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Message Text

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66
ACTION ARA-10

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

NSAE-00 SNM-02 SY-05 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03

OMB-01 PA-01 PRS-01 /052 W
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R 221616Z APR 75
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8244
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY QUITO

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DEPT PASS DEA HQ/WASH

CARACAS FOR DEA

QUITO/FOR DEA

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: SNAR CO
SUBJ: GOC REACTION TO NEW YORK TIMES (NICHOLAS GAGE) SERIES
ON DRUG TRAFFICKING

REF: STATE 091204

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: GOC ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LABLED
FIRST IN SERIES OF ARTICLES-- CARRIED HERE BY ASSOCIATED
PRESS -- AS QTE INEXACT AND PREJUDICIAL FOR THE COUNTRY UNQTE.
HE ALSO QUOTE BY ONE PRESS ACCOUNT AS ACCUSING
DEA OF DEVELOPING OPERATIONS HERE WITHOUT COORDINATING WITH
ALL OF THE CONCERNED COLOMBIAN ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, A
REFERENCE TO THE FEB INCIDENT AT NARE. END SUMMARY.

2. THE ACCOUNTS OF THE FIRST ARTICLE GAGE DRUG TRAFFIC SERIES
CARRIED LOCALLY FROM AP WIRE BY EL TIEMPO AND EL ESPECTADOR
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IN APRIL 22 AM EDITIONS. EL ESPECTADOR INTERVIEWED ASSISTANT

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ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR JUDICIAL POLICE MIGUEL SANCHEZ MENDEZ AND REPORTED HIS REACTION AS FOLLOWS: QTE IF IT IS CERTAIN THAT MR GONZALES (SAIC DEA BOGOTA) WAS QUOTE CORRECTLY... AS A FOREIGN NATIONAL AND AS AN OFFICIAL OF A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT, HE SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT (THIS INFORMATION) TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COLOMBIAN AUTHORITIES. UNQTE SANCHEZ MENDEZ ALSO REFERRED TO INCIDENT AT NARE SAYING, ACCORDING TO EL ESPECTADOR, QTE (GONZALES) HAS DEVELOPED ACTIVITIES WITHOUT COORDINATION WITH ALL THE COLOMBIAN ORGANIZATIONS CHARGED WITH COMBATTING DRUG TRAFFIC, AND THIS ATTITUDE WAS THE ORIGIN OF A SERIOUS CONFRONTATION BETWEEN OFFICIALS OF CUSTOMS AND DAS (DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SECURITY) AT NARE ... UNQTE

3. REFERRING TO GAGE'S CHARGES THAT COLOMBIAN AND OTHER LATING AMERICAN JUDGES ARE PAY-OFF PRONE IN DRUG CASES, SANCHEZ MENDEZ DEFENDED COLOMBIA'S RECORD IN NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT, BUT ADMITTED THAT SUSPECTED JUDICAL CORRUPTION WAS UNDER INVESTIGATION.

4. EL ESPECTADOR WENT ON TO QUOTE NATIONAL NARCOTICS COUNCIL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JORGE RESTREPO ON US-COLOMBIAN COOPERATION IN DRUG ENFORECEMENT. RESTREPO QUOTED AS EMPHASING PLANNED USIS NARCOTICS FILM (TO BE PRODUCED IN COLOMBIA) AS EXAMPLE OF HIGH ESTEEM IN WHICH US OFFICIALS HELD GOC ANTI-TRAFFICKING EFFORTS. DECON UPON RECEIPT.
VAKY

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Draft Date: 22 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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