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~~SECRET//NOFORN//X1~~

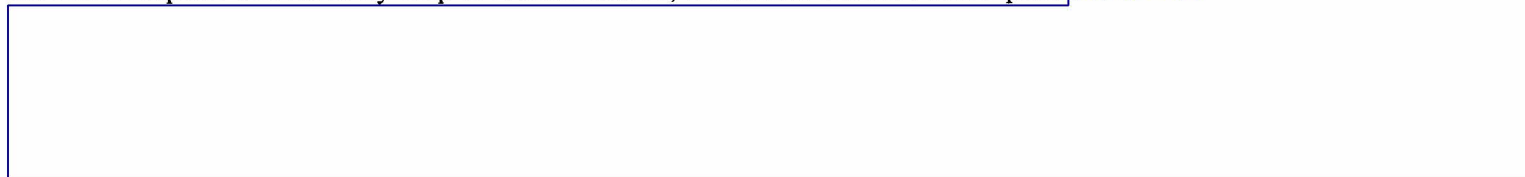
Military Intelligence Digest
MID-130-02
10 July 2002

Colombia: Paramilitaries Increasing Gray Arms Purchases

~~(S//NF)~~ Using false end-user certificates, front companies, and corrupt military officials, the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC) paramilitary organization has arranged several gray market arms shipments since 1996. Gray arms deals are becoming routine for the group and have replaced the regional black market as its main source of arms.

Bulgarian Arms

~~(S//NF)~~ In late 1999, the AUC received a gray arms purchase of 7,640 Bulgarian (b)(1),1.4 (c) assault rifles produced in 1998 and 1999. The AUC worked with (b)(1),1.4 (c), a legal representative of the legitimate military hardware import company Equipment and Spare Parts Ltd (Equipos Y Repuestos Ltda), which brokered the deal and had the weapons delivered by ship to Buenaventura, Colombia's main Pacific port. (b)(1),1.4 (c)



(b)(3):10 USC 424

(b)(1),1.4 (c)



AUC Ties to Equipos Y Repuestos

~~(S)~~ Colombian authorities arrested Jorge Ernesto Rojas Galindo,

