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FM [REDACTED]

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SERIAL: (U) IIR [REDACTED] (b)(2)

COUNTRY: (U) COLOMBIA (CO).

//IPSP: (U) [REDACTED] (b)(2)

SUBJ: IIR [REDACTED] THREE LEADING CANDIDATES TO
BECOME NEXT MILITARY INTELLIGENCE CHIEF (U)
WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT
FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

DOI: (U) 990800; 990819.

REQS: (U) [REDACTED] (b)(2)

SOURCES: A. ~~(S)~~ [REDACTED]

(b)(1)

C. (U) [REDACTED]

(b)(2)

SUMMARY: ~~(S)~~ THREE SOON-TO-BE ARMY BRIGADIER GENERALS
ARE THE TOP CANDIDATES TO BECOME THE MILITARY'S NEXT
INTELLIGENCE DIRECTOR (D-2). ALL HAVE CONSIDERABLE
INTELLIGENCE EXPERIENCE. THE TOP OFFICER AMONG THE THREE
HAS BEEN THE TARGET OF A BASELESS NGO SMEAR CAMPAIGN.
TEXT: 1. ~~(S)~~ ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] MULTIPLE
INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP DISCUSSIONS AMONG THE 20 SOON-TO-BE
MILITARY ONE-STAR FLAG OFFICERS ATTENDING THE MILITARY
HIGH STUDIES COURSE ("CAEM"), TAUGHT AT THE COLOMBIAN WAR
COLLEGE, INDICATE THREE COLOMBIAN ARMY (COLAR) OFFICERS
ARE CURRENTLY THE FRONTRUNNERS TO BECOME THE NEXT
MILITARY FORCES INTELLIGENCE DIRECTOR (D-2). ALTHOUGH
THE CURRENT D-2, BRIGADIER GENERAL REINALDO
((CASTELLANOS)) TRUJILLO, IS WIDELY PERCEIVED TO HAVE
DONE A GOOD JOB, THE ONGOING COLAR FLAG-OFFICER SHORTAGE
WILL LIKELY RESULT IN HIS TRANSFER TO A HIGHER-LEVEL
ASSIGNMENT LATER THIS YEAR. ALL THREE OFFICERS HAVE
CONSIDERABLE INTELLIGENCE EXPERIENCE. THE BEST OF THE
THREE HAS BEEN THE TARGET OF A NGO SMEAR CAMPAIGN DATING
BACK 20 YEARS.

(b)(2)

2. ~~(S)~~ THE THREE COLAR COLONEL (PROMOTABLE) OFFICERS
VIEWED AS THE FRONTRUNNERS TO BECOME THE NEXT D-2 ARE:
JORGE ((PINEDA)) CARVAJAL; MARIO ((MONTROYA)) URIBE; JAIRO
DUVAN ((PINEDA)) NINO. PINEDA NINO AND MONTROYA ARE BOTH
CAVALRY OFFICERS, EACH OF WHOM HAS PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS
THE COLAR'S INTELLIGENCE DIRECTOR (E-2). COL PINEDA
CARVAJAL IS AN INTELLIGENCE OFFICER WHO, PRIOR TO
ATTENDING THE CAEM, COMMANDED THE COLAR'S 14TH BRIGADE,
LOCATED IN PUERTO BERRIO (ANTIOQUIA). EACH OFFICER IS
BELIEVED TO HAVE THE EXPERIENCE NECESSARY TO BECOME AN

EXCELLENT D-2. THE FINAL DECISION REGARDING WHO WILL BE NAMED THE NEXT D-2 WILL BE MADE IN LATE-990900/EARLY-991000. ALL 20 CAEM OFFICERS WILL COMPLETE THEIR STUDIES EARLY, ON 991015. HOWEVER, THEY WILL NOT BE PROMOTED UNTIL THE TRADITIONAL EARLY-DECEMBER CEREMONY.

3. ~~(S)~~ COLONEL **MONTOYA** IS THE MOST HIGHLY DECORATED OF THE THREE OFFICERS, AND IS ALSO THE MOST WIDELY RESPECTED. COL MONTOYA'S MULTIPLE SUCCESSFUL STINTS COMMANDING COMBAT UNITS LOCATED ALONG THE TROUBLESOME NORTHERN BORDER REGION WITH VENEZUELA (NORTE DE SANTANDER AND ARAUCA), ARE WIDELY KNOWN. ██████████ HAS OBSERVED THAT ALTHOUGH THE OTHER TWO OFFICERS BOTH HAVE OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL REPUTATIONS, THEY SIMPLY DO NOT COMPARE WITH THAT OF MONTOYA. MONTOYA IS WIDELY PERCEIVED TO BE