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26119038

TITLE: SUBJECT: LIBERAL PRESIDENTIAL HOPEFUL DE LA CALLE

ORIGDATE: 199303091922

SOURCE: STATE

DOCNO: BOGOTA 03766

TEXT:

TAGS: PGOV, PREL, CO

COMBINE: COMPLETE

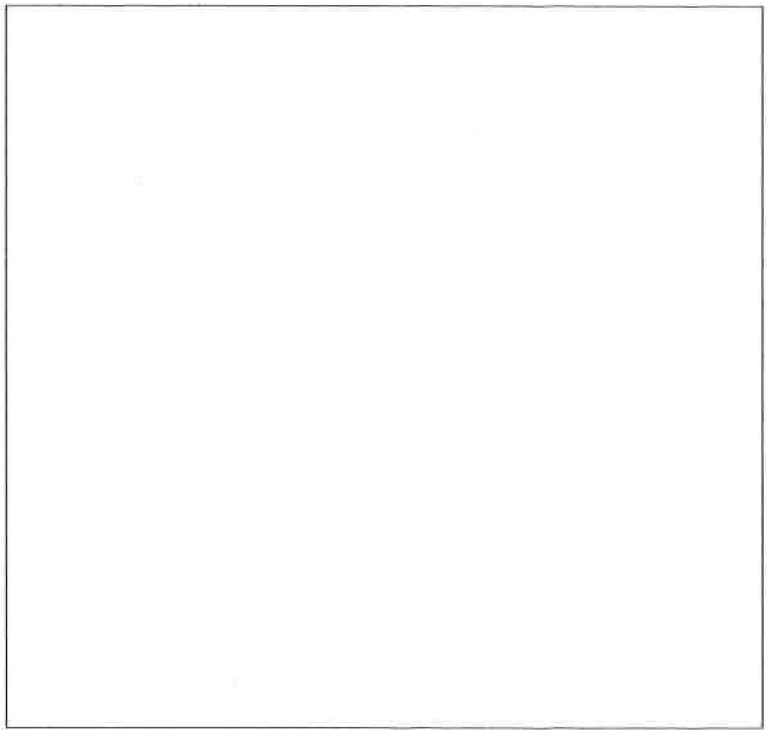
NON-RESPONSIVE PORTIONS
REDACTED

SUBJECT: LIBERAL PRESIDENTIAL HOPEFUL DE LA CALLE

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. THE AMBASSADOR, ACCOMPANIED BY POLCOUNS, MET
FEBRUARY 25 WITH LIBERAL PRESIDENTIAL HOPEFUL HUMBERTO
DE LA CALLE. THE PRINCIPAL TOPIC OF DISCUSSION WAS DE
LA CALLE'S CAMPAIGN.

