### SECRET//NF

# **ENVELOPE**

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(b)(3):10 USC 424; (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)
                                                     -CCCC - (b)(3):10 USC 424; (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)
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424; (b)(3):50
USC 3024(i)
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                          012249Z SEP 99
                          FM DIA WASHINGTON DC
      INFO
                                        (b)(3):50 USC 3024(I)
     (b)(3):10 USC 424; (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)
      OR
                          012229Z SEP 99
                          FM (b)(3):10 USC 424
                             (b)(3):10 USC
                                           DIA WASHDC/ (b)(3):10 USC 424
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                          INFO (b)(3):10 USC 424; (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)
     (b)(3):50 USC 3024(I)
     (b)(3):10 USC 424; (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)
     (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)
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## CONTROLS

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 02 (b)(3):10 USC 424
CON FIDENTIAL
SERIAL: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424
/****** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *********/
BODY
COUNTRY: (U) COLOMBIA (CC).  (b)(3):10 USC 424  SUBJ: COLOMBIAN MILITARY ATTACK FARC FORCES IN HATO COROZAL, CASANARE DEPARTMENT ON 990901.  (U)  (b)(3):10 USC 424  //IPSP: (U)  WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED  CONFIDENTIAL.
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DOI: (U) 990901.  REQS: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424  SOURCE: (U)
SOURCE: (U) (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)
SUMMARY: (C) FARC GUERRILLAS ATTACKED THE TOWN OF HATO COROZAL IN THE CASANARE DEPARTMENT, 990831. THE COLOMBIAN MILITARY RESPONDED AND CLAIMS TO HAVE KILLED 50

GUERRILLAS. THE MILITARY OPERATIONS CONTINUE, 990901.

(b)(1); (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i); Sec. 1.4(c) TEXT: 1. (6) APPROXIMATELY 400 REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCES OF COLOMBIA-FUERZAS ARMADAS REVOLUCIONARIAS DE COLOMBIA (FARC) ATTACKED THE COLOMBIAN NATIONAL POLICE STATION, THE BANCO AGRARIO (AGRICULTURAL BANK), AND APPROXIMATELY 20 OTHER BUILDINGS LOCATED IN HATO COROZAL, CASANARE DEPARTMENT, 990831, BY USING GAS CYLINDERS AS INDIRECT FIRE WEAPONS (NFI).

(b)(1); (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i); Sec. 2. (0) ON 990831 THE 16TH AND THE SECRET//NE

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18TH COLOMBIAN ARMY BRIGADES, WITH CLOSE AIR SUPPORT FROM THE COLOMBIAN AIR FORCE'S (COLAF) "FANTASMA" FIXED WING AIRCRAFT AND BLACKHAWK AND ARPIA HELICOPTERS ENGAGED THE FARC IN HATO COROZAL AND FORCED THE GUERRILLAS TO RETREAT WITH THE BODIES OF AN UNDETERMINED NUMBER OF GUERRILLAS KILLED AND WOUNDED DURING THE ENGAGEMENT.

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

  THE MILITARY OPERATION

  BEGAN AT "LAS TAPIAS" WHERE THE MILITARY KILLED THREE

  GUERRILLAS AND SECURED THE ACCESS TO THE HATO COROZAL

  MUNICIPALITY AND SURROUNDING AREAS. AT THE SAME TIME,

  AN ADVANCE RECONNAISSANCE ELEMENT ENGAGED A RETREATING

  GUERRILLA ELEMENT AND KILLED 47 GUERRILLAS IN

  MONTESUELTO, BETWEEN HATO COROZAL AND PUENTE CABULLA.

  ACCORDING TO SOURCE, APPROXIMATELY 300 GUERRILLAS

  RETREATED INTO NEARBY MOUNTAINS (NFI).
- (b)(1); (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i); Sec. 1.4(c) THIS IS THE FOURTH MILITARY OPERATION SINCE 990218 IN WHICH THE COLOMBIAN MILITARY HAS DEALT A HARD BLOW TO THE GUERRILLAS LED BY THE BRICENO BROTHERS (MONO JOJOY AND GRANNOBLES). THE FIRST MILITARY OPERATION, "OPERACION ECLIPSE NEGRO", TOOK PLACE IN ARAUCA DEPARTMENT ON 990118, WITH 112 GUERRILLAS KILLED. THE SECOND OPERATION, "OPERACION NEMESIS Y LLANURA", TOOK PLACE IN THE ARAUCA AND VICHADA DEPARMENTS, WHERE THE FARC FINANCE OFFICER, ALIAS "ESTEBAN" AND 28 GUERRILLAS WERE KILLED. AND 12 LABORATORIES WERE DESTROYED. THE SITE OF THE VICHADA SECRETARIAT WAS ALSO DESTROYED. THE THIRD MILITARY OPERATION, "OPERACION INDEPENDENCIA", TOOK PLACE IN THE VICINITY OF THE DESPEJE AREA (NFI) ON 990700. THE COLOMBIAN MILITARY ESTIMATES 302 GUERRILLAS KILLED.
- (b)(1); (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i); Sec.

  5. (C) 1.4(c) THE COLOMBIAN MILITARY IS
  CURRENTLY IN CONTROL OF THE HATO COROZAL AREA. GENERAL
  FERNANDO ((TAPIAS)), COMMANDER OF THE COLOMBIAN ARMED
  FORCES, AND GEN JORGE ENRIQUE ((MORA)) RANGEL, COMMANDER
  OF THE COLOMBIAN ARMY WENT TO THE AREA OF OPERATIONS TO
  OVERSEE THE ENGAGEMENT (FIELD COMMENT: THE GENERALS
  MOVED WITH JOURNALISTS IN TOW).

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

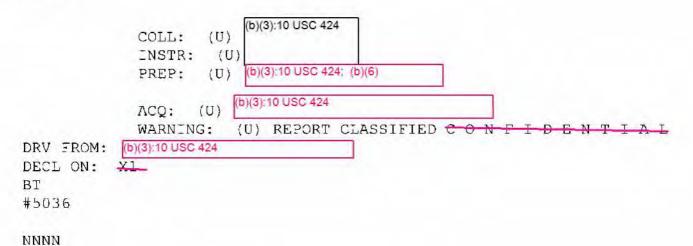
3. (U) FOR ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE CONTENTS OF THIS REPORT, CONSUMERS MAY CONTACT (b)(3):10 USC 424

(b)(3):10 USC 424; (b)(6)

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4. (C) THE COLOMBIAN ARMED FORCES ARE RIDING HIGH ON THE WAKE OF THEIR RECENT SUCCESSESS AND THEIR NEWFOUND SUPPORT BY THE COLOMBIAN PUBLIC, AS REFLECTED IN RECENT POLLS.

# ADMIN



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