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ACTION ARA-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	C-01	OASY-00	DOEE-00	DS-00	OIGO-01
	HA-09	H-01	INM-02	TEDE-00	INR-00	L-03	ADS-00
	NSAE-00	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-02	PRS-01	P-01	SNP-00
	SP-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	ASDS-01	/042W

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P 262255Z APR 93  
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7235  
INFO DIRONDCP WASHDC//OR//  
NSC WASHDC  
DEPTJUSTICE WASHDC  
DEA WASHDC//OIO LINEAR//  
DIRFBI WASHDC//CID UNIT 6//  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
AMEMBASSY QUITO  
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM  
USCINCLANT NORFOLK VA  
CIA WASHDC//CNC LINEAR//  
DIA WASHDC//CNOD//

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NSC ALSO FOR RICHARD FEINBERG  
DEA FOR OF, OFL, DO, AO, AX, OK, NK  
CINCSO AND CINCLANT ALSO FOR POLAD

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E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR  
TAGS: SNAR, PINS, ASEC, CO  
SUBJECT: LOS PEPES DECLARE VICTORY AND CALL IT QUILTS

REF: A) BOGOTA 6078, B) BOGOTA 5953, C) BOGOTA 5422,  
- D) BOGOTA 5395, E) BOGOTA 5354

1. (U) SUMMARY: THE TERRORIST GROUP "PERSECUTED BY PABLO ESCOBAR" (PEPES) ANNOUNCED ITS PERMANENT SELF-DISSOLUTION IN A WRITTEN STATEMENT DELIVERED TO THE PRESS DATED APRIL 24. END SUMMARY.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L. MILLS  
DATE/CASE ID: 29 AUG 2001 200100592

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2. (U) FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY TRANSLATION:

BEGIN TEXT:

IN THE FACE OF THE NEGATIVE ATTITUDE THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT HAS ASSUMED AGAINST OUR ORGANIZATION, WE WANT TO ANNOUNCE THE FOLLOWING:

WE CONSIDER THAT OUR MILITARY OBJECTIVE IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST PABLO ESCOBAR AND HIS ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN COMPLETED IN ITS MAJORITY. WE HAVE DELIVERED DECISIVE BLOWS (AGAINST ESCOBAR) THAT HAVE REDUCED HIS CRIMINAL CAPACITY TO ITS MINIMUM, AND CONSEQUENTLY, HAVE PLACED (HIM) IN THE POSITION WHERE HE REALLY BELONGS, I.E., ISOLATED FROM COLOMBIAN SOCIETY.

ACCORDINGLY, WE HAVE DECIDED TO DISSOLVE OUR ORGANIZATION, AND IN THAT WAY, ASSIST THE AUTHORITIES, WHO IN THE END WILL BE THE ONES TO BRING PABLO ESCOBAR

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TO JUSTICE.

FINALLY, WE ASK OF THE AUTHORITIES, THAT IF MILITARY ACTIONS AGAINST PABLO ESCOBAR AND HIS ORGANIZATION CONTINUE IN THE NAME OF THE "PEPES," THAT THEY LAUNCH AN EXHAUSTIVE INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE THE REAL PERPETRATORS.

END TEXT.

3. (U) THE COMMUNIQUE CAME EIGHT DAYS AFTER THE GOVERNMENT ISSUED A ONE BILLION PESO (USDOL 1.39 MILLION) REWARD FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE CAPTURE OF THE LEADERS OF LOS PEPES. THE REWARD WAS ISSUED LATER THE SAME DAY LOS PEPES KILLED ESCOBAR ATTORNEY GUIDO PARRA AND HIS 18-YEAR-OLD SON, IN RETALIATION FOR ESCOBAR'S NORTH BOGOTA CAR BOMB THAT KILLED 11 AND INJURED OVER 200 APRIL 15.

4. (U) MEANWHILE, PROSECUTOR GENERAL GUSTAVO DE GREIFF TOLD A TV REPORTER APRIL 24 THAT, WHILE HE WELCOMED THE PEPES' DISSOLUTION, HIS OFFICE WOULD CONTINUE ITS INVESTIGATIONS AIMED AT IDENTIFYING AND CAPTURING THEM. DE GREIFF ALSO REPORTEDLY SAID HE HAD ASKED THE GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE THE REWARDS CAMPAIGN AGAINST

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THE GROUP.

5. (C) COMMENT: THE ENTIRE PEPES EPISODE HAS BEEN BIZARRE AT BEST. THERE HAVE BEEN RUMORS FOR MONTHS OF GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT WITH THE PEPES AT THE LOCAL POLICE AND MILITARY LEVEL. OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE

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GOVERNMENT LEAD US TO BELIEVE IT REJECTED THE PEPES' TACTICS, WERE FEARFUL OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE APPEARANCE OF YET ANOTHER CRIMINAL ORGANIZATION, AND WERE SINCERE IN THEIR OFFER OF REWARDS TO TRY TO STOP THE ORGANIZATION. WE WILL OFFER OUR OWN SPECULATION AND SUCH INFORMATION AS WE HAVE IN A SEPARATE CABLE. END COMMENT.

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AMEMBASSY QUITO  
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