THE CAMPAIGN

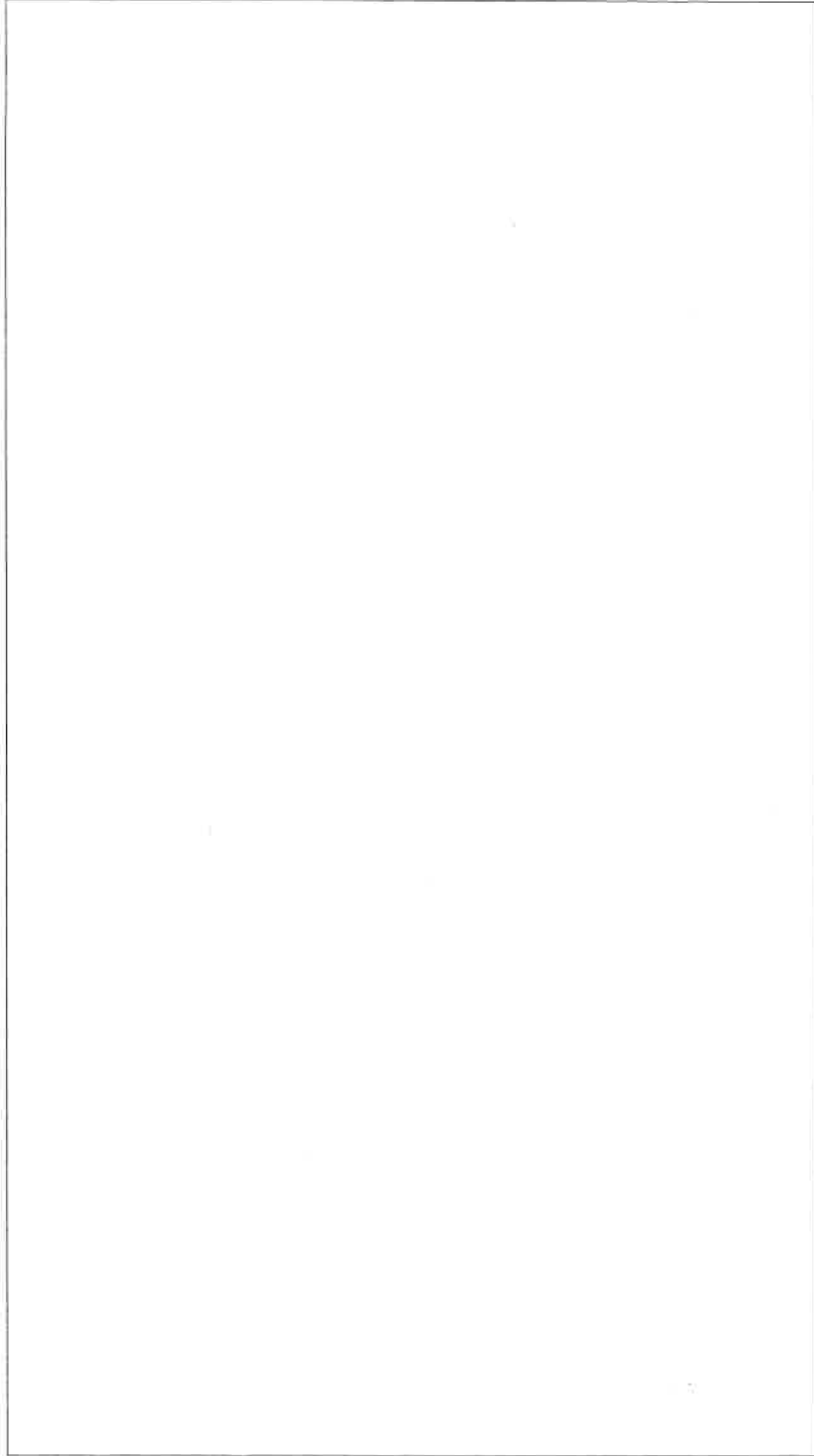


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REVIEW AUTHORITY: Adolph Eisner, Senior Reviewer

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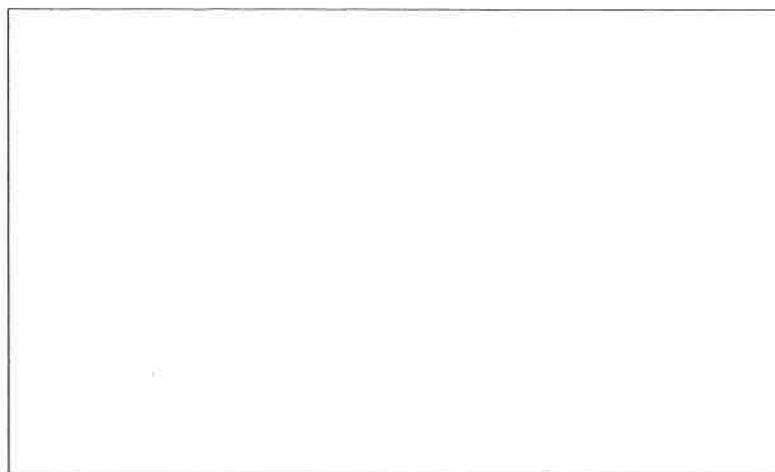


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PABLO

9. LIKE MINGOV FABIO VILLEGAS (SEPTTEL), DE LA CALLE EMPHASIZED THAT THE GOC MUST CATCH PABLO ESCOBAR QUICKLY. IF ESCOBAR CONTINUES AT LARGE PAST JUNE, DE LA CALLE PREDICTED IT WOULD HAVE A DEVASTATING EFFECT ON THE CAMPAIGN. NOT ONLY DOES HE FEAR PUBLIC CASTIGATION FOR THE LIBERAL PARTY IF ESCOBAR IS NOT CAUGHT, AN ESCOBAR WHO IS FREE HAS SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE CAMPAIGN. "IF ESCOBAR IS LOOSE," HE SAID, "THE CAMPAIGN WILL BE ON TELEVISION, SINCE ALL OF US WILL FEAR A REPEAT OF THE 1989/1990 ASSASSINATIONS AND NONE OF US WILL BE ABLE TO MOVE ABOUT THE COUNTRY THE WAY WE WANT."

