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HEADER
R 210129Z OCT 00
FM DIA WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEACMC/CMC WASHINGTON DC

RUEALGX/SAFE
R 202125Z OCT 00
FM (b)(3):10 USC 424

TO RUEKDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC (b)(3):10 USC 424
(b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i)(1)
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC (b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i)(1)
RUEKCCG/OSD WASHDC (b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i)(1)
RUEKJCS/Joint Staff WASHDC (b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i)(1)

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC (b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i)(1)
RUEABND/DEA WASHDC (b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i)(1)
RUCNFB/FBI WASHDC (b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i)(1)

BT
CONTROLS
SECRET SECTION 01 OF 12 (b)(3):10 USC 424
SECRET SERIAL: (U) IIR (b)(3):10 USC 424

/*********** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE ***********/
BODY
COUNTRY: (U) COLOMBIA (CO); PANAMA (PM); VENEZUELA (VE)
IPSP: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424
SUBJ: IIR (b)(3):10 USC 424 ORDER OF BATTLE, LEADERSHIP AND AREAS OF OPERATIONS FOR THE UNITED SELF-DEFENSE FORCES OF COLOMBIA. (U)
WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 19970000; 19991218; 20000101; 20000824; 20000927.

(b)(3):10 USC 424

(b)(1),(b)(3):10 USC 424.14 (c)

E. (U) EL ESPECTADOR, BOGOTA-BASED, COLOMBIA'S OLDEST DAILY NEWSPAPER. PUBLISHED CIRCULATION IS 60,000. OWNERS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH THE LIBERAL PARTY, 20000729, IN SPANISH.

F. (U) EL TIEMPO, BOGOTA-BASED, COLOMBIA'S LEADING DAILY NEWSPAPER. PUBLISHED CIRCULATION IS 350,000. OWNERS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH THE LIBERAL PARTY, 20000517, IN SPANISH.

G. (U) WWW.COLOMBIALIBRE.COM, AUC HOMEPAGE. SITE SPONSORED AND/OR MAINTAINED BY AUC, 20000828, IN SPANISH.

H. CAMBIO, BOGOTA-BASED, ONE OF COLOMBIA'S MOST RESPECTED WEEKLY NEWS MAGAZINES. PUBLISHED CIRCULATION IS 100,000. OWNERS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH THE LEFT, 20000515, IN SPANISH.

SUMMARY: (C) THIS IS THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF REPORTS
ON THE LEADERSHIP AND ORDER OF BATTLE INFORMATION FOR
THE AUC AND SUBORDINATE/INDEPENDENT SELF-DEFENSE GROUP
ELEMENTS.

TEXT: 1. (O) THE UNITED SELF-DEFENSE FORCES OF
COLOMBIA (AUC), LED BY CARLOS ((CASTANO)) GIL, IS AN
UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION CONTROLLING THE MAJORITY OF
COLOMBIA'S SELF-DEFENSE AND PARAMILITARY FORCES. THE
AUC IS COMPOSED OF GENERAL STAFF ELEMENT AND NINE SELF-
DEFENSE GROUPS. THE MOST IMPORTANT GROUPS ARE THE
PEASANT SELF-DEFENSE FORCES OF CORDOBA AND URABA (ACCU),
THE SELF-DEFENSE GROUPS OF SANTANDER AND SOUTHERN CESAR
(AUSAC), THE SELF-DEFENSE GROUPS OF THE EASTERN PLAINS
(ACLLO), THE SELF-DEFENSE GROUPS OF PUERTO BOYACA, THE
SELF-DEFENSE GROUPS OF THE MAGDALENA MEDIO (AMM), THE
SELF-DEFENSE GROUPS OF SIMITI, THE SELF-DEFENSE GROUPS
OF CASANARE, THE SELF-DEFENSE GROUPS OF CUNDINAMARCA,
AND THE VALLUNA COUNTER GUERRILLA GROUP. THIS REPORT
WILL COVER THE GENERAL STAFF, THE INDIVIDUAL GROUPS, AND
FINANCES.

2. (O) PRIOR TO 1998, THE COLOMBIAN MILITARY CLASSIFIED
SELF-DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS AS CRIMINAL ELEMENTS. WITH
THE 1998 PRESIDENTIAL ORDER TO ATTACK SELF-DEFENSE
FORCES, COLOMBIAN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS
BEGAN TO COLLECT AND ANALYZE INFORMATION ON ALL SELF-
DEFENSE GROUPS IN THE COUNTRY. THE INFORMATION IN THIS
REPORT PROVIDES A COMPARISON OF PRESS REPORTING, THE AUC
HOMEPAGE AND A REPORT PREPARED BY THE COLOMBIAN ARMY
INTELLIGENCE SECTION FOR ARMY COMMANDER GENERAL MORA.

