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APPROVED BY: DRL:LGERSON/WHA/AND:PCHICOLA
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DESIRED DISTRIBUTION:
DRL, WHA

DENIED IN FULL
B1, 1.5(B), 1.5(D)

-----9AC98B 252320Z /38

R 252319Z JAN 99
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

DEPT OF STATE APPEALS REVIEW PANEL (ARP)	
FOIPA/PA	Mandatory Review
() Release	() Declassify
(✓) Excise PP	() Declassify in Part
() Deny	() Class. Ret/Renew
Exemptions <u>B1</u>	
ARP Action Cert <u>DRP</u>	Date <u>5-5-04</u>

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 013985

OFFICIAL INFORMAL

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/25/04
TAGS: AMGT, PHUM, CO
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL INFORMAL FOR AMBASSADOR KAMMAN FROM
WHA/AND DIRECTOR CHICOLA AND DRL DAS GERSON

CLASSIFIED BY DRL LESLIE GERSON FOR REASONS 1.5 B AND D.

- REF: A) 98 BOGOTA 13483
- B) BOGOTA 257
- C) BOGOTA 407

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D) BOGOTA 571

1. (C) WE WANT TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE WITH YOU OUR VIEW OF THE MILITARY/PARAMILITARY SITUATION IN COLOMBIA. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE ARE CONSISTENT IN OUR MESSAGE TO COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND NGO'S ON THIS CRUCIAL ASPECT OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS CRISIS IN COLOMBIA.

2. (C) WHEN THE PASTRANA ADMINISTRATION CAME INTO POWER IN AUGUST, VICE PRESIDENT BELL, DEFENSE MINISTER LLOREDA, AND ARMED FORCES COMMANDER TAP LAS PLEDGED TO IMPROVE THE

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EXTEND CLASSIFICATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: MELVIN E. SINN
DATE/CASE ID: 20 DEC 2002 200202125
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.5(B), 1.5(D)
DECLASSIFY AFTER: 24 JAN 2009

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HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION BY, AMONG OTHER THINGS, CUTTING ALL TIES BETWEEN THE MILITARY AND PARAMILITARIES, AND BY GOING AFTER PARAMILITARIES.

3. (C)

THE APPOINTMENT TO KEY POSITIONS OF SEVERAL GENERALS CREDIBLY ALLEGED TO HAVE TIES TO PARAMILITARIES. THESE INCLUDE GENERALS FERNANDO MILLAN PEREZ, RITO ALETO DEL RIO ROJAS, AND RAFAEL HERNANDEZ LOPEZ.

excise (B1)

CONFIDENTIAL ANOTHER GENERAL,

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JAIME HUMBERTO USATEGUI, IS UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR COMPLICITY IN THE PARAMILITARY MASSACRE IN MAPIRIPAN IN 1997.

excise (B1)

R

excise (B1)

4. (C) OUR 1997 HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT STRONGLY CRITICIZED THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT FOR ITS FAILURE TO CONFRONT PARAMILITARY ORGANIZATIONS, AND OUR DRAFT REPORT FOR 1998 DOES AS WELL. ALL INDICATIONS ARE THAT PARAMILITARISM HAS CONTINUED TO GROW DURING THE PASTRANA ADMINISTRATION, AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS DONE LITTLE TO CONFRONT THEM. REF (B), RECEIVED A LITTLE OVER A WEEK AGO, STATES THAT SECURITY FORCES DID NOT INTERVENE DURING 19 SEPARATE ATTACKS IN WHICH 143 CIVILIANS WERE KILLED OVER FOUR DAYS IN JANUARY.

R

excise (B1)

5. (C)

FOR EXAMPLE, 23 PARAMILITARIES IN URABA SURRENDERED TO AN ARMY UNIT FEBRUARY 23, 1998 AFTER RUNNING OUT OF AMMUNITION AND OTHER SUPPLIES DURING A

excise (B1)

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CONFRONTATION WITH GUERRILLAS.

Spine (B1)

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