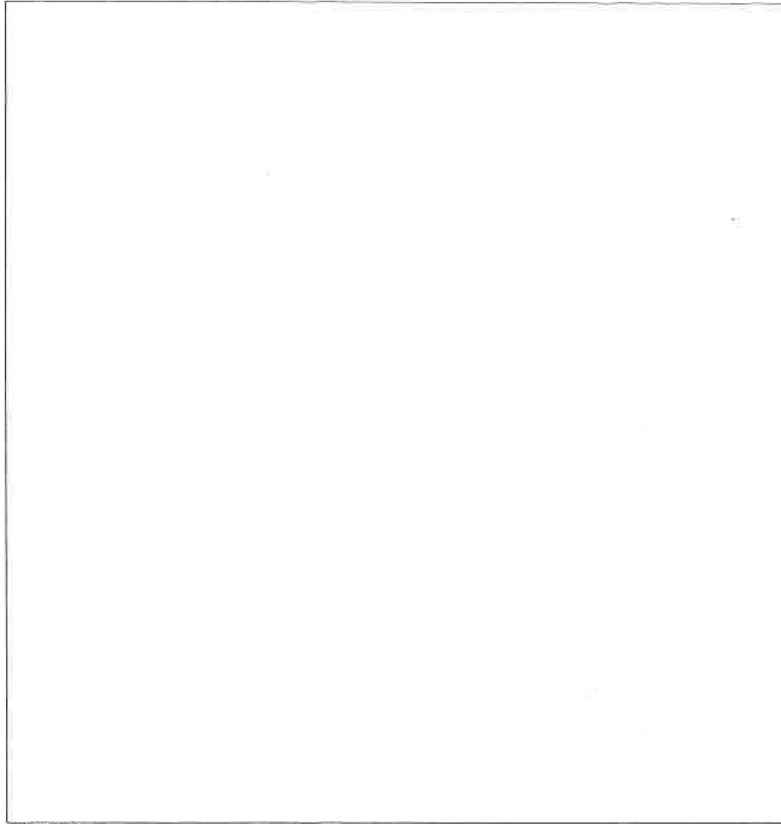
(COMMENT: BECAUSE DE LA CALLE IS CONFRONTING THE LIBERAL MACHINE, HE CLEARLY SEES THAT HE MUST HAVE PERSONAL CONTACT WITH VOTERS. A TELEVISION ONLY CAMPAIGN WOULD BE DISASTROUS FOR HIM.)



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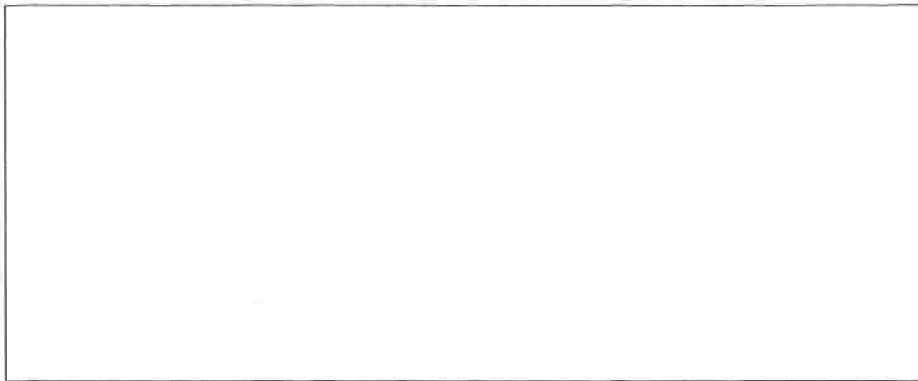
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END OF MESSAGE

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CLASS: CONFIDENTIAL
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