1. (U) AN ACTIVIST IN THE LEFTIST PATRIOTIC UNION (UP) PARTY, HIS WIFE, SON AND BROTHER WERE MURDERED SEPTEMBER 14 AS THEY RETURNED TO THE SMALL CITY OF MESETAS, META DEPARTMENT, FROM A WEEKEND OUTING. THE UP ACTIVIST, CARLOS JULIAN VELEZ, WAS A MEMBER OF THE

2. (U) THE MAYOR OF MESETAS, MIGUEL ANTONIO RUBIO, WHO ALSO IS A UP MEMBER, IMPOSED A BAN ON THE SALE OF LIQOUR AND A CURFEW IN HIS CITY UNTIL NOON ON SEPTEMBER 18. VELEZ, 33 YEARS OLD, WAS BURIED ON SEPTEMBER 17 ALONG WITH HIS WIFE, EIGHT YEAR-OLD SON AND BROTHER.

3. (U) ACCORDING TO MAYOR RUBIO, THE VELEZ FAMILY WAS RETURNING FROM A FAMILY FARM WHEN THEY WERE ATTACKED BY MOTORCYCLE-RIDING SICARIOS (ASSASSINS) WHO FIRED ON THE FAMILY WITH SUBMACHINE GUNS.

4. (U) THE MAYOR SAID THAT NO SUSPECTS HAD BEEN DETAINED BUT SAID THAT "WE ALREADY HAVE LEADS ON THE POSSIBLE ASSASSINS." HE REFUSED TO DIVULGE THOSE LEADS.

5. (C) UP INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR OSCAR GONZALEZ TOLD POLOFF ON SEPTEMBER 17 THAT VELEZ HAD BEEN REPEATEDLY THREATENED (HE SURVIVED ANOTHER ASSASSINATION
ATTEMPT EARLIER THIS YEAR). GONZALEZ SAID VELEZ HAD BEEN ADVISED TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY BUT REFUSED TO DO SO. GONZALEZ, WHILE NOT CERTAIN, SPECULATED THAT VELEZ' ASSASSINS WERE PARAMILITARIES ASSOCIATED WITH NARCO-TAINTED EMERALD BARON VICTOR CARRANZA. HOBBS