3. (O) THE GENERAL STAFF IS THE AUC'S DECISION-MAKING
BODY, COMPRISED OF 21 LEADERS FROM THE SELF-DEFENSE
FORCES WHICH MAKE UP THE AUC AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM
INDEPENDENT SELF-DEFENSE GROUPS. THE PRINCIPAL MEMBERS
OF THE STAFF ARE:

A. CARLOS ((CASTANO)) GIL, ACCU
B. CESAR ((MARTIN)), ACCU
C. SANTANDER ((LOZADA)), ACCU
D. JOSE ALFREDO ((BERRIO)), ACCU
E. VICTOR A. ((TRIANA)), SELF-DEFENSE GROUPS OF PUERTO
BOYACA
F. CESAR ((SALAZAR)), SELF-DEFENSE GROUPS OF PUERTO
BOYACA
G. RAMON MARIA ((ISAZA)) ARANGO, AMM
H. ALIAS "TENIENTE GONZALEZ", AMM
I. HUMBERTO ((CASTRO)), ALLO
J. ULISES ((MENDOZA)), ALLO
4. THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES OF THE AUC ARE AS
   FOLLOWS:
A. ACCU. THE ACCU COMMANDED BY CARLOS ((CASTANO)) GIL
   IS COMPOSED OF A CENTRAL STAFF, FIVE BLOCS, A MOBILE
   SCHOOL, AND ONE FRONT. A SECURITY FORCE OF
   APPROXIMATELY 500 COMBATANTS PROTECTS CASTANO AND HIS
   STAFF. OTHER KEY LEADERS OF THE ACCU ARE CESAR
   ((MARTIN)), SANTANDER ((LOZADA)), AND JOSE ALBERTO
   ((BERRIO)). THE BLOCS ARE ORGANIZED INTO A BLOC
   HEADQUARTERS, AND STAFF ELEMENTS. THE STAFF CONSISTS OF
   ONE FINANCE, ONE INTELLIGENCE, AND TWO RURAL OPERATIONS
   COMMISSIONS. A COMMISSION IS NORMALLY A
   TASK FORCE TYPE OF ORGANIZATION THAT USUALLY SPECIALIZES
   IN ONE AREA.)
   1) THE NORTHERN BLOC, UNDER THE COMMAND OF SANTANDER
      ((LOZADA)), IS COMPOSED OF FOUR FRONTS WITH
      APPROXIMATELY 1300 COMBATANTS. THEY ARE THE:
      A) RITO ANTONIO OCHOA FRONT. THIS FRONT OPERATES IN
         SUCRE AND BOLIVAR DEPARTMENTS. ITS 130 COMBATANTS ARE
         ORGANIZED INTO THE EL GUAMO, SAN ONOFRE, AND MONPOX
         GROUPS, OPERATING IN:
         MARIA LA BAJA CO
         CALAMAR CO
         EL CARMEN DE BOLIVAR CO
         SAN ONOFRE CO
      B) JHON JAIRO LOPEZ FRONT. THIS FRONT OPERATES IN
         MAGDALENA, CESAR, AND LA GUAJIRA DEPARTMENTS. ITS 350
         COMBATANTS ARE ORGANIZED INTO ONE COMPANY AND SEVEN
         GROUPS. THEY ARE THE WALTER USAGA COMPANY AND THE
         COPEY, CHIVOLO, EL BANCO, JAGUA DE IBIRICO, CODAZZI,
         SIERRA NEVADA, PLAILITAS, AND LA GLORIA GROUPS.
      C) COMPANERO CARRILLO FRONT. THIS 150 MEMBER STRONG
         COMBATANT FRONT IS ORGANIZED INTO THE ALIRIO BELTRAN
         LUCHE COMPANY AND THE LA MOJANA AND GUARANDA GROUPS.
      D) LA GABARRA FRONT IS ALSO CALLED THE VENEZUELA BORDER
         FRONT. IT CONSISTS OF APPROXIMATELY 670 COMBATANTS
         OPERATING IN NORTE DE SANTANDER DEPARTMENT IN THE
         FOLLOWING AREAS:
         CATATUMBO CO
E) THE NORTHERN BLOC OPERATES IN SUCRE AND BOLIVAR DEPARTMENTS IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

ANTIOQUIA DEPARTMENT.

