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TITLE: SUBJECT: MEGATALKERS 01/13/95

ORIGDATE: 199501171819

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TEXT:

TAGS: PREL OPRC

SUBJECT: MEGATALKERS 01/13/95

RELEASED IN PART B3 CIA
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NON-RESPONSIVE PORTIONS REDACTED

JANUARY 13, 1995 EDITION

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INTERNATIONAL COUNTERNARCOTICS

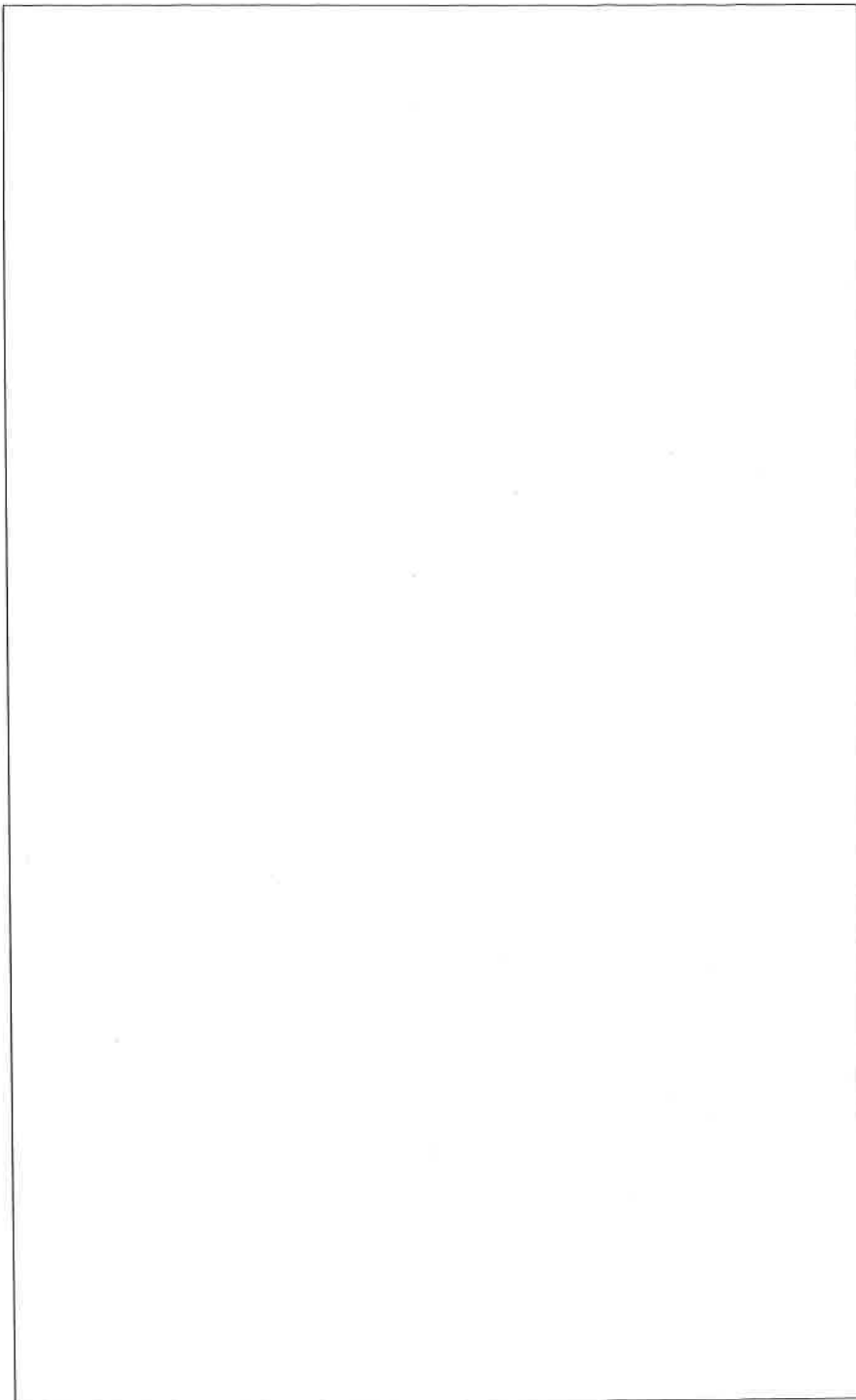
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REVIEW AUTHORITY: Adolph Eisner, Senior
Reviewer

