MRN: 13 DIA WASHINGTON DC 7263597
Date/DTG: Jul 28, 2013 /2619262 JUL 13
From: DIA WASHINGTON DC
Action: (b)(3):10 USC 424,(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)
(b)(3):50 USC 3024 (i)

Captions:

QQQQ
SUBJ: COLOMBIA FARC KIDNAPS U.S. CITIZEN IN GUAVIARE DEPARTMENT (SECRET VERSION)
DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE
26 JULY 2013
ICOD: 26 JULY 2013
PCN: DIA-09-1307-275
CLASSIFIED BY: 109194

(b)(1),(b)(3):10 USC 424.1,4 (c)
(U) FARC PUBLICLY CLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE KIDNAPPING

In a 19 July communique, the FARC publicly announced the

capture of former U.S. Army soldier, US CT Kevin Scott Sutay, in the

municipality of El Retorno, Guaviare Department, and they had been

holding him hostage since 20 June. Sutay reportedly was traveling

through a FARC stronghold in Guaviare Department in mid-June when he

encountered the FARC members who took him hostage. The FARC labeled

Sutay as a "prisoner of war" and offered his release as a goodwill

gesture during the ongoing peace negotiations with the Colombian

Government in Havana, Cuba.

(b)(1), 1.4 (c)

(U) THE FARC LEADERSHIP COMMUNIQUE ALSO PROVIDED PROOF-OF-CAPTURE

INFORMATION BY PROVIDING SUTAY'S RECENT TRAVEL TO MEXICO, HONDURAS,

COSTA RICA, NICARAGUA, AND PANAMA BEFORE HE ENTERED COLOMBIA ON 8

JUNE.

(b)(1), (b)(3): 50 USC 3024(i), 1.4 (c), 1.4 (d)

(U) FARC KIDNAPPINGS WHILE NEGOTIATING PEACE

THE GROUP PUBLICLY VOWED TO CEASE KIDNAPPING FOR RANSOM AS A GOODWILL GESTURE DURING THE

(b)(1), 1.4 (c)

(U) AS OF 30 JANUARY, FARC LEADERS PUBLICLY DECLARED THEY WOULD

CONTINUE TAKING "PRISONERS OF WAR" AS A FUNCTION OF THE ARMED

CONFLICT; HOWEVER, LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE FORCED THE GROUP

to release its prisoners, according to press reporting.

(U) ON 29 JANUARY, THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT PUBLICLY CONdemned

the FARC's kidnapping of three security force members in southwestern

Colombia, and it called for the group to honor its agreements and

negotiate for peace in good faith, according to press reports.

(b)(1), 1.4 (c)
On 19 July, the FARC acknowledged its willingness to release the kidnapped U.S. citizen to the ICRC, the Saint Edigio NGO, and political activist and former senator Piedad Cordoba, according to the press. Barred from political office in 2010 for her continued contact with the FARC, Cordoba has been involved in multiple hostage negotiations between the FARC and the Colombian government. The Colombian press reports that despite the FARC's request, on 24 July, President Juan Manuel Santos publicly rejected Cordoba's intervention in any potential hostage negotiation.

Outlook:

The FARC has made efforts to negotiate the release of several hostages, including a U.S. citizen, and has sought the assistance of political activists and human rights organizations to facilitate these negotiations. The Colombian government, under President Juan Manuel Santos, has resisted these efforts due to concerns over the FARC's involvement in hostage situations.

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