMED

FOR DIANA TURBAY'S DEATH. INDEED, VARIOUS MEMBERS OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY HAVE IN THE PAST SEVERAL DAYS STATED PUBLICLY THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO DEBATE BANNING EXTRADITION UNDER THE PUBLIC PERCEPTION THAT THEY WERE SUCCUMBING TO NARCO PRESSURE. MEANWHILE, WE DOUBT THAT ESCOBAR, WITH SO MANY OF HIS TOP ASSASSINS EITHER DEAD OR JAILED, STILL HAS THE ABILITY TO LAUNCH ANOTHER TERROR CAMPAIGN. END COMMENT.

MCNAMARA

END OF MESSAGE CONFIDENTIAL



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