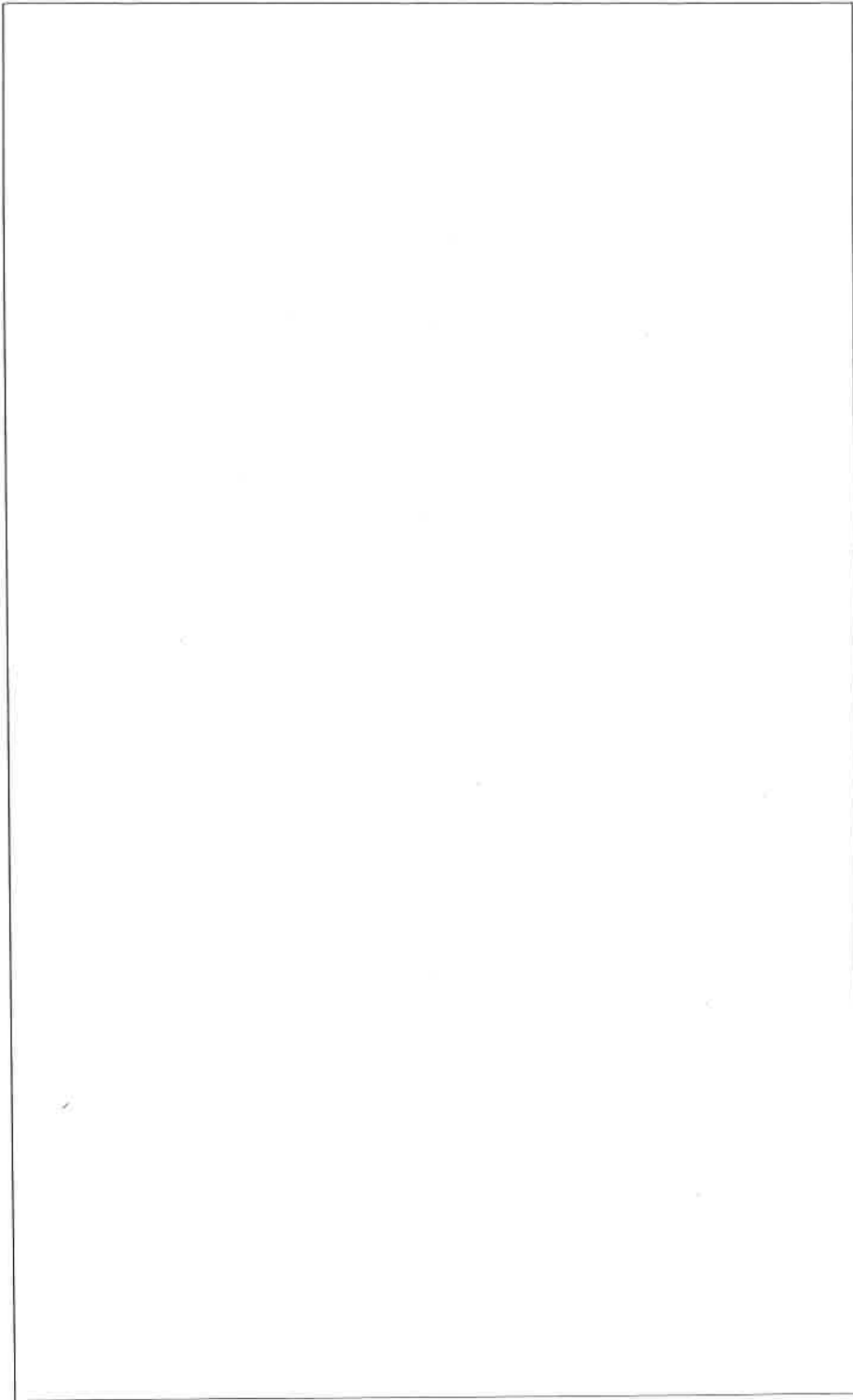
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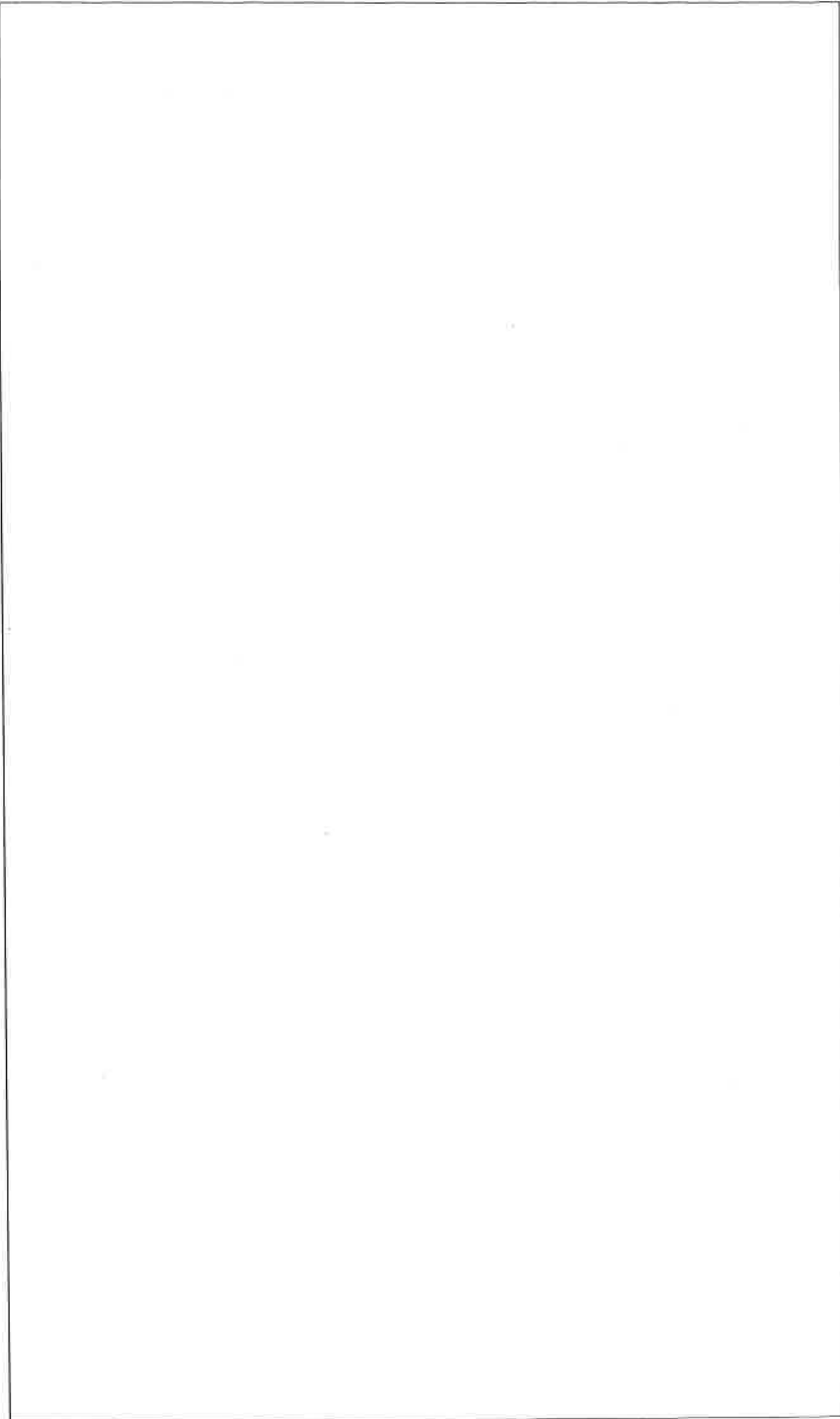
