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(b)(3):10 USC 424; (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

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HEADER

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FM (b)(3):10 USC 424; (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

TO /DIA WASHINGTON DC

INFO

(b)(3):10 USC 424; (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

(b)(3):10 USC 424; (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

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CONTROLS

~~SECRET~~//NOFORN SECTION 1 OF 2

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

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

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) COLOMBIA (COL).

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

SUBJ: (b)(3):10 USC 424 COLOMBIAN ARMY (COLAR) REPORTS OPERATIONAL RESULTS FOR 2008; HIGHLIGHTS COUNTERTERRORISM, COUNTERDRUG AND ILLEGAL ARMED GROUP (IAG) DESERTIONS (U//~~FOUO~~).

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

~~SECRET~~//NOFORN:

DOI: (U) 20081230.

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

SOURCE:

SOURCE A.

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

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

SOURCE B.

1. ~~(S//NF)~~

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

2. ~~(S//NF)~~

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

SUMMARY: (U) SEE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY, TEXT PARAGRAPH 1, BELOW.
ENCLOSURES

TEXT: 1. ~~(S//NF)~~ EXECUTIVE SUMMARY. THE COLOMBIAN ARMY (COLAR) OFFICIALLY REPORTS ITS COUNTERTERRORISM OPERATIONAL RESULTS FOR 2008. HIGHLIGHTED ARE THE 2 JULY 2008 SUCCESSFUL HOSTAGE RESCUE OPERATION "JAQUE," FARC LEADERSHIP KILLED OR CAPTURED, INCREASED DESERTERS FROM ILLEGAL ARMED GROUPS (IAGS), AND SUCCESSES IN COUNTERDRUG (CD) OPERATIONS.

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

2. ~~(S//NF)~~ (b)(3):10 USC 424

THE COLOMBIAN ARMY (COLAR) OPERATIONAL RESULTS FOR 2008 EMPHASIZING SUCCESS AGAINST FARC SENIOR LEADERSHIP, NARCOTRAFFICKING AND INCREASED DESERTIONS FROM ILLEGAL ARMED GROUPS (IAGS). THE COLAR HAS ACHIEVED EXCELLENT RESULTS AGAINST THE FARC IN 2008, AND THE MUCH HIGHER LEVEL OF FARC AND ELN DESERTIONS IS A HOPEFUL SIGN FOR THE CONTINUING DECLINE IN FARC MORALE AND OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY.

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

THERE ARE STILL MAJOR CHALLENGES IN RESTORING PUBLIC SECURITY. THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES GENERATED BY THE "FALSOS POSITIVOS" (FALSE POSITIVES) AND THE SOACHA KILLINGS HAS SERIOUSLY UNDERMINED THE INTERNATIONAL CREDIBILITY OF THE COLOMBIAN ARMY.

(b)(3):10 USC 424

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

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

3. ~~(S//NF)~~ (b)(3):10 USC 424

THAT 2008 HAS BEEN ONE OF THE SINGLE MOST SUCCESSFUL YEARS IN TERMS OF COUNTERINSURGENCY AND COUNTERTERRORIST OPERATIONS AGAINST THE FARC.

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

THAT THERE WERE 9,338 ILLEGAL ARMED GROUP MEMBERS REMOVED FROM COMBAT THROUGH DESERTION. 2,357 WERE DESERTERS WHO GAVE THEMSELVES UP VOLUNTARILY OR ENTERED THE GOVERNMENT OF COLOMBIA (GOC) DEMOBILIZATION PROGRAM. THE COLAR BREAKDOWN OF THE 2008 TOTAL IS 1,904 FARC, 319 ELN, 60 ERG (GUEVARISTA REVOLUTIONARY ARMY) AND 74 MEMBERS OF ORGANIZED CRIMINAL BANDS (BACRIMS). 1,635 TERRORISTS WERE KILLED IN COMBAT WITH COLOMBIAN MILITARY FORCES. 967 OF THESE WERE FARC, 120 ELN, 2 ERG, 22 ILLEGAL DRUG TRAFFICKERS, 111 COMMON CRIMINALS AND 361 BACRIMS THAT WERE WORKING FOR ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS (DTOS).

4. ~~(S//NF)~~ (b)(3):10 USC 424

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

OPERACION JAQUE

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

(OPERATION CHECK) AS THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT OPERATIONAL SUCCESS AGAINST THE FARC IN 2008. THE 2 JULY 2008 HOSTAGE RESCUE OPERATION HUMILIATED THE FARC AS IT FREED 15 HOSTAGES INCLUDING THREE US CONTRACTORS AND FORMER COLOMBIAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE INGRID BETANCOURT. [REDACTED] NOT A SINGLE SHOT WAS FIRED DURING THE OPERATION AND THE FARC ARGUABLY LOST ONE OF THEIR MOST STRATEGIC ASSETS (HIGH VISIBILITY HOSTAGES).