URAMITA CO/ (b)(3):10 USC 424
PEQUE CO/
DABIEBA CO/
MUTATA CO/
CHIGORODO CO/
CESAR DEPARTMENT
CODAZZI CO/ (b)(3):10 USC 424
BOSCONIA CO/
BECERRIL CO
BOLIVAR DEPARTMENT
MAGANGUE CO/ (b)(3):10 USC 424
ACHI CO/
SUCRE DEPARTMENT
OVEJAS CO/ (b)(3):10 USC 424
SAN MARCOS CO/
MAJAGUAL CO/
SAN JUAN DE BETULIA CO/
CORDOBA DEPARTMENT
TIERRALTA CO/ (b)(3):10 USC 424
VALENCIA CO/

2) THE METRO BLOC, COMMANDED BY ALIAS "EL ALEMAN" HAS APPROXIMATELY 400 COMBATANTS. IT IS COMPOSED OF FIVE FRONTS OPERATING IN ANTIOQUIA AND CHOCO DEPARTMENTS. THEY ARE THE:

A) SOUTHEAST FRONT. THIS FRONT, OPERATING IN MAGDALENA AND CESAR DEPARTMENTS, HAS 180 COMBATANTS ORGANIZED INTO THE SALGAR, CONCORDIA, BOLIVAR, SUPIA, AND SOUTHERN CHOCO PORFIRIO GROUPS AND THE LOS ARRIEROS MOBILE GROUP.

B) WESTERN FRONT. OPERATING IN SOUTHERN BOLIVAR
DEPARTMENT AND SAN LUCAS, ANTIOQUIA DEPARTMENT, THE GROUP HAS 300 COMBATANTS ORGANIZED INTO THE DABEIBA, TOLEDO, ITUANGO, PEQUE, FRONTINO GABRIELA WHITE, AND HEROES DE SAN PEDRO GROUPS AND THE JUAN DEL CORRAL MOBILE GROUP.

C) NORTHEASTERN FRONT. THIS FRONT, WITH 40 COMBATANTS, OPERATES IN ANTIOQUIA DEPARTMENT. IT IS ORGANIZED INTO THE VICTOR LONDONO, ASSAULT (NFi), AND BERRIO GROUPS.

D) EASTERN FRONT. THIS FRONT, WITH 150 COMBATANTS, OPERATES IN ANTIOQUIA DEPARTMENT. IT IS ORGANIZED INTO THE CARACOLI, JUAGUAS, SANTO DOMINGO, SANTIAGO ALEJANDRO LOPEZ, AND MOUNTAIN RANGE GROUPS.

E) MARTIRES DE MACHUCA FRONT. THIS FRONT OPERATES IN ANTIOQUIA DEPARTMENT.

F) THE AREA OF OPERATIONS FOR THE METRO BLOC ENCOMPASSES:

CHOCO DEPARTMENT
RIO SUCIO CO
JURADO CO
ALTO BAUDO CO
BAJO BAUDO CO
ISTMINA CO
DARIEN CO
ACANDI CO
CARMEN DE ATRATO CO, CNA
NUQUI CO
BOJAYA CO
UNGUIS CO
ANTIOQUIA DEPARTMENT
VIGIA DEL FUERTE CO
ISPANIA CO, CNA
BETULIA CO
URRAO CO

3) THE LLANERO (OR PLAINS BLOC) IS COMPOSED OF THREE FRONTS:

A) GUAVIARE FRONT. FIRST AND SECOND MOBILE COMPANIES AND A SPECIAL SUPPORT GROUP.