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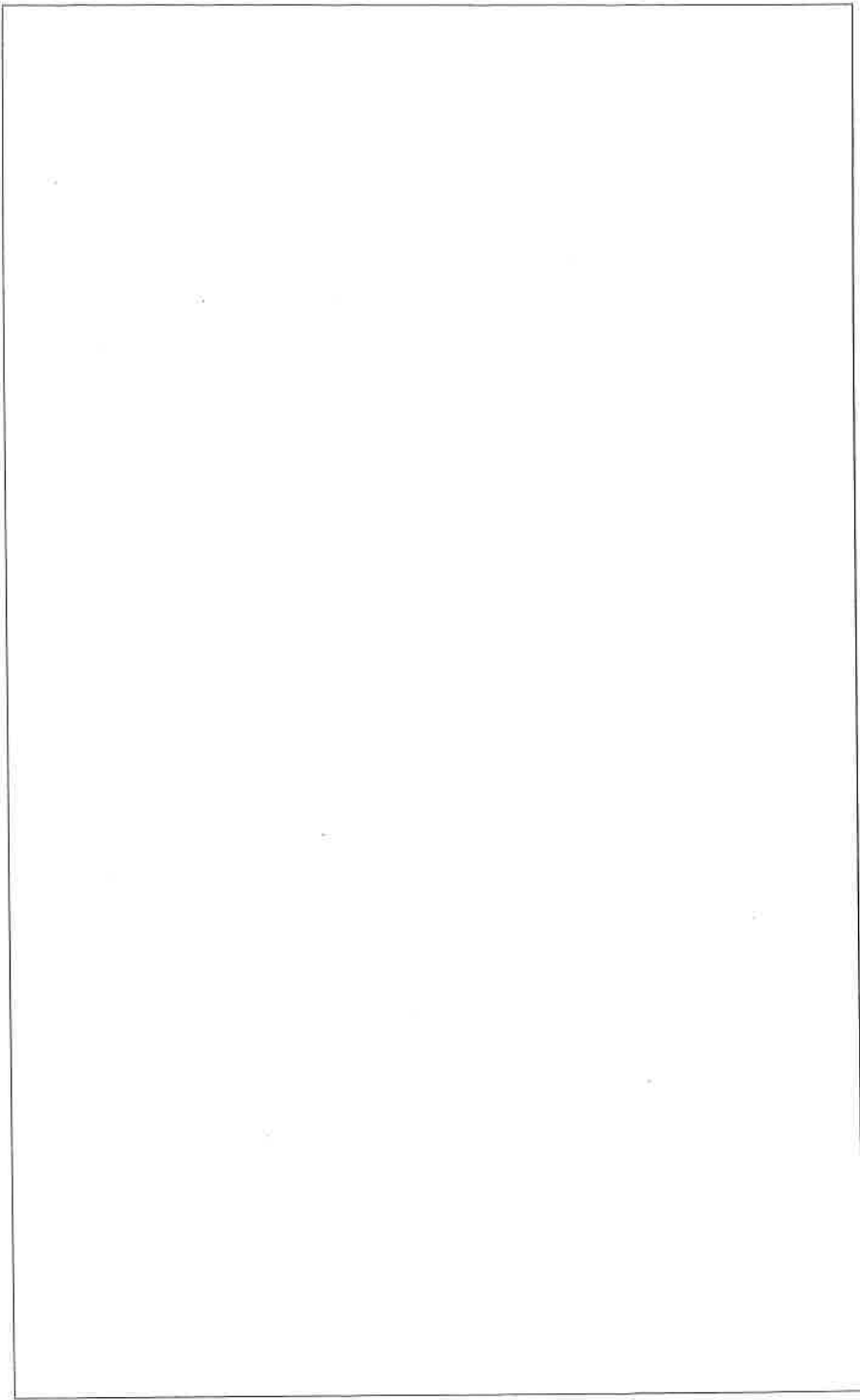
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