

ENVELOPE

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CONTROLS

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ SECTION 01 OF 03

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CITE: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424

SERIAL: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) COLOMBIA (CO).

//IPSP: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424

SUBJ: (b)(3):10 USC 424 /COLOMBIAN ARMY COUNTERGUERRILLA
OPERATIONS FROM 990708 TO 990712 (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT
FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 990713.

REQS: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424

SOURCE A: (U) (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

SOURCE B: (U) (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

SUMMARY: (U) THIS REPORT PROVIDES INFORMATION ON 14
COLOMBIAN ARMY COUNTERGUERRILLA OPERATIONS CONDUCTED
BETWEEN 990708 AND 990712 IN FIVE DEPARTMENTS. COLOMBIAN
ARMY CLAIMS TO HAVE KILLED 289 FARC GUERRILLAS.
INSURGENTS EMPLOYED A CHEMICAL AGENT IN THE MANUFACTURE
OF HOME MADE BOMBS EMPLOYED IN THE ATTACKS.

TEXT: 1. (U)

A. (U) (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

CONDUCTED "OPERACION INDEPENDENCIA" FROM 990708 THROUGH 990712, AGAINST THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCES OF COLOMBIA (FUERZAS ARMADAS REVOLUCIONARIAS DE COLOMBIA - FARC), IN FIVE DEPARTMENTS. DURING THE OPERATION, FOUR ARMY SOLDIERS, 27 POLICEMEN AND THREE CIVILIANS WERE KILLED IN ACTION (KIA). THE FARC SUFFERED 289 CASUALTIES INCLUDING ARMED WOMEN AND CHILDREN. DURING COMBAT, THE FARC USED SULFURIC ACID IN THE MANUFACTURE OF THE HOME MADE BOMBS THEY LAUNCHED, AND ALSO MUTILATED THE BODIES OF DEAD COMRADES TO QUICKLY BURY THEIR BODIES IN COMMON GRAVES.

3. (U) (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i) FARC LOSSES TOTALLED 289 KILLED, FIVE CAPTURED, ONE BOAT SEIZED AND 13 VEHICLES DESTROYED. THE COLOMBIAN MILITARY HAD 41 SOLDIERS KIA, 35 WOUNDED, AND THE COLOMBIAN NATIONAL POLICE LOST 30 POLICEMEN, WHILE 34 WERE WOUNDED.

2. (U) (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i) THE FOLLOWING WERE MILITARY OPERATIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE COLOMBIAN ARMY DURING "OPERACION INDEPENDENCIA"--

A. (U) HATO COROZAL, CASANARE DEPARTMENT.
ONE ARMED C-47 "FANTASMA" AIRCRAFT AND ARMED HELICOPTERS CONDUCTED AIR ATTACK OPERATIONS AGAINST THE FARC'S 28TH AND 45TH FRONTS, RESULTING IN SEVEN VEHICLES DESTROYED AND 38 GUERRILLAS KIA.

B. (U) PUERTO LLERAS, META DEPARTMENT.
ONE ARMED C-47 "FANTASMA" AND ONE ARMED HELICOPTER CONDUCTED AIR OPERATIONS AGAINST THE FARC'S 27TH FRONT RESULTING IN ONE VEHICLE DESTROYED AND 65 GUERRILLAS KIA.

C. (U) PUERTO RONDON, ARAUCA DEPARTMENT.
A CESSNA SKY MASTER CONDUCTED AIR ATTACK OPERATIONS AGAINST THE FARC'S 10TH FRONT, RESULTING IN ONE VEHICLE DESTROYED AND FIVE GUERRILLAS KIA.

D. (U) AGUAS NEGRAS, PUTUMAYO RIVER, PUTUMAYO DEPARTMENT.
ONE ARMED HELICOPTER CONDUCTED AIR ATTACK OPERATIONS AGAINST THE FARC'S 48TH FRONT, RESULTING IN ONE BOAT DESTROYED, 15 GUERRILLAS KIA AND A GUERRILLA WOMAN KIA AT A COUNTERGUERRILLA BATTALLION NO. 31 ROADBLOCK.

