

Non-Responsive

B. (U) COLOMBIA: ONE OF THE LARGEST ARSENALS EVER SEIZED, WHICH THE ARMY DESCRIBED AS CONTAINING ASSAULT ORDNANCE, WAS CONFISCATED EARLY IN THE MORNING OF 12 MARCH FROM DRUG TRAFFICKERS IN NORTHERN VALLE DEPARTMENT. THE ARMAMENT INCLUDES A REMOTE CONTROLLED ROCKET AND A LARGE QUANTITY OF AMMUNITION. VENCEDORES BATTALION MEMBERS SEIZED THE ARMS AT A HACIENDA IN BOLIVAR MUNICIPALITY. AT THE SITE, TWO PIECES OF GRAFFITI MENTION MEDELLIN AND INSULT THE GROUP PERSECUTED BY PABLO ESCOBAR. MILITARY SOURCES DESCRIBED THE WEAPONS SEIZED AS HEAVY ASSAULT MATERIEL, INCLUDING 11 RIFLES, SEVEN SUBMACHINE GUNS, ONE HEAVY MACHINE GUN, AND 214 GRENADES OF VARIOUS TYPES. SOME OF THESE ARMS ARE MARKED AS BELONGING TO THE PERUVIAN ARMY. THE GREATEST SURPRISE WAS THE FIND OF A RUSSIAN REMOTE CONTROLLED ROCKET. THE MATERIEL WAS TURNED OVER TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, WHICH CONDUCTS THE APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATIONS. THE BATTALION COMMANDER HAS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE COOPERATION OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES, AND THAT OF THE GENERAL POPULATION.

Non-Responsive

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D. (U)-----GENERAL-----

(1.) (U) BRAZIL: THE NATO GROSSO STATE FEDERAL POLICE NARCOTICS REPRESSION OFFICE HAS REPORTED THAT OVER THE PAST 3 MONTHS IT HAS HELD 40 INVESTIGATIONS, MOST FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING. DRUG TRAFFICKING HAS INCREASED IN NATO GROSSO STATE BECAUSE OF THE CAPRICORNIO OPERATION, WHICH IS BEING CARRIED OUT BY THE FEDERAL POLICE IN NATO GROSSO DO SUL STATE. THIS OPERATION HAS BEEN REPRESSING THE ACTION OF DRUG TRAFFICKERS IN THAT STATE AND THE TRAFFICKERS ARE LOOKING FOR ANOTHER ROUTE. (FBIS ASUNCION PA)

(2.) (U) COLOMBIA: ON 19 SEP IT WAS REPORTED THAT PRESUMED DRUG BARONS OFFERED A \$250,000 REWARD FOR ANY INFORMATION LEADING TO THE CAPTURE OF ARMY GENERAL JAIME RUIZ BARRERA. GENERAL BARRERA SERVED AS COMMANDER OF THE COLOMBIAN ARMY'S 4TH BRIGADE, HEADQUARTERED IN MEDELLIN UNTIL ABOUT 2 MONTHS AGO. THE LEAFLETS THAT OFFERED THE REWARD APPEARED MYSTERIOUSLY APPEARED IN DOWNTOWN MEDELLIN. THE LEAFLETS ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE THAT THE GOVERNMENT DISTRIBUTED 2 WEEKS AGO OFFERING A \$ 250,000 REWARD FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE ARREST OF PABLO ESCOBAR GAVIRIA AND GONZALO RODRIGUEZ GACHA, WHO ARE ACCUSED OF BEING LEADERS OF THE MEDELLIN COCAINE CARTEL. THE LEAFLETS ABOUT THE GENERAL, STATE THAT ANYONE INTERESTED IN THE

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REWARD MUST CONTACT "THE EXTRADITABLES," A GROUP THAT IS SO CALLED BECAUSE THE UNITED STATES IS REQUESTING THE EXTRADITION OF THE DRUG BARONS. THE LEAFLETS ACCUSE RUIZ OF BEING "A TRAITOR OF THE FATHERLAND" FOR MURDERING INNOCENT PEASANTS, RAPING WOMEN DURING THE RAID OF DRUG BARON RESIDENCES, AND TORTURING THEIR CHILDREN AND RELATIVES IN VIOLATION OF DUE PROCESS. A COLOMBIAN DEFENSE MINISTRY SOURCE SAID THAT RUIZ, WHO HAD WORKED IN MEDELLIN FOR 2 YEARS, IS NOW WORKING AT THE INTER-AMERICAN DEFENSE BOARD IN WASHINGTON. (FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PM)

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