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TITLE: SUBJECT: ESCOBAR'S LUXURY, GOC'S EMBARRASSMENT  
ORIGDATE: 199207282114  
SOURCE: STATE  
DOCNO: BOGOTA 10951  
TEXT:  
TAGS: PGOV, SNAR, CO  
COMBINE: COMPLETE

RELEASE IN PART  
25X1,B1,B7(E),25X6,B7(C),B3 CIA  
PERS/ORG,B6

SUBJECT: ESCOBAR'S LUXURY, GOC'S EMBARRASSMENT

REFS: A) BOGOTA 10808; B) BOGOTA 10768; C) BOGOTA 10666;  
D) BOGOTA 10432; BOGOTA 10206

1. (C) SUMMARY: FRONT PAGE REPORTS IN BOGOTA'S TWO  
LEADING DAILIES UNDERSTATE THE LAVISHNESS OF MEDELLIN  
CARTEL KINGPIN PABLO ESCOBAR'S PRISON ACCOMODATIONS AT  
ENVIGADO. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WITH TWO SEPARATE APARTMENTS, JACUZZI, KINGSIZE  
BEDS, BIG SCREEN TVS, RELIGIOUS ICONS AND PORNOGRAPHIC  
MOVIES, CLUB PABLO OFFERED SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] END SUMMARY.

B6  
B7(C)  
B7(E)

25X6  
B1

PRESS DESCRIBES ESCOBAR'S QUARTERS  
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2. (U) COLOMBIA'S LEADING DAILY EL TIEMPO IN TWO FRONT  
PAGE STORIES PUBLISHED ACCOUNTS CONTRADICTING EARLIER  
EXPLANATIONS OF ESCOBAR'S ESCAPE AND DESCRIBED THE  
LUXURIOUS FURNISHING WITHIN ESCOBAR'S ENVIGADO QUARTERS.  
PRESS ACCESS WAS LIMITED TO ONLY A FEW ROOMS. ONE STORY  
CLAIMED ESCOBAR'S CELL CONTAINED A JACUZZI, WATERBED, BIG  
SCREEN TV, WEAPONS, COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, AND A DOLL  
HOUSE FOR HIS DAUGHTER. THE ARTICLE CLAIMED THE LAVISH  
CELL WAS BEING FILMED TO BE USED AS EVIDENCE IN CASES THE  
PROSECUTOR GENERAL WILL PURSUE AGAINST SEVERAL GOVERNMENT  
EMPLOYEES. ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, FISCAL GENERAL DE  
GREIFF WILL FILE CHARGES AGAINST 4TH BRIGADE LEADER  
GUSTAVO PARDO ARIZA, NATIONAL PRISON DIRECTOR HERNANDO

Classification Extended on : 06/25/2014 ~ Class:  
CONFIDENTIAL ~ Reason: 25X1, 25X6

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1  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: Adolph Eisner, Senior  
Reviewer

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NAVAS, FORMER ENVIGADO DIRECTOR AND SUBDIRECTOR JOSE HOMERO RODRIGUEZ AND JORGE ARMANDO RODRIGUEZ GONZALEZ, AND SEVERAL LOWER-RANKING MEMBERS OF THE ARMY FOR THEIR ROLES IN THE ESCAPE.

INSIDE ENVIGADO

3. (C) [REDACTED]

25X6  
B1  
B6  
B7(C)  
B7(E)

AS THIS INFORMATION IS BEING GATHERED FOR USE IN CHARGES AGAINST ESCOBAR AND HIS CRONIES, [REDACTED] PERMITTED POLOFF TO MAKE THIS REPORT WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THIS CAVEAT ABOVE WOULD BE PASSED ON TO THE ADDRESSEES OF THIS CABLE.

4. (C) ENVIGADO IS ON A HILLSIDE WITH THREE TIERS OF BUILDINGS. ESCOBAR HAD TWO PRIMARY RESIDENCES AT ENVIGADO. THE FIRST (ESCOBAR'S OFFICIAL RESIDENCE)

CONSISTS OF THREE MAIN ROOMS LOCATED ON THE LOWEST TIER OF ENVIGADO; A FAMILY ROOM, HIS PERSONAL LIVING SPACE (BEDROOM/OFFICE), AND A ROOM WITH A JACUZZI, CLOSET AND HIDDEN SAFE. THE SECOND (THE PLAY HOUSE) IS A "T" SHAPED ROOM LOCATED ON THE UPPER TIER OF THE PRISON. ENVIGADO ALSO HAS ABOUT 20 APARTMENTS FOR OTHER INMATES, A GYM, A DISCO, GUARDS BARRACKS, AND WELL KEPT GROUNDS. THE ENTIRE COMPLEX IS SURROUNDED BY A SERIES OF THREE SIMPLE CHAIN LINK FENCES WITH SEVERAL HOLES AND A SIDE ENTRANCE WHICH LEADS TO A PATH CONNECTING TO THE HIGHWAY TO MEDELLIN.