B) PIEDEMONTE FRONT. COMPOSED OF AN ATTACK GROUP AND AN URBAN GROUP, IT OPERATES IN THE VICINITY OF MEDINA (CO/CO) CUNDINAMARCA DEPARTMENT AND PARATEBUENO (CO/CO), META DEPARTMENT.
C) ARIARI FRONT. COMPOSED OF AN ATTACK AND AN ASSAULT GROUP, IT OPERATES IN META AND CUNDINAMARCA DEPARTMENTS.
4) THE WESTERN BLOC COMMANDED BY CARLOS (ARDILLA). CORREA HAS APPROXIMATELY 800 COMBATANTS OPERATING IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ANTIOQUIA AND CHOCO. IT IS COMPOSED OF:
A) CHOCO FRONT. THIS FRONT OPERATES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHOCO AND THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA. IT IS COMPOSED OF THE DARIEN GROUP (ACANDI GILGAI), AND THE DARIEN, PACIFIC, SALAQUI AND ATRATO DEPLOYED IN THE RIVER OF THAT NAME) GROUPS.
B) URABA FRONT. THIS FRONT, COMMANDED BY CARLOS ARDILLA CORREA, OPERATES IN ANTIOQUIA DEPARTMENT. THE FRONT IS COMPOSED OF TWO MOBILE COMPANIES (HEROES DE LA SEGUNDA PAVORANDO AND ABIBE), THE CORDILLERA (DARRAGA EJE BANANERO URBAN COMPANY AND THREE GROUPS: BAJIRA, COMPANERO FLORO PIEDRAS BLANCAS, AND TURBO.
5) THE SOUTHERN BLOC, WITH 380 COMBATANTS, IS COMPOSED OF THE CAQUETA, PUTUMAYO AND TOLIMA FRONTS OPERATING IN THE CAQUETA, PUTUMAYO AND TOLIMA DEPARTMENTS RESPECTIVELY.
A) CAQUETA FRONT. HAS 130 COMBATANTS COMMANDED BY ANIRO (CASTANO), ALIAS "GUSTAVO GOMEZ." IT OPERATES IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:
MORELIA CO
VALPARAISO CO
BELEN DE LOS ANDAQUIES CO
MONTANITAS CO
EL PAUJIL CO
B) PUTUMAYO FRONT. HAS 100 COMBATANTS COMMANDED BY ALEJANDRO (GUTIERREZ), ALIAS "ALEJO." IT OPERATES IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:
PUERTO ASIS CO
MOCOA CO
LA HORMIGA CO
SANTA ANA CO
ORITO CO
C) TOLIMA FRONT THIS FRONT, WITH 150 COMBATANTS IS COMMANDED BY ALIAS "GUAJIRO" AND OPERATES IN:
PUERTO SALDANA CO
RIO BLANCO CO
SANTIAGO PEREZ CO
ATACA PROBABLY ATACO CO
6) THE "MOBILE SCHOOL" IS COMPOSED OF A SPECIAL FORCES COMPANY AND THE ABIBE GROUP (NFI).

7) THE ANTIOQUIA UNIVERSITY COMMANDOS GROUP HAS 50 MEMBERS OPERATING OUT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ANTIOQUIA. THIS GROUP HAS SUCCESSFULLY FORCED FARC AND ELN SYMPATHIZERS OFF THE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS IN RECENT MONTHS.)

B. THE ACMM, ALSO KNOWN AS THE SELF-DEFENSE GROUPS OF RAMON ISAZA, OPERATES IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ANTIOQUIA, BOYACA, CALDAS, AND CUNDINAMARCA. KEY LEADERS ARE RAMON ISAZA (COMMANDER) AND ALIAS "TENIENTE GONZALEZ." THE ACMM'S ESTIMATED 650 COMBATANTS ARE ORGANIZED AS FOLLOWS:

1) YACUI GROUP. COMMANDED BY LUIS EDUARDO ((CIFUENTES)) A. ALIAS "EL AGUILA," OPERATES IN CUNDINAMARCA DEPARTMENT IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS: PUERTO SALGAR CO, PACHO CO, YACUI CO /

2) PUERTO BOYACA GROUP. THIS GROUP, WITH APPROXIMATELY 350 COMBATANTS IS COMMANDED BY JOSE ALIRIO ((CASTRO)) MOLINA, ALIAS "BOTALON" A DOCUMENT PRODUCED BY THE AUTODEFENSA UNIDAS DE COLOMBIA DATED 18 APRIL 1997 HAS A SIGNATURE BLOCK FOR A COMANDANTE VOTALON.) THE GROUP OPERATES IN BOYACA DEPARTMENT IN: PUERTO BOYACA CO, PUERTO PINZON CO, SANTA MARIA CO /

3) PUERTO TRIUNFO GROUP. THIS GROUP OPERATES IN THE VICINITY OF PUERTO TRIUNFO CO /

4) PUERTO BERRIO GROUP. THIS GROUP OF APPROXIMATELY 100 COMBATANTS, COMMANDED BY ALIAS "ROQUI," OPERATES IN ANTIOQUIA DEPARTMENT IN THE VICINITY OF PUERTO BERRIO CO AND YONDO CO /

5) LA DORADA GROUP. APPROXIMATELY 100 COMBATANTS UNDER ALIAS "TERROR," OPERATES IN CALDAS DEPARTMENT IN THE VICINITY OF LA DORADA CO
C. ACLLO OPERATES IN THE EASTERN PLAINS IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF CASANARE AND META. KEY LEADERS ARE GROUP COMMANDER HUMBERTO (CASTRO) AND ULISES (MENDOZA). IT IS COMPOSED OF THE CASANARE AND META GROUPS.