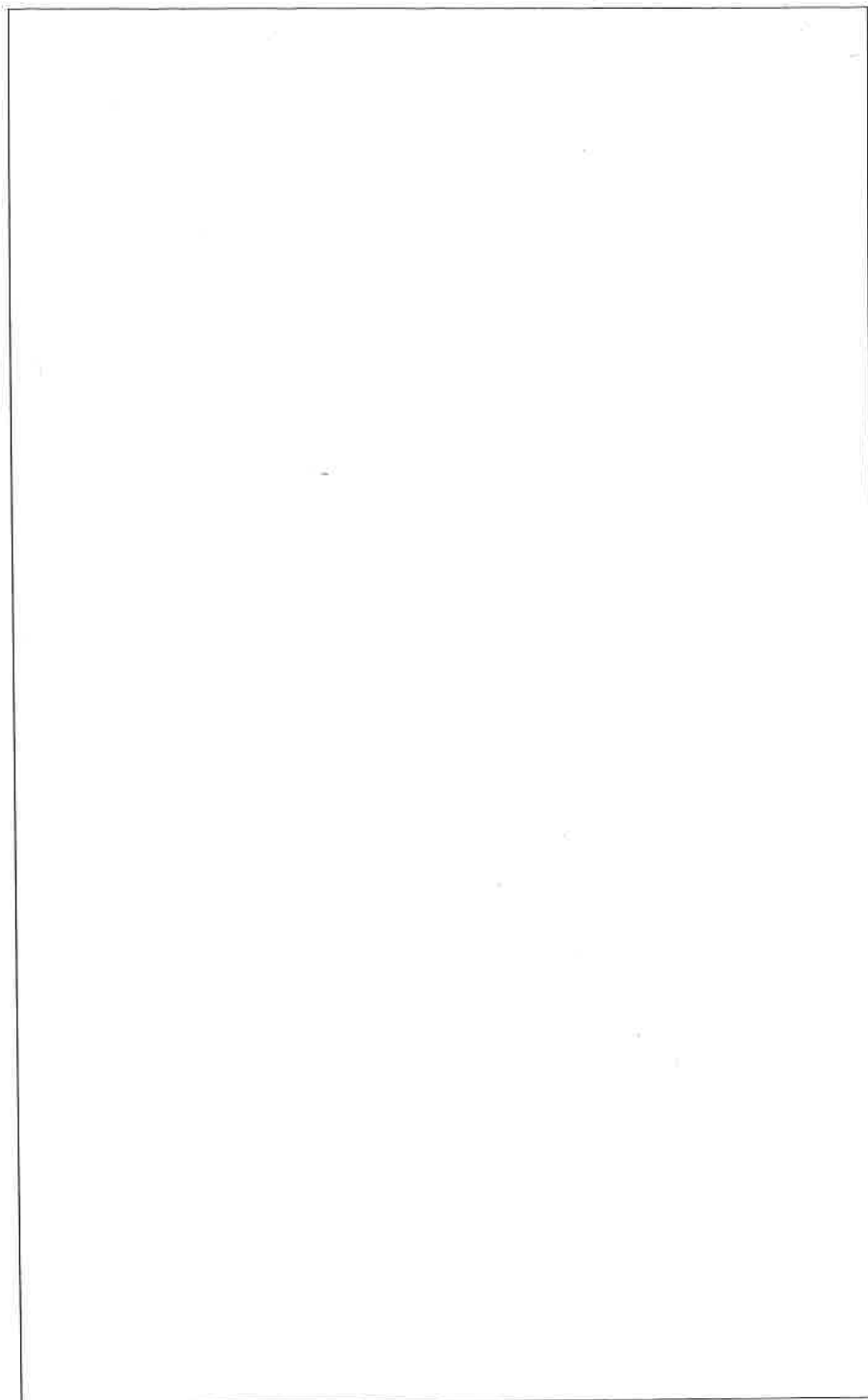
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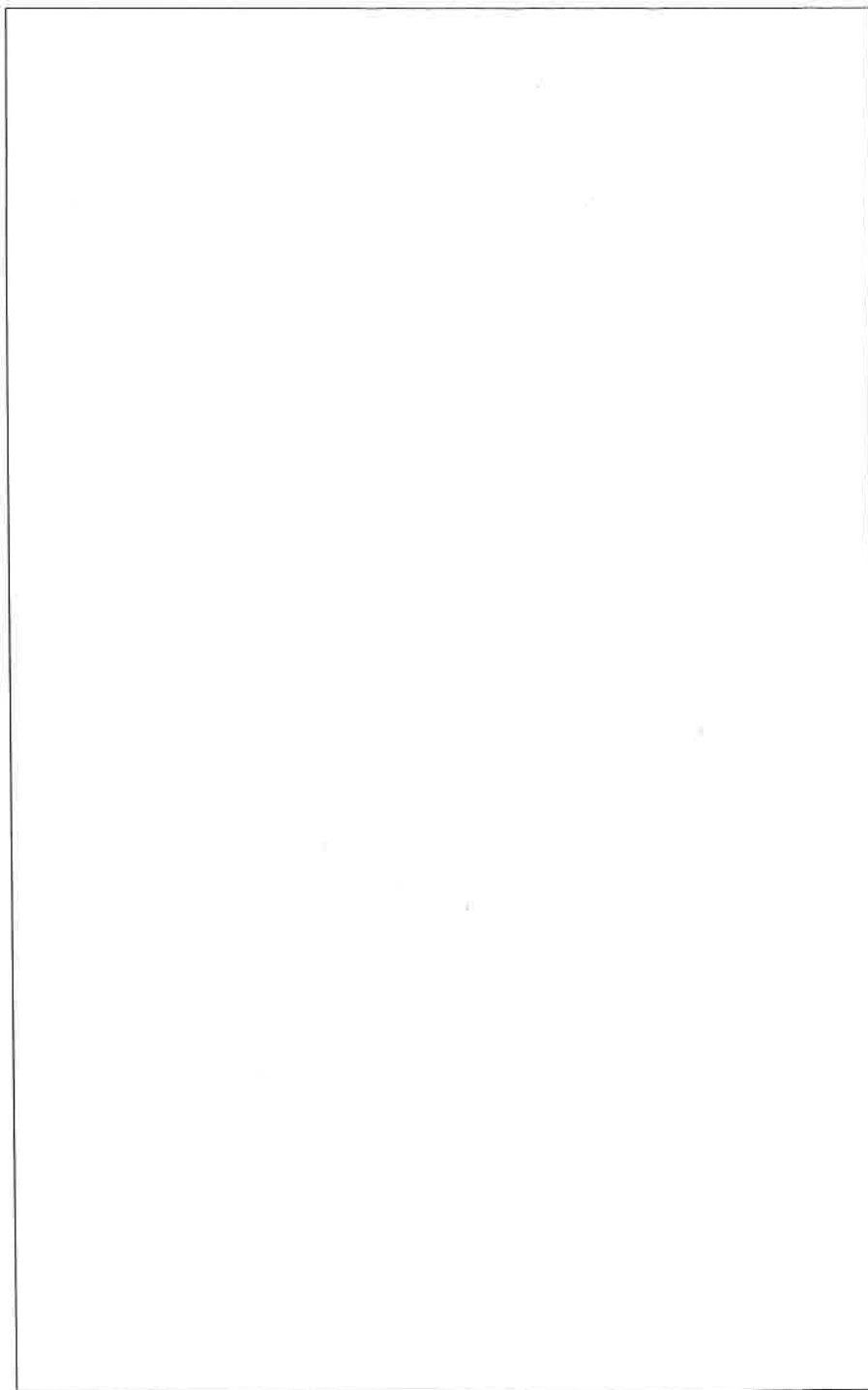


