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Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 01414 131852Z

70
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10 JUSE-00 NSAE-00

SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01

AID-05 IGA-01 SS-15 L-02 /072 W
---------- 017749
R 131800Z FEB 75
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO DEA WASHDC HDQTRS
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7061
AMEMBASSY CARACAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 1414

CARACAS FOR DEA

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR CO
SUBJ: GOC COMPLAINT REGARDING DEA OPERATIONS

REF: BOGOTA 1116
1. ON FEB 5 1975, THE DCM AND SAIC CALLED ON DAS CHEIF GENERAL MATALLANA WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF SIGNING A PROJECT AGREEMENT ON NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE. AFTER THE MAIN BUSINESS WAS ACCOMPLISHED, MATALLANA STATED THAT HE HAD A MATTER OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE TO BRING UP. HE STATED THAT HE WISHED TO PROTEST STRONGLY THE USG PRACTICE OF BRINGING DEA AGENTS TO COLOMBIA WITHOUT THE KNOWLEDGE OR PERMISSION OF THE GOC.

2. AT THE DCM'S INVITATION, THE SAIC RESPONDED TO THIS COMPLAINT INFORMING GEN MATALLANA THAT HE KNEW ABOUT THE CASE AND THAT THE SUBJECT WAS NOT A DEA AGENT AND THAT SAIC HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF HIS ACTIVITIES IN THIS COUNTRY.

3. MATALLANA RESPONDED THAT HE HAD ORDERED THE DEA AGENT EXPELLED FROM THE COUNTRY AS AN UNDESIRABLE, SAID HE GREATLY RESENTED THESE UNILATERAL ACTIVITIES, AND HAD TAKEN STEPS TO REMOVE THE AGENT'S CITIZENSHIP (APPARENTLY THE PERSON INVOLVED
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PAGE 02 BOGOTA 01414 131852Z

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

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4. THE SAIC AGAIN ATTEMPTED TO EXPLAIN THE SITUATION TO MATALLANA AND MATALLANA CLEARLY DID NOT ACCEPT THE EXPLANATION, POINTING OUT TO THE DCM AND SAIC THAT SUCH ACTIVITIES WERE AN AFFRONT TO COLOMBIAN SOVEREIGNTY AND WERE AN INDICATION TO HIM THAT THE USG MIGHT HAVE A NETWORK OF AGENTS IN THIS COUNTRY ABOUT WHICH THE GOC KNEW NOTHING. THIS TYPE OF ACTIVITY, HE EMPHASIZED, COULD JEOPARDIZE THE ENTIRE NARCOTICES INTERDICTION PROGRAM OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

5. THE EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT THE PERSON IN THIS CASE, WHILE NOT STRICTLY SPEAKING AS DEA AGENT, IS A CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT EMPLOYED BY THE MAIMI REGIONAL OFFICE AND IS IN COLOMBIA WITH ITS KNOWLEDGE AND PERMISSION. THE EMBASSY FURTHER UNDERSTANDS THAT THERE IS ANOTHER C.I. IN-COUNTRY WHO IF APPREHENDED BY POLICE MAY ALSO CLAIM TO BE A DEA AGENT WORKING UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE SAIC.

6. IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO OVER-ESTIMATE THE POTENTIAL HARM THAT THE ACTIVITIES OF THESE C.I.S COULD HAVE ON THE NARCOTICS PROGRAM IN COLOMBIA. IT IS ALSO DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND HOW MEN WHO ARE SUPPOSED TO BE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS IMMEDIATELY CLAIM THE PROTECTION OF DEA EMPLOYMENT AND A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE EMBASSY AT THE FIRST SIGN OF TROUBLE WITH GOC AUTHORITIES.

7. WE ASK THAT DEA/WASHINGTON INSTRUCT THE MIAMI REGIONAL OFFICE TO CEASE SENDING C.I.S INTO THIS COUNTRY WITHOUT THE PRIOR APPROAVAL OF THE SAIC. THE SAIC WILL COORDINATE THE APPROVAL PROCESS WITH THE EMBASSY. WE REQUEST THAT DEA/WASHINGTON CONFIRM THAT OUR REQUEST IS UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED TO.
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05 JUL 2006

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