1) THE CASANARE GROUP, UNDER THE COMMAND OF CARLOS ALBERTO (TORRES) HAS APPROXIMATELY 240 COMBATANTS FROM OIL COMPANIES THAT OPERATE IN THE AREA WHO ARE SEEKING PROTECTION FOR AREA GUERRILLA GROUPS. THE CASANARE GROUP OPERATES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CASANARE AT FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:
   VILLANUEVA CO
   SABANALARGA CO
   AGUAZUL CO
   SAN LUIS DE PALENQUE CO
   TAURAMENA CO
   PAZ DE ARIPORO CO
   MONTERREY CO
   MANI CO
   POPO CO
   YOPAL CO
   OROCUE CO
   NUNCHIA CO
   HATO COROZAL CO

2) THE META GROUP, COMMANDED BY CLODOMIRO (AGAMEZ) HAS APPROXIMATELY 300 COMBATANTS OPERATING IN:
   PUERTO LLERAS CO
   PUERTO GAITAN CO
   EL CASTILLO CO
   PUERTO LOPEZ CO
   EL DORADO CO
   CUBARRAL CO
   SAN CARLOS DE GUAROA CO
   EL CHARRERO CO, CNA
   LA PORDIDIA CO, CNA
   SAN MARTIN CO
   GRANADA CO
   GUAMAL CO
   ACACIAS CO
   CANAGUARO CO

D. THE AUSAC, WITH APPROXIMATELY 400 COMBATANTS, IS COMMANDED BY CAMILO AURELIO (MORANTES) AND FRANCISCO
((TABARES)). AUSAC ELEMENTS OPERATING IN THE VICINITY OF EL PLAYON ARE UNDER THE COMMAND OF ALIAS "RICARDO," WHILE ELEMENTS OPERATING IN THE VICINITY OF RIO DE ORO, GONZALEZ, AGUACHICA, GAMARRA, SAN ALBERTO AND SAN MARTIN ARE UNDER THE COMMAND OF JUANCHO ((PRADA)) LINCON CASTILLA (FIELD COMMENT: INDIVIDUAL APPEARS TO HAVE THREE LAST NAMES. MORE INFORMATION ON PRADA IS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH N, BELOW,) AND RODOLFO ((PADILLA)), ALIAS "EL CURA." AUSAC UNITS OPERATE IN THE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENTS OF CESAR AND SANTANDER LOCATIONS:

AGUACHICA CO/  
LEBRIJA CO/  
SAN VICENTE DE CHUCURI CO/  
CHUCURI CO/  
BARRANCABERMEJA CO/  
BAJO EL CARMEN CO, CNA/  
PUERTO WILCHES CO/  
SABANA DE TORRES CO/  
CUESTA RICA CO/  
SAN ALBERTO CO/  
RIONEGRO CO/  
PELAYA CO/  

E. THE SELF-DEFENSE GROUPS OF PUERTO BOYACA, COMMANDED BY EITHER VICTOR A. ((TRIANA)), ALIAS "BOTALON," OR ABSALON SAMUDIO ALSO ALIAS "BOTALON." THEY NUMBER APPROXIMATELY 70 COMBATANTS.

THERE ARE TWO SEPARATE PARAMILITARY UNITS THAT OPERATE IN THE PUERTO BOYACA AREA. A CORRELATION OF COLOMBIAN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DOCUMENTS SHOWS THAT BOTH COMMANDERS USE THE ALIAS "BOTALON." THE AUSAC AFFILIATED SELF-DEFENSE GROUPS OF PUERTO BOYACA SHOULD NOT BE CONFUSED WITH THE PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED PUERTO BOYACA GROUP OF THE ACMM, UNDER THE COMMAND OF JOSE ALIRIO ((CASTRO)) MOLINA, ALIAS YET AGAIN "BOTALON.""