THE FAMILY HOUSE

5. (C) THE FIRST ROOM OF THE FAMILY HOUSE CONTAINED TWO

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QUEEN SIZE SOFA BEDS FOR THE USE OF ESCOBAR'S FAMILY. IT ALSO HAS A BAR, A LARGE WESTERN STYLE KITCHEN, AND A HAND LAID PARQUET FLOOR. THE ROOM IS PRESIDED OVER BY A FRAMED WANTED POSTER OF ESCOBAR WHICH HAD BEEN DISTRIBUTED BY THE CNP BEFORE HIS SURRENDER. THE ROOM HAS A PATIO ATTACHED WITH SEATING FOR MANY PERSONS.

6. (C) THE SECOND ROOM WAS FOR ESCOBAR'S PRIVATE USE. AT ONE END IS A KING-SIZED BED ELEVATED ON A PLATFORM. THE BED IS OVERLOOKED BY A LIFE SIZED MOSAIC OF THE VIRGIN MARY. ACROSS FROM THE BED IS ESCOBAR'S DESK. LINING THE WALLS ARE BOOKSHELVES CONTAINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, 6 DIFFERENT VERSIONS OF THE BIBLE IN SPANISH, A WEALTH OF REFERENCE BOOKS (UNOPENED ACCORDING TO [REDACTED]), MANY BOOKS IN SPANISH, ENGLISH, AND FRENCH ON THE COCAINE TRADE, STEREO EQUIPMENT, A BETAMAX, A TV, A CELLULAR PHONE, AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT. NEAR HIS DESK ARE APPROXIMATELY 25 RECORD FOLDERS CONTAINING HIS LETTERS AND PAPERS. SOME OF THE TITLES OF THE FOLDERS ARE "ARUBA," "PERSONAL LETTERS," "EXTRADITION," "RELIGION," AND "BUSINESS CORRESPONDENCE." ON THE WALLS HANG PREVIOUS ARREST PHOTOS OF ESCOBAR, PABLO WEARING AN OVERSIZED SOMBRERO AND A RIFLE A LA PANCHO VILLA AND A PICTURE OF ESCOBAR WITH HIS SON TAKEN IN FRONT OF THE WHITE HOUSE (WHICH APPEARED IN THE PRESS RECENTLY). THERE ARE ALSO PHOTOS OF SEVERAL OF THE ANIMALS FROM HIS PRIVATE ZOO.

7. (C) THE FINAL ROOM CONTAINS A JACUZZI CAPABLE OF HOLDING MORE THAN THREE PERSONS. HIS CLOSET, FILLED WITH MANY EXPENSIVE LABEL SUITS, AND A HIDDEN SAFE WHICH WAS EMPTY. OUTSIDE, ADJACENT TO ESCOBAR'S APARTMENT, IS AN ELABORATE DOLL HOUSE FOR ESCOBAR'S DAUGHTER WHICH CONTAINS A WORKING TV.

THE PLAY HOUSE  
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8. (C) ON THE UPPER PART OF THE PRISON IS ESCOBAR'S MORE PRIVATE RETREAT. IT IS A "T" SHAPED APARTMENT. ON ONE SIDE OF THE TOP OF THE T IS A BEDROOM. THE OTHER

B6  
B7(C)

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CONTAINS A BATHROOM WITH A BEAUTIFUL VIEW OF MEDELLIN, AND A 27" TV. THE BASE OF THE T HAS ANOTHER BED, A PROJECTION TV TWO LASER DISC PLAYERS AND TWO REGULAR VCR'S AND A LARGE PORNOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE AND VIDEO LIBRARY. THERE ARE PICTURES OF PARTIES AT ENVIGADO'S DISCOTEQUE OF ESCOBAR'S ASSOCIATES AND WOMEN.

