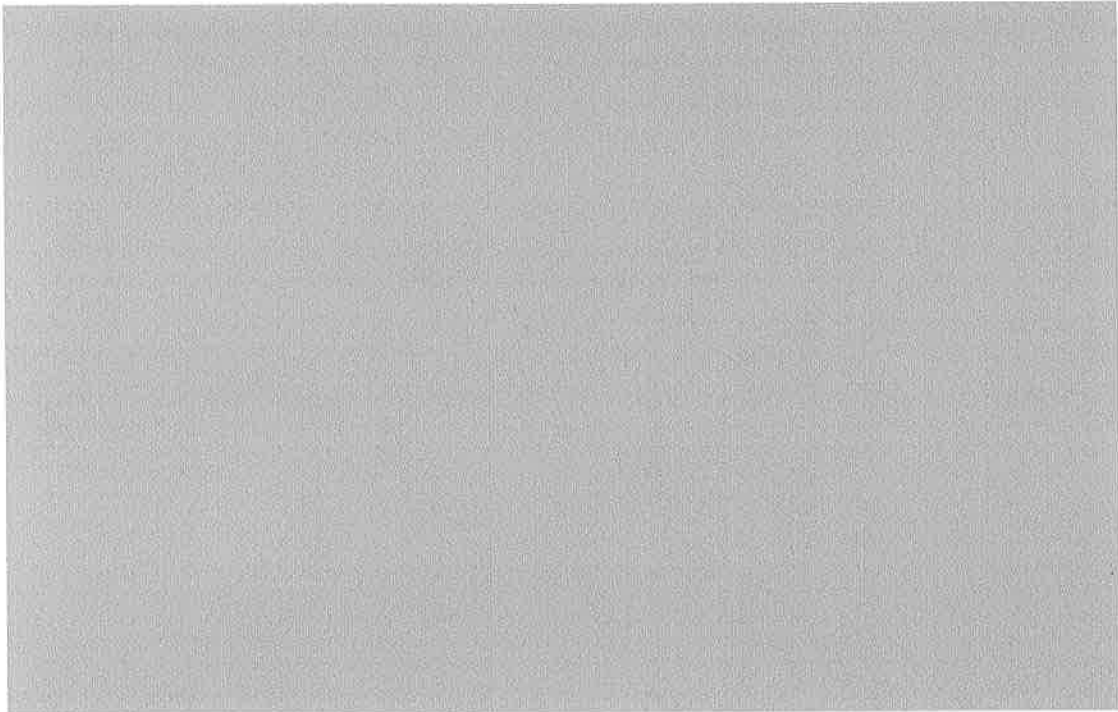


(U) B. ~~(S)~~ COLOMBIA: FOLLOWING A ONE-MONTH SELF-IMPOSED CEASE-FIRE, THE VIGILANTE GROUP KNOW AS PEPES (PERSECUTED BY PABLO ESCOBAR) ANNOUNCED THEIR INTENTION TO RESUME THEIR WAR

declassified by  
Dept of State

~~SECRET//NOCONTRACT//NOFORN~~ Unclassified

AGAINST PABLO ESCOBAR AND HIS ASSOCIATES. (THE GROUP HAD DECLARED THEIR CEASE-FIRE 5 MAR, SUPPOSEDLY SO ESCOBAR COULD TURN HIMSELF IN.) ON 04 APR, A PEPES COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCED THE GROUP'S COMMITMENT TO THE "TOTAL ANNIHILATION" OF ESCOBAR, EVEN IN COLOMBIAN JAILS" (PRESUMABLY TO DISTINGUISH FROM THE OFF-CHANCE ESCOBAR IS IMPRISONED OUTSIDE OF COLOMBIA). THEIR STATED INTENTION TO PURSUE ESCOBAR IN PRISON WOULD INDICATE THEY ARE NO LONGER INTERESTED IN ENCOURAGING HIS SURRENDER, AIMING INSTEAD FOR HIS DEATH, EITHER UPON DISCOVERY OR SOMETIME LATER IN PRISON. IT IS UNLIKELY PEPES LAID LOW FOR A MONTH TO GIVE ESCOBAR A CHANCE TO SURRENDER. ONE POSSIBILITY IS THAT PEPES WERE HELD BACK BY RODOLFO OSPINA, A FORMER ESCOBAR CONFIDANT TURNED INFORMANT, WHOSE BROTHER WAS KIDNAPPED BY ESCOBAR IN DECEMBER IN AN ATTEMPT TO FORCE HIM TIME TO NEGOTIATE HIS BROTHER'S RELEASE. BUT LISANDRO OSPINA WAS KILLED IN A POLICE RESCUE ATTEMPT 31 MAR, AND PEPES MAY NOW FEEL THEY ONCE MORE HAVE A FREE HAND AGAINST ESCOBAR. IN PROSECUTOR GENERAL GUSTAVO DE GREIFF OF SECRETLY NEGOTIATING A SURRENDER DEAL WITH ESCOBAR. (AIC NORFOLK VA 071430Z APR 93)



(b)(1), (b)(3)

6. (U) ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS CONCERNING THIS REPORT SHOULD

~~SECRET//NOCONTRACT//NOFORN~~