PUERTO BOYACA CO/

PUERTO PINZON CO/  
SANTA MARIA CO/  

F. THE SELF-DEFENSE GROUPS OF SIMITI, COMMANDED BY ALIAS "EFRAIN" HAS APPROXIMATELY 600 ACTIVE COMBATANTS DEPLOYED TO THE FOLLOWING BOLIVAR DEPARTMENT LOCATIONS:

SANTA ROSA CO//GEOCORD: CNA
SIMITI CO\(^{(b)(3):10\ USC\ 424}\)
SAN PABLO CO/
RIOVIEJO CO/
REGidor CO/
MORALES CO/

G. THE SELF-DEFENSE GROUPS OF CUNDINAMARCA, COMMANDED BY LUIS EDUARDO \((CIFUENTES))\), ALIAS "EL AGUILA" HAS APPROXIMATELY 180 COMBATANTS OPERATING IN THE FOLLOWING CUNDINAMARCA DEPARTMENT LOCATIONS:
YACOLI CO\(^{(b)(3):10\ USC\ 424}\)
PUERTO SALGAR CO/
PACHO CO/

H. THE SELF-DEFENSE GROUPS OF CASANARE, COMMANDED BY DANIEL \((SANTOS))\), ALIAS "HK" HAS APPROXIMATELY 550 ACTIVE COMBATANTS OPERATING IN THE FOLLOWING CASANARE DEPARTMENT LOCATIONS:
MONTERREY CO\(^{(b)(3):10\ USC\ 424}\)
CHAMESA CO\//GEOCORD: CNA
RESETOR CO\//GEOCORD: CNA
AGUAZUL CO\(^{(b)(3):10\ USC\ 424}\)
YOPAL CO/
OROCUE CO/
MIRANDA DE GUANAPOLÓ CO\//GEOCORD: CNA
SAN JOAQUIN DE CARBAYAS CO\//GEOCORD: CNA
LAS GAVIOTAS CO\//GEOCORD: THREE LISTED IN CASANARE
SANTA ELENA DE CUSIVA CO\(^{(b)(3):10\ USC\ 424}\)
EL DELIRIO CO/
EL BORAL CO/