OTHER FACILITIES

9. (C) THE COMPOUND HAS A GYM WITH FREE WEIGHTS, STATIONARY BICYCLES, TREADMILLS, AND NAUTILUS EQUIPMENT. THERE IS A DISCO AND A PLAYROOM WITH BILLIARDS. ON THE COMPOUND ARE TWO BUILDINGS UNDER CONSTRUCTION. A LOG CABIN AND A HOUSE ON STILTS. THE PRISON HAS ABOUT 20 OTHER SINGLE OCCUPANT APARTMENTS, EACH WITH TELEPHONE, VCR, TV, PRIVATE BATH, STEREO AND MANY WITH NINTENDO VIDEO GAMES. ALL ARE WELL DECORATED. THE 20 APARTMENTS ARE SEPARATED FROM ESCOBAR'S FAMILY HOME BY A CORRIDOR KNOWN AS BOULEVARD 70, THE SAME NAME AS THE MOST FASHIONABLE STREET IN MEDELLIN. THE GUARDS SLEPT 12-18 TO A ROOM IN BUNKBEDS IN 4 ROOMS CONNECTED TO A RESTAURANT-SIZED KITCHEN AND GAME ROOM WITH POOL TABLES AND A TV. WHILE OFFICIALLY ENVIGADO IS KNOWN AS A MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON, AMONG THE GUARDS, IT WAS KNOWN AS A MAXIMUM COMFORT PRISON.

COMMENT

10. (C) ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] ANYONE COULD HAVE WALKED OUT OF ENVIGADO AT ANY TIME. WE REPEAT THE CAVEAT MENTIONED ABOVE, THIS INFORMATION IS POTENTIAL EVIDENCE IN CASES AGAINST ESCOBAR AND HIS ASSOCIATES, IT IS FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

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B7(C)  
B7(E)

11. (C) [REDACTED]

25X1  
25X6  
B1

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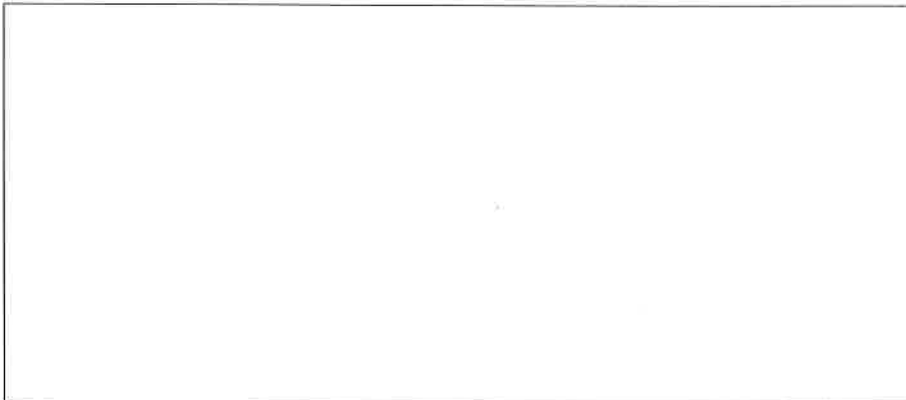
25X1  
25X6  
B1



BUSBY

END OF MESSAGE CONFIDENTIAL

B3 CIA PERS/ORG



92 9098040 SCO PAGE 001 NC 9098040  
TOR: 282118Z JUL 92 BOGOTA 10951

CLASS: CONFIDENTIAL  
CONTROLS: C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 10951 NSC FOR AMBASSADOR MCNAMARA STATE FOR  
INM/LEVITSKY, ARTA/ARONSON, ARA/AND ONDCP FOR GOVERNOR MARTINEZ DEA WASHDC FOR OF, OFL,  
DOM AO, AX, OC, OIOA CUSTOMS FOR IOC/MEEHAN E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR  
DECLASSON: MR  
DOCPREC: O  
DOCST: ACTIVE  
DOCTYPE: IN  
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DOR: 19920728  
FROM: FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
GUIDE-UID: 1012/1ftbzb  
HEADER: OO RUEAIIA  
DE RUEHBO #0951/01 2102115  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
O <ORIGDTG>282114Z JUL 92</ORIGDTG>

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<FROM>FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA</FROM>  
<TO>TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7386</TO>  
INFO RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM  
RUEHNA/DEA WASHDC  
RUEBWJA/DEPTJUSTICE WASHDC  
RUEHFB/DIRFBI WASHDC  
RUEKJCS/JCS WASHDC  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC  
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RUETIAA/DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD  
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RUEBMRA/HQS/CUSTOMS WASHDC  
RULSJGA/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHDC  
RHCGRB/USCINCFOR FT MCPHERSON GA  
BT

INPUT\_ID: 92 9098040  
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SOURCE-INFO: STATE IN O BOGOTA 10951 BOGOTA 199207282114  
TAGS: TAGS: PGOV, SNAR, CO  
TO: TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7386  
TOR: 171918  
XREFS: REFS: A) BOGOTA 10808; B) BOGOTA 10768; C) BOGOTA 10666;  
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