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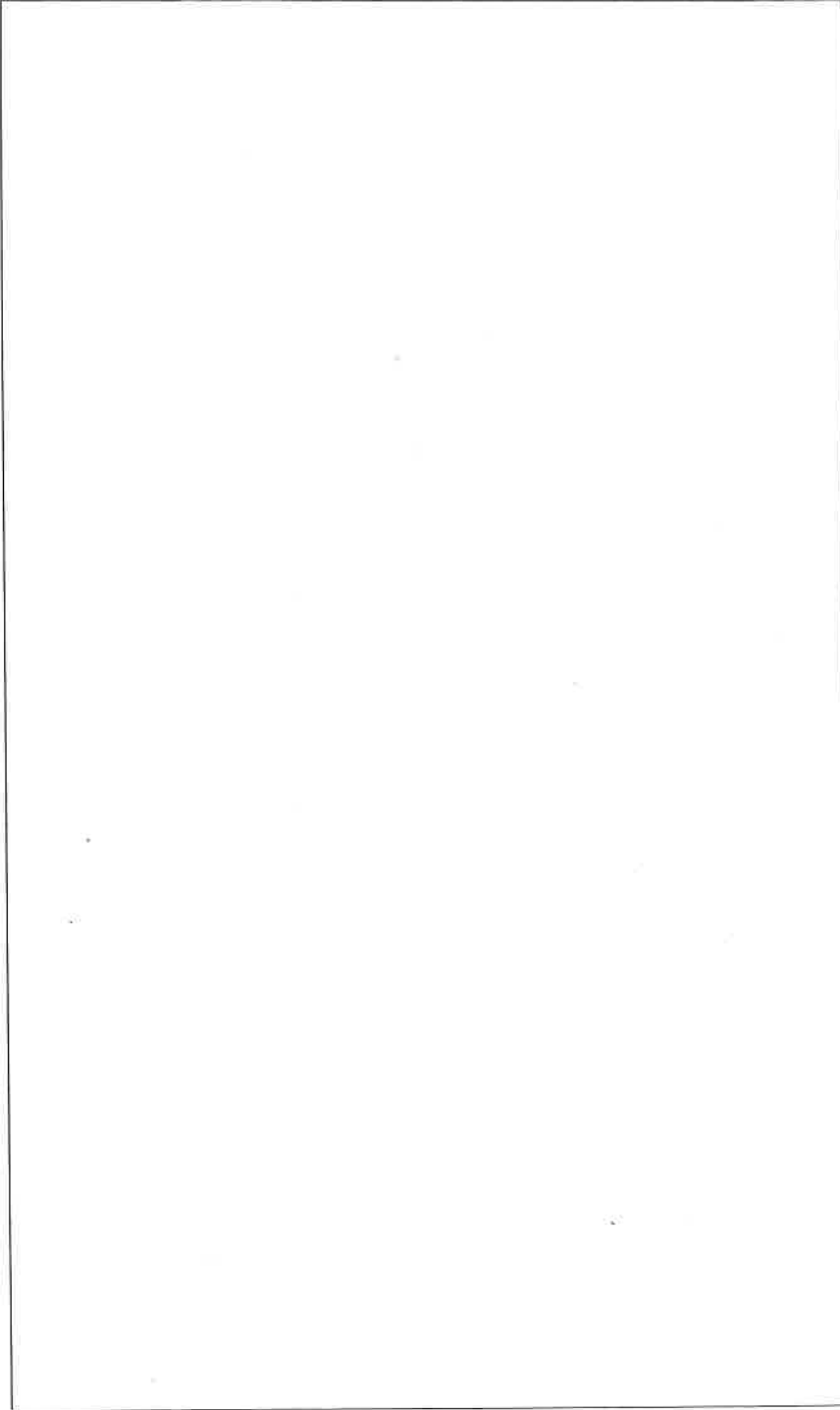


