

SECRET

29507252

TITLE: SUBJECT: POLICE RAIDS TO CAPTURE PABLO ESCOBAR CONTINUE

ORIGDATE: 199003290100

SOURCE: STATE

DOCNO: BOGOTA 04842

TEXT:

TAGS: SNAR, CO

SUBJECT: POLICE RAIDS TO CAPTURE PABLO ESCOBAR CONTINUE

(C) 1. SUMMARY: THE COLOMBIAN NATIONAL POLICE ARE IN THE MIDST OF INTENSIVE OPERATIONS IN ANTIOQUIA DEPARTMENT TO CAPTURE PABLO ESCOBAR GAVIRIA. END SUMMARY.

RELEASED IN PART B7(E),B3
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(S) 2. SINCE SATURDAY MARCH 24 THE COLOMBIAN NATIONAL POLICE HAVE BEEN CONDUCTING INTENSIVE OPERATIONS IN MEDELLIN TO CAPTURE MAJOR TRAFFICKER PABLO ESCOBAR GAVIRIA. TRACKING RADIO COMMUNICATIONS, THEY BELIEVE THEY LOCATED HIS POSITION IN THE MOUNTAINS NEAR ENVIGADO, A MEDELLIN SUBURB THAT HAS LONG BEEN ESCOBAR'S HOME BASE. USING A TASK FORCE OF CNP TROOPS TRAVELING BY LAND, SHORTLY AFTER DAWN ON MARCH 27 THEY CONDUCTED A RAID AT A LOCATION WHERE THEY BELIEVED ESCOBAR TO BE HIDING.

(S) 3. FOUR MEN WERE DETAINED AT THE SITE, TWO WERE CAMPESINOS AND TWO BELIEVED TO BE ON THE PAYROLL OF ESCOBAR. CNP ANTI-NARCOTICS DIRECTOR MUNOZ TOLD DEA COUNTRY ATTACHE LAST NIGHT THAT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT ESCOBAR HAD ESCAPED FROM THE AREA DURING THE OPERATION, BUT INSTEAD MAY HAVE DEPARTED SOME 24 HOURS BEFORE THE RAIDS STARTED. CNP INTELLIGENCE HAS INDICATIONS HE MAY STILL BE IN THE AREA AND THEREFORE, THEY ARE STILL CONDUCTING RAIDS AT THAT LOCATION. DEA WILL REPORT MORE FULLY AT THE END OF THE OPERATION.

(LOU) 4. DURING A CALL ON MUNOZ LATE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON BY STAFFDEL SMITH (ACCOMPANIED BY NAU OFFICERS) THE STAFFERS ASKED WHY THE CNP COULD NOT CAPTURE ESCOBAR. MUNOZ DESCRIBED THE OPERATION TO THEM IN GENERAL TERMS AND ADDED HE FEARED THAT ESCOBAR HAD BEEN TIPPED OFF.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: James Cooper, Senior
Reviewer

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(LOU) 5. THE CNP ARE SIMULTANEOUSLY CONDUCTING
LABORATORY RAID OPERATIONS IN PUTUMAYO DEPARTMENT.
ACCORDING TO DEA, YESTERDAY THEY RAIDED A LAB SITE AND
SEIZED 420 KILOS OF COCAINE. [REDACTED]

B7(E)

[REDACTED]

MCNAMARA

END OF MESSAGE

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[REDACTED]

B3 CIA PERS/ORG

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