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34381696

TITLE: SUBJECT: ANTIOQUIA PRISON FOR ESCOBAR

ORIGDATE: 199209102148

SOURCE: STATE

DOCNO: BOGOTA 13462

TEXT:

TAGS: SNAR, KJUS, ASEC, CO

SUBJECT: ANTIOQUIA PRISON FOR ESCOBAR

RELEASED IN PART B3 CIA
PERS/ORG

1. (U) LEADING BOGOTA DAILY EL TIEMPO REPORTED SEPTEMBER 9, FISCAL GENERAL GUSTAVO DE GREIFF'S OPINION THAT ESCAPED DRUG BARON PABLO ESCOBAR COULD SERVE HIS PRISON TIME IN HIS HOME DEPARTMENT OF ANTIOQUIA. DE GREIFF BASED HIS OPINION ON COLOMBIAN PENAL LAW AND INSISTED THAT SUCH A DECISION WOULD NOT CONSTITUTE NEGOTIATION WITH ESCOBAR.

2. (U) WHEN THE TIME COMES, IT WILL BE DE GREIFF'S DECISION WHERE ESCOBAR WILL BE INCARCERATED. THE APPLICABLE LAW STATES THAT CERTAIN FACTORS MUST BE CONSIDERED WHEN DETERMINING WHERE THE ACCUSED/CONVICTED WILL BE HELD. SPECIFICALLY, THE LOCATION OF THE PRISON SHOULD BE NEAR TO FAMILY MEMBERS. THIS REQUIREMENT HAS A PRACTICAL AS OPPOSED TO STRICTLY HUMANITARIAN BASIS. MANY TIMES PRISONERS MUST ARRANGE FOR THEIR OWN BASIC PROVISIONS (MEALS, CLOTHING, ETC.) AS THIS IS NOT A FUNCTION OF THE COLOMBIAN PRISON SYSTEM. BEING LOCATED NEAR FAMILY MEMBERS FACILITATES THIS.

3. (C) COMMENT: DE GREIFF'S PUBLIC STATEMENTS CONTINUE TO WALK THE FINE LINE BETWEEN LAYING DOWN THE LAW AND TRYING TO LURE ESCOBAR TO SURRENDER HIMSELF TO JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES. WHILE HE IS MAINTAINING PRESIDENT GAVIRIA'S UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER APPROACH, DE GREIFF IS USING THE LAW TO PROVIDE ESCOBAR WITH INCENTIVE TO TURN HIMSELF IN. ESCOBAR HAS ALWAYS INSISTED, REITERATED IN RECENT MEDIA INTERVIEWS, ON BEING IMPRISONED IN ANTIOQUIA. WHILE IT IS PRE-MATURE TO SUGGEST THAT A RE-SURRENDER IS IMMINENT, THE MAN

REVIEW AUTHORITY: James Cooper, Senior
Reviewer

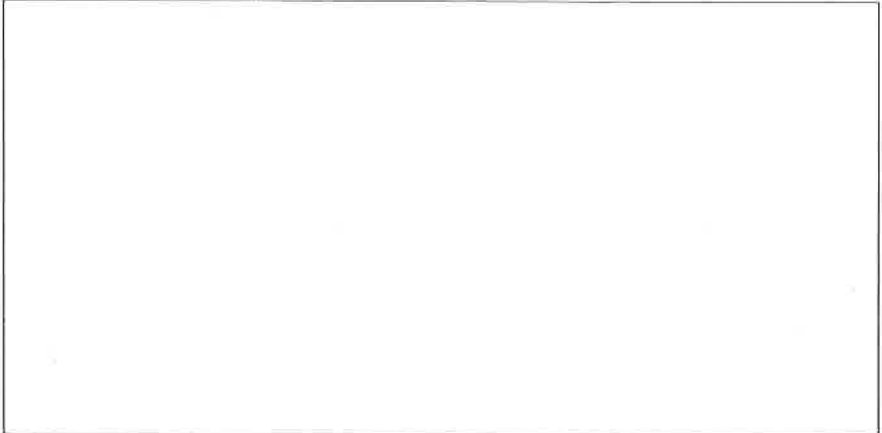
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1

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WHO GAVIRIA HAS DESIGNATED DECISION-MAKER ON THIS
ISSUE NOW APPEARS RECEPTIVE TO ESCOBAR'S FOREMOST
DEMAND. END COMMENT. CRAIG

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3