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

5. (C// (b)(3):10 USC 424 [REDACTED] ON THE NUMBER OF FARC SENIOR LEADERSHIP (SECRETARIAT MEMBERS) THAT WERE KILLED IN 2008. LUIS DEIVA ((SILVA)) ALIAS RAUL REYES WAS KILLED ON 1 MARCH 2008 IN A CROSS BORDER OPERATION INTO ECUADOR ALONG WITH 15 OTHER FARC MEMBERS. REYES WAS THE FIRST EVER MEMBER OF THE FARC SECRETARIAT KILLED BY COLOMBIAN MILITARY FORCES AND REPRESENTS ONE OF THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT MILITARY SUCCESSES AGAINST THE TERRORIST ORGANIZATION. MANUEL ((DE JESUS)) MUNOZ ALIAS IVAN RIOS WAS WAS KILLED ONLY ABOUT A WEEK LATER BY ONE OF HIS OWN PERSONAL SECURITY TEAM, PABLO MONTOYA AKA ROJAS. ROJAS CHOOSE TO KILL HIS BOSS DUE TO PRESSURE PLACED ON THE FARC BY THE TROOPS OF THE 8TH COLAR BRIGADE. HE TURNED HIMSELF INTO THE TOWN OF SAMANA, CALDAS DEPARTMENT.

6. (C// (b)(3):10 USC 424 [REDACTED] TWO OTHER SENIOR IAG LEADERS NEUTRALIZED BY THE COLAR WERE DARIO DE JESUS CALLE ((CORREA)) ALIAS TIMOLEON. TIMOLEON WAS THE LEADER OF THE ELN CENTRAL FRONT AND AS KILLED BY THE COLAR 4TH BRIGADE IN JANUARY 2008. THE OTHER WAS THE CAPTURE OF THE WESTERN BLOC FARC MEMBER, LUZ DARY ((CONDE)) RUBIO ALIAS DORIS ADRIANA BY THE SECOND COLAR DIVISION IN CUCUTA, NORTE DE SANTANDER DEPARTMENT. SHE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING OPERATIONS, AND FINANCE. SHE WAS THE REPLACEMENT FOR THE FARC GUERRILLA ALIAS SONIA, THAT WAS PREVIOUSLY EXTRADITED TO THE US.

7. (C// (b)(3):10 USC 424 [REDACTED] DESERTIONS AND DEMOBILIZATIONS WERE VERY HIGH FOR 2008. ONE KEY POINT WAS THE FINAL DEMOBILIZATION OF THE REMAINING 45 MEMBERS OF THE ERG IN CHOCO DEPARTMENT. SOME OF THE HIGHER PROFILE IAG DESERTIONS: ON 18 MAY 2008, ELDA NEYIS ((MOSQUERA)) GARCIA ALIAS KARINA. SHE HAD BEEN THE THIRD COMMANDER OF THE FARC 47TH FRONT. SHE DEMOBILIZED VOLUNTARILY NEAR THE TOWN OF ARGELIA, ANTIOQUIA DEPARTMENT. THE OTHER HIGH PROFILE CASE WAS ON 26 OCTOBER 2008, WHEN WILSON BUENO ((LARGO)) AKA "ISAZA" DESERTED WITH EX-CONGRESSMAN OSCAR TULIO ((LIZCANO)) WHO HAD BEEN HELD HOSTAGE SINCE AUGUST 2000. ISAZA HAD BEEN HUNGRY, DEMORALIZED AND FLED WITH THE HOSTAGE LIZCANO TO TROOPS OF THE 14TH COLAR MOBILE BRIGADE.

8. (C// (b)(3):10 USC 424 [REDACTED] (b)(1); (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i), Sec. 1.4(c); Sec. 1.4(d) [REDACTED] THE CAPTURE OF VARIOUS ARMS, EXPLOSIVES AND MUNITIONS IN DIFFERENT CACHES. ONE LARGE SEIZURE OF NOTE OCCURRED IN CALI BY TROOPS OF THE THIRD COLAR

The next page is withheld in full under the following exemptions and will not be provided:
(b)(1) 1.4(c);
(b)(1) 1.4(d);
(b)(3) 10 USC 424;
(b)(3) 50 USC 3024;
(b)(6)

DIVISION WHO SEIZED 607 RIFLES, 1,487 MAGAZINES BELONGING TO THE BACRIM "LOS RASTROJOS."

9. (C// (b)(3):10 USC 424) THAT COUNTERDRUG OPERATIONS, ALTHOUGH IMPORTANT TO THE COLAR WERE NOT AN OPERATIONAL PRIORITY FOR MOST UNITS, AS COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATIONS STILL REMAINED THE NUMBER ONE PRIORITY IN MOST COLOMBIAN ARMY DIVISIONS AND BRIGADES. (b)(1); (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i); Sec. 1.4(c); Sec. 1.4(d) ON THE OVERALL COUNTERDRUG (CD) SUCCESSES, HIGHLIGHTING OVER 123,900 HECTARES OF COCA ERADICATED, 1,157 CLANDESTINE DRUG PROCESSING LABORATORIES DISMANTLED AND 41,000 KILOS OF MARIJUANA SEIZED AND DESTROYED.

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

2. (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424; (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

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

4. (C//NF) (b)(1); (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i); Sec. 1.4(c)

5. (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424; (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

ADMIN

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