I. THE VALLUNA COUNTER GUERRILLA GROUP IS COMMANDED BY ALIAS "MONDRAGON". IT HAS APPROXIMATELY 100 ACTIVE COMBATANTS OPERATING IN VALLE DE CAUCA DEPARTMENT:
TULUA CO\(^{(b)(3):10\ USC\ 424}\)
MONTELORO CO/
PUERTO FRAZADAS CO/
LA MARINA CO\//GEOCORD: THREE LISTED IN VALLE DE CAUCA
BARRAGAN CO\(^{(b)(3):10\ USC\ 424}\)
SANTA LUCIA CO/
BIGALAGRANDE CO\//GEOCORD: CNA
CHORREAS CO\//GEOCORD: CNA
GALICIA CO\(^{(b)(3):10\ USC\ 424}\)
LA MORENA CO/
SAN PEDRO CO/
J. THE LOS CHAMIZOS GROUP IS COMMANDED BY HERNAN
((GIRALDO)) SERNA. IT HAS APPROXIMATELY 30 ACTIVE
COMBATANTS OPERATING IN MAGDALENA DEPARTMENT. THIS UNIT
ALSO HAS ANOTHER SECTION LOCATED IN CALDAS.
SANTA MARTA CO/ CNA
GUACHACA CO/ CNA
GUACHAQUITA CO/ CNA
CALABOZO CO// GEOCORD: CNA
BURITACA CO/ CNA
DON DIEGO CO/ CNA
PALOMINO CO// GEOCORD: TWO LISTED IN MAGDALENA
K. CENTAURO BLOC IS COMMAND BY CLODOMIRO ((AGAMEZ))
AND ALIAS "TOMAS." IT HAS APPROXIMATELY 400 ACTIVE
COMBATANTS OPERATING IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF VICHADA AND
GUAVIRE.
SAN MARTIN CO// GEOCORD: CNA
GRANADA CO// GEOCORD: CNA
PUERTO LLERAS CO/ CNA
PUERTO RICO CO/ CNA
EL DORADO CO// GEOCORD: CNA
GAVIOTAS CO/ CNA
EL ANZUELO CO// GEOCORD: CNA
SAN JOSE DEL GUAVIARE CO/ CNA
L. EJE CAFETERO COMMAND (b)(1), (b)(2), (b)(3), (b)(4), (b)(5),
COFFEE AXIS
COMMAND) IS COMMAND BY ALIAS "GAVILAN" OR "HOYOS" AND
HAS APPROXIMATELY 25 COMBATANTS OPERATING IN CALDAS AND
RISARALDA DEPARTMENTS.
RIOSUCIO CO/ CNA
SUPIA CO/ CNA
QUINCHIA CO/ CNA
GAUTICA CO// GEOCORD: CNA
M. LOS ROJAS GROUP IS COMMAND BY RIGOBERTO ((ROJAS))
MENDEZA ALIAS "RIGO." IT IS COMPRISED OF APPROXIMATELY
30 COMBATANTS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MAGDALENA.
GUACHACA CO/ CNA
LOS ALMENDROS CO// GEOCORD: CNA
SANTA MARTA CO// GEOCORD: CNA
FUNDACION CO/ CNA
ARACATA CO// GEOCORD: CNA
RIO FRIO CO/ CNA
CIENAGA CO/ CNA
N. THE SELF-DEFENSE FORCES OF CESAR IS COMMAND BY
JUANCHO ((PRADA)) LINCON CASTILLA. IT IS COMPRISED OF APPROXIMATELY 250 COMBATANTS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CESAR.
SAN MARTIN CO//GEOCORD: CNA
AGUACHICA CO//GEOCORD: CNA
RIO DE ORO CO
O. THE NARINO COMPANY IS COMMANDED BY ELIGIO ((JAIMES)) LAZARO, ALIAS "JIMMY". IT IS COMPRISED OF APPROXIMATELY 20 COMBATANTS OPERATING IN THE NORTE DE SANTANDER DEPARTMENT.
LA PLAYA CO//GEOCORD: CNA
ABREGO CO
OCANA CO
P. THE SELF-DEFENSE FORCES OF THE GUAVIARE GROUP IS COMPRISED OF APPROXIMATELY 100 COMBATANTS IN THE GUAVIARE DEPARTMENT.
EL RETORNO CO//GEOCORD: CNA
SAN JOSE DEL GUAVIARE CO//GEOCORD: CNA
MAPIRIPAN CO//GEOCORD: CNA
CALAMAR CO
5. (U) AUC FINANCES. ACCORDING TO SOURCE F, THE AUC RECEIVES AN ANNUAL TOTAL OF 147,600,000 USD INCOME FROM A NUMBER OF SOURCES. APPROXIMATELY 70 PERCENT OF THIS INCOME COMES DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY FROM NARCOTRAFFICKING, OF THIS INCOME, 63,600 MILLION PESOS COVERS LOGISTICS AND THE SALARIES OF AUC MEMBERS.
A. INCOME SOURCES:
1) TAXES ON COCA GrowERS AND LEAF BUYERS IN SOUTHERN BOLIVAR DEPARTMENT 24,000 MILLION PESOS PER YEAR (APPROXIMATELY $11,162,790 USD)
2) TAXES ON COCA GrowERS AND LEAF BUYERS IN GUAVIARE, META, CAQUETA, AND PUTUMAYO DEPARTMENTS 18,000 MILLION PESOS PER YEAR (APPROXIMATELY $8,372,100 USD) (SOURCE COMMENT: THE AUC IS CURRENTLY UNDER-BIDDING THE FARC IN META DEPARTMENT, CHARGING SIX PERCENT TAX INSTEAD OF THE TEN PERCENT PREVIOUSLY CHARGED BY THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCES OF COLOMBIA (FARC).
3) ECONOMIC GROUPS (NFI), BUSINESSMEN, CATTLE, TRANSPORT, AND LOGGING INDUSTRIES 12,000 MILLION PESOS PER YEAR (APPROXIMATELY $5,581,400 USD) (SOURCE COMMENT: SOME OF THESE CONTRIBUTIONS ARE VOLUNTARY, OTHERS ARE COERCED.)
4) MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS, BANANA EXPORTERS,
DONATIONS FROM DRUG TRAFFICKERS IN VALLE DEL CAUCA
DEPARTMENT, AND TAXES IN TOLIMA AND ANTIOQUIA
DEPARTMENTS  14,400 MILLION PESOS PER YEAR
(APPROXIMATELY $6,697,700 USD.)
5) LANDOWNERS AND CATTLEMEN IN THE SEVEN DEPARTMENTS ON
THE ATLANTIC COAST [b](1), 1.4 (c) MAINLY CORDOBA,
CESAR, MAGDALENA, SUCRE, ANTIOQUIA AND SANTANDER
DEPARTMENTS) 79,200 MILLION PESOS PER YEAR
(APPROXIMATELY 36,837,200 USD).
B. AUC OPERATIONAL EXPENSES. ACCORDING TO SOURCE F,
THE AUC’S ANNUAL EXPENSES [b](1), 1.4 (c) TIMEFRAME IS
NOT SPECIFIED ARE:
1) SALARIES FOR 6000 LOW-RANKING MEMBERS 7,200 MILLION
PESOS PER YEAR (APPROXIMATELY $3,348,840 USD)
2) SALARIES FOR 1000 SQUAD LEADERS, PATROL LEADERS, AND
SERGEANTS OF THE GUARD (RELEVANTES) 3,600 MILLION PER
YEAR (APPROXIMATELY $1,674,420 USD).
3) SALARIES FOR 600 COMMANDERS OF COMPANIES, ZONES, AND
FINANCE COMMISSIONS, COMMUNICATIONS AND WEAPONS
TECHNICIANS, AND CHIEFS OF URBAN AND RURAL OPERATIONS
7,200 MILLION PESOS PER YEAR (APPROXIMATELY $3,348,840
USD).
4) SALARIES FOR 400 BLOC AND FRONT COMMANDERS AND
MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL AND BLOC STAFFS 24,000 MILLION
COLOMBIAN PESOS PER YEAR (APPROXIMATELY $11,162,800 USD)
[b](1), 1.4 (c) THESE NUMBERS ADD UP TO APPROXIMATELY
8,000 SALARIED POSITIONS IN THE SELF DEFENSE GROUP
STRUCTURE.)
5) [b](1), 1.4 (c) INCLUDING: WAR MATERIAL, SUPPLIES,
FOOD, CLINIC AND MEDICAL EXPENSES 21,600 MILLION
COLOMBIAN PESOS PER YEAR (APPROXIMATELY $10,046,500 USD)
[b](1), 1.4 (c) SOURCE F ALSO INCLUDES MISCELLANEOUS
EXPENSES SUCH AS ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO WIDOWS AND
FAMILIES OF FALLEN AUC MEMBERS, LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO AUC
MEMBERS IN PRISON AND MOVING EXPENSES IN THIS CATEGORY.)
[b](1), 1.4 (c)
2. (U) ARE AVAILABLE FOR FURTHER CONTACT.


