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26935487

TITLE: SUBJECT: DRUG SENTENCES AND SEIZURES IN GUADELOUPE

ORIGDATE: 198905251700

SOURCE: STATE

DOCNO: MARTINIQUE 0492

TEXT:

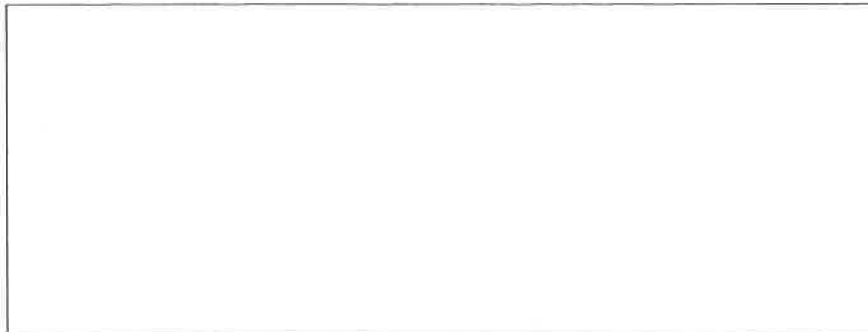
TAGS: SNAR, GP, FR

SUBJECT: DRUG SENTENCES AND SEIZURES IN GUADELOUPE

NON-RESPONSIVE PORTIONS
REDACTED

1. A FRENCH COURT IN BASSE TERRE, GUADELOUPE, HANDED DOWN STIFF PRISON SENTENCES ON MAY 18 TO SEVEN COLUMBIANS INDICTED IN ONE OF FRANCES BIGGEST DRUG BUSTS. FOUR MEN CAUGHT "RED HANDED" IN DECEMBER 1986 WHILE LANDING A SMALL PLANE LOADED WITH 445 KILOS OF COCAINE ON THE FRENCH ISLAND OF MARIE-GALANTE, 50 KILOMETERS OFF GUADELOUPE, RECEIVED SENTENCES RANGING FROM 10 TO 14 YEARS. THEIR ACCUSED BOSSES, INCLUDING MEDELLIN CARTEL KINGPIN PABLO ESCOBAR, RECEIVED IN ABSENTIA THE MAXIMUM SENTENCES POSSIBLE OF TWENTY YEARS APIECE. DESPITE THE PRESENCE OF SIX LAWYERS FOR THE DEFENSE, THE SENTENCES WERE TOPPED OFF BY CUSTOMS FINES WHICH AMOUNT CUMULATIVELY TO 500 MILLION FRENCH FRANCS.

2. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, THE BASSE TERRE CONDEMNATION WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT ESCOBAR HAS EVER BEEN CONVICTED BY A COURT. IN UNEXPECTED TESTIMONY, ONE OF THE DEFENDENTS CAUGHT IN MARIE GALANTE, JUAN PEREZ-PIEDRATA AKA HANS PEREZ, FINGERED ESCOBAR AS THE PERSON WHO HAD FINANCED THE WHOLE OPERATION. PEREZ-PIEDRATA NAMED TWO OTHER FIGURES IN THE MEDELLIN CARTEL, GUSTAVO GONZALES AND GABRILA GUSTAVO RIBERO, AS ALSO BEING INVOLVED IN THE OPERATION AND THEY ALSO RECEIVED 20 YEAR SENTENCES.

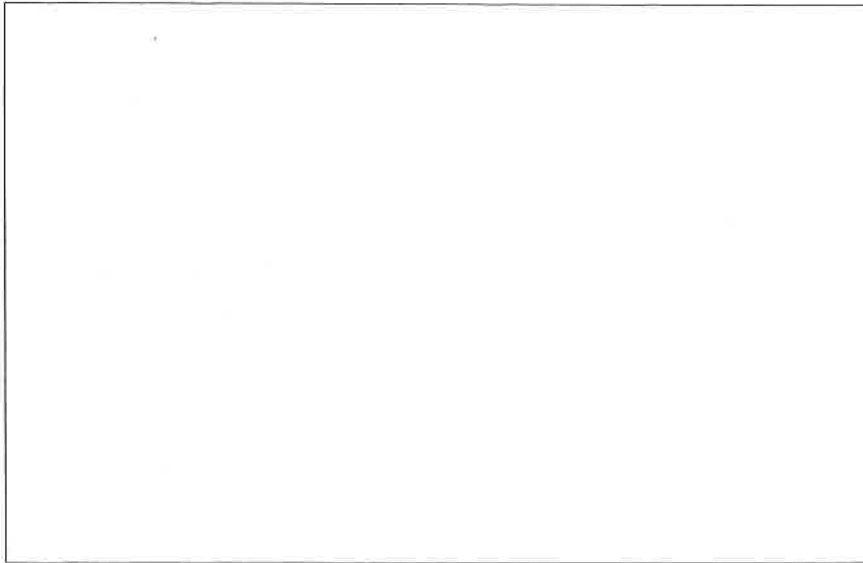


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REVIEW AUTHORITY: James Cooper, Senior
Reviewer

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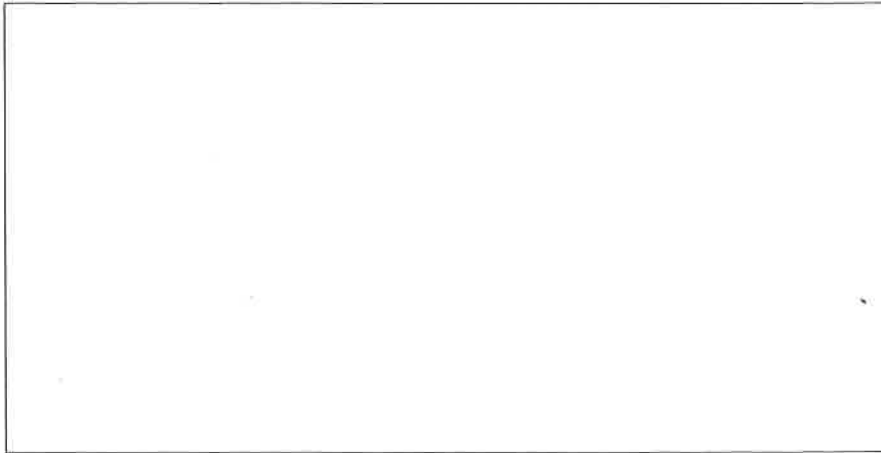
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