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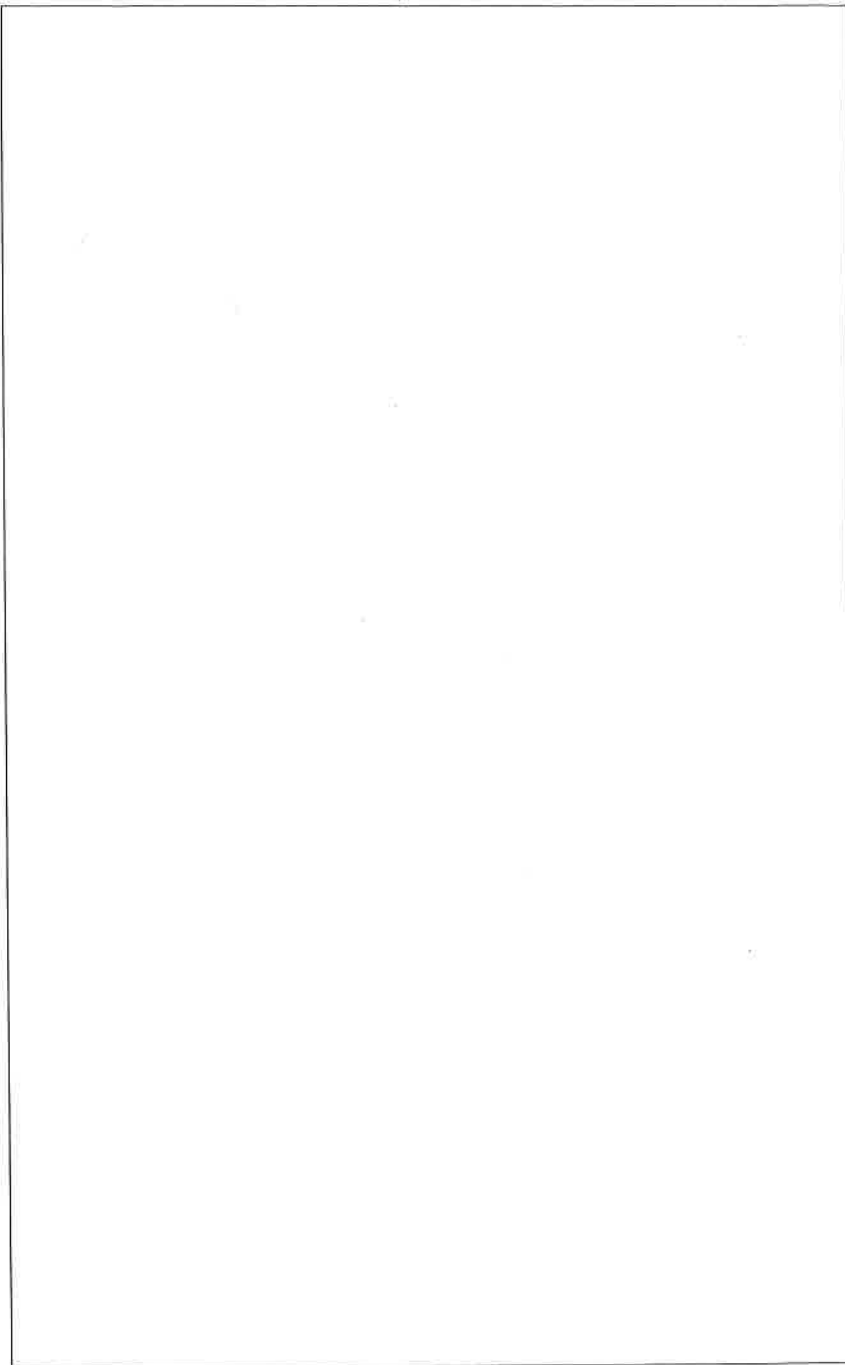
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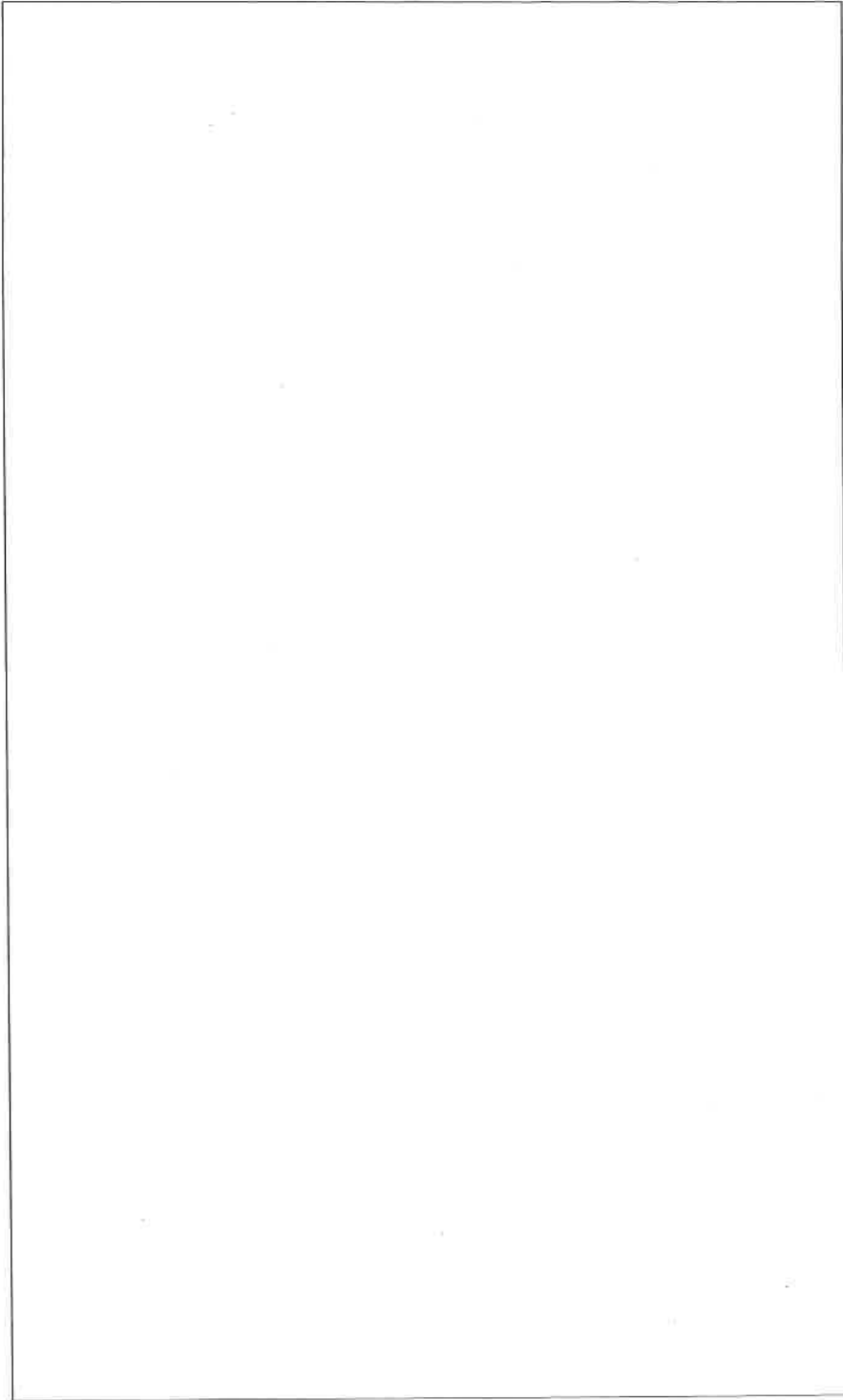