E. (U) PUERTO RICO, META DEPARTMENT. ONE AC-47 "FANTASMA" AND ONE ARMED HELICOPTER CONDUCTED AIR ATTACK OPERATIONS RESULTING IN ONE TRUCK DESTROYED, 80 GUERRILLAS KIA AND TWO INDIGENOUSLY MADE ARMED VEHICLES DESTROYED (KIA).

F. (U) DONCELLO, CAQUETA DEPARTMENT. ONE AC-47 "FANTASMA" AND ONE ARMED HELICOPTER CONDUCTED AIR ATTACK OPERATIONS AGAINST THE FARC'S 15TH FRONT, RESULTING IN 35 GUERRILLAS KIA.

G. (U) ANGOSTURA, ANTIOQUIA DEPARTMENT. ATTACK BY THE GIRARDOT INFANTRY BATTALLION (BIGIR), AGAINST A FARC FRONT 36 CAMP RESULTING IN THREE GUERRILLAS KIA.

H. (U) VALPARAISO, CAQUETA DEPARTMENT. ONE AC-47 "FANTASMA" AND ONE ARMED HELICOPTER CONDUCTED AN AIR ATTACK AGAINST THE FARC'S SOUTHERN BLOCK (BLOQUE SUR DE LAS FARC), RESULTING IN ONE TRUCK DESTROYED AND 24 GUERRILLAS KIA.

I. (U) VEREDA AGUA BONITA, SAN JOSE DEL GUAVIARE, CAQUETA DEPARTMENT. AN UNIDENTIFIED COLOMBIAN MILITARY COMPONENT ATTACKED FORMATIONS (CUADRILLAS) 1 AND 7 OF THE FARC'S SOUTHERN BLOCK, RESULTING IN SIX GUERRILLAS KIA (NFI).

3. (U) (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i) THE FOLLOWING MILITARY EQUIPMENT WAS CAPTURED BY THE 24TH BRIGADE IN THE VICINITY OF AGUAS NEGRAS, PUERTO ASIS MUNICIPALITY, PUTUMAYO DEPARTMENT, DURING "OPERACION INDEPENDENCIA"--

- 70 RIFLES
- 01 60MM MORTAR
- 08 LOCALLY MANUFACTURED MORTARS
- 10 HOME MADE GAS CYLINDER MORTAR LAUNCHERS
- 49 RIFLE GRENADES
- 43 60MM GRENADES
- 11 40MM GRENADES
- 01 FRAGMENTATION GRENADE
- 4388 ROUNDS OF DIFFERENT CALIBER AMMUNITION
- 110 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION
- 198 RIFLE CARTRIDGES
- 60 MAGAZINE POUCHES
- 60 FIELD EQUIPMENTS (EQUIPOS DE CAMPANA)
- 01 MINI INGRAM SUB-MACHINEGUN
- 01 9MM PISTOL
- 11 ELECTRIC DETONATORS
- 05 METERS OF SLOW FUSE
- 01 POUND OF PENTOLITE
- VARIOUS CAPTURED DOCUMENTS.

COMMENTS: 1. (S)

(b)(1); (b)(3):10 USC 424; (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i); Sec. 1.4(c)

2. (U)

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3. (U) FOR ANY POSSIBLE QUESTIONS REGARDING THE
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4. (C) THE FARC EMPLOYED A CHEMICAL WARFARE AGENT,
SULFURIC ACID, IN THE MANUFACTURE OF THEIR HOME MADE
BOMBS EMPLOYED IN THEIR ATTACKS, AND AT LEAST ONE
COLOMBIAN NATIONAL POLICEMAN WAS BADLY BURNED BY ONE OF
THE BOMBS.

5. (C) THE COLOMBIAN AIR FORCE PROVED ITS EFFECTIVENESS
DURING "OPERACION INDEPENDENCIA" BY DESTROYING A LONG
LIST OF GROUND TARGETS, AND BY PROVIDING INVALUABLE
SUPPORT TO COLOMBIAN ARMY TROOPS ON THE GROUND.

COLL (U)

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ADMIN

INSTR: (U)

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PREP: (U)

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ACQ: (U)

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