5. (S) METHODOLOGY FOR ESTIMATING SELF-DEFENSE GROUP STRENGTH: ON OR AROUND JUNE OF 2000, ARMED FORCES COMMANDER GENERAL FERNANDO ((TAPIAS)) STAHELIN ORDERED EACH SERVICE CHIEF TO PREPARE A REPORT AND BRIEF ON THE TOPIC OF THE SELF-DEFENSE GROUPS. COLAR COMMANDER GENERAL JORGE ((MORA)) RANGEL IN TURN ASKED COLAR INTELLIGENCE PERSONNEL TO CALL EVERY BATTALION LEVEL UNIT AND ABOVE AND REQUIRE IMMEDIATE, INDEPENDENT REPORTS ON TOTAL NUMBER OF SELF-DEFENSE GROUP PERSONNEL IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS OF OPERATIONS. ALL REPORTS WENT TO THE COLAR'S INTELLIGENCE DIRECTORATE (ACRONYM "DINTE"), WHERE THE SELF-DEFENSE GROUP ANALYST, A SENIOR MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERGEANT, DID A CORRELATION OF ALL REPORTS. THE NCO IN TURN REPORTED TO HIS SUPERIORS ON APPARENT DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN UNIT ESTIMATES AND REPORTED SAME TO GENERAL MORA, WHO IN TURN PLACED THE HEAT ON THE DIVISION COMMANDERS TO EXPLAIN TO AN UNHAPPY COMMANDER THE REASON(S) FOR THE DISCREPANCIES. ONCE THE INFORMATION WAS PROVIDED TO GENERAL MORA, A RECONCILIATION WAS MADE, AND THE FINAL REPORT WAS BRIEFED TO GENERAL TAPIAS LATER (NFI). GENERAL MORA IS SATISFIED WITH THE FINAL FIGURE FOR THE ESTIMATED FORCE BELONGING TO SELF-DEFENSE GROUPS IN COLOMBIA: 6,405.

ADMIN