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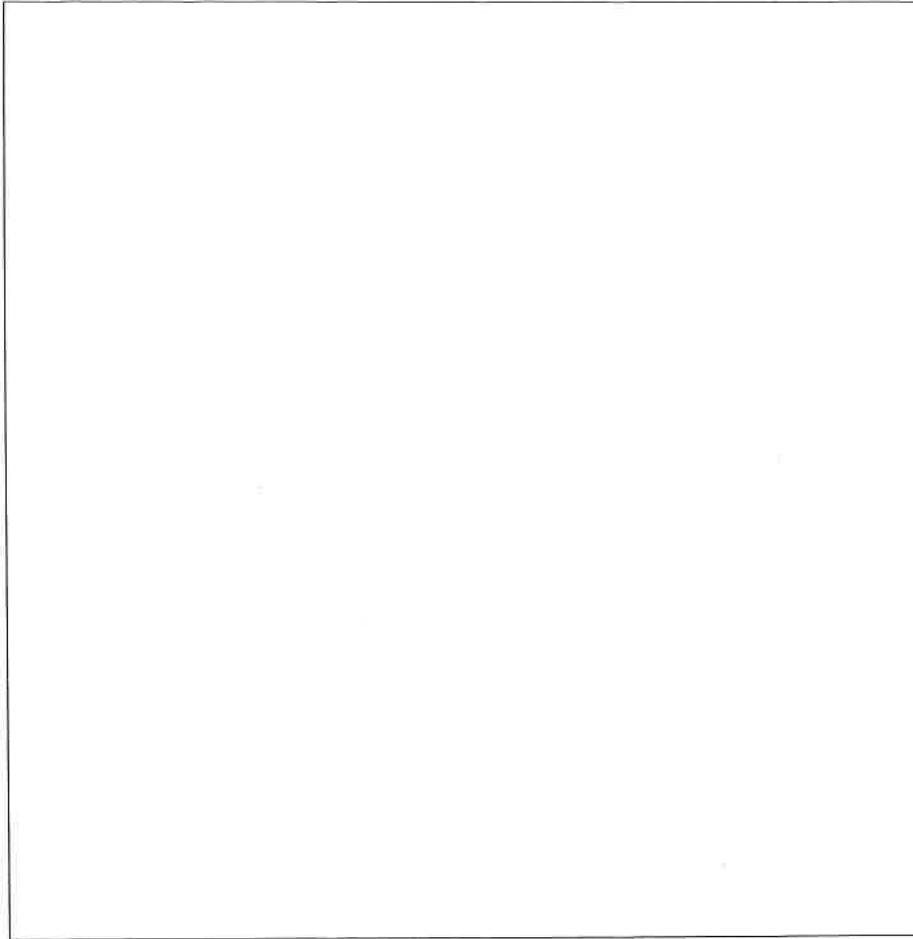
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INTERNATIONAL COUNTERNARCOTICS

WHAT IS THE U.S. INTEREST?

- COCAINE AND HEROIN CONTRIBUTE TO CRIME, COSTLY HEALTH AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS, AND PRODUCTIVITY LOSSES IN THE U.S.
- POWERFUL DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS-CORRUPT OFFICIALS AND INSTITUTIONS ABROAD, IN A NUMBER OF INSTANCES POSING THREATS TO THE STABILITY OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS.
- THE CHEMICALS USED IN REFINING HEROIN AND SLASH-AND-BURN CULTIVATION OF POPPIES ARE DAMAGING FORESTS AND WATERSHEDS

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IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND PARTS OF LATIN AMERICA.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

O CONGRESS HAS APPROPRIATED AND THE PRESIDENT HAS APPROVED 105 MILLION FOR INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL THIS YEAR. THIS APPROPRIATION PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO HELP THEM DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS THAT STRENGTHEN INSTITUTIONAL COUNTERNARCOTICS LAW ENFORCEMENT AND JUDICIAL CAPABILITIES.

O WE ARE PURSUING AN AGGRESSIVE PROCESS TO IDENTIFY MAJOR DRUG PRODUCING AND TRANSIT COUNTRIES AND TO CERTIFY THE COOPERATION OF COUNTRIES ON THAT LIST WITH U.S. ANTI-DRUG EFFORTS. IN 1994, WE DENIED CERTIFICATION TO NIGERIA, BURMA, IRAN AND SYRIA. THIS YEAR WE EXPECT TO ADD COUNTRIES TO THE "MAJORS" LIST, AND WILL CONTINUE OUR CLOSE SCRUTINY OF LISTED COUNTRIES' COUNTERNARCOTICS PERFORMANCE.

O WE ARE ENGAGING THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS IN DRUG CONTROL EFFORTS FOR THE FIRST TIME, INCLUDING SEEKING A NEW POLICY OF TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION COUNTERNARCOTICS EFFORTS IN LENDING DECISIONS.

O WE HAVE HELPED NATIONS TO TARGET DRUG KINGPINS, AND NOT JUST THEIR SUBORDINATES. FOR EXAMPLE, COLOMBIA PURSUED MEDELLIN CARTEL HEAD PABLO ESCOBAR IN 1994, AND THAILAND RECENTLY ARRESTED ELEVEN MAJOR HEROIN TRAFFICKERS.

O WE ARE EMPHASIZING LAW ENFORCEMENT COOPERATION AND INTELLIGENCE-SHARING WITH GOVERNMENTS IN KEY TRANSIT COUNTRIES TO DISMANTLE CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS.

O WE CONTINUE TO SEEK INTERNATIONAL CONTROLS ON PRECURSOR CHEMICALS AND MONEY LAUNDERING.

O AT THE DECEMBER SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS, THE 34 PRESIDENTS COMMITTED TO CONVENE A HEMISPHERE CONFERENCE ON MONEY LAUNDERING AND TO CONCLUDE A COMPREHENSIVE COUNTERNARCOTICS STRATEGY FOR THE 21ST CENTURY.

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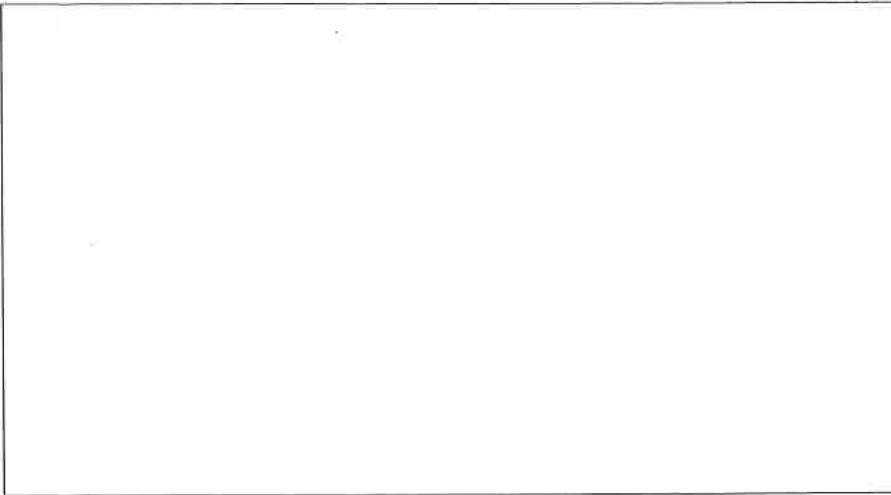
O WE HAVE INITIATED ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS -- INCLUDING JUDICIAL TRAINING PROGRAMS -- TO STRENGTHEN DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS IN COUNTRIES RESISTING DRUG TRAFFICKERS.

01/13/95

TALBOTT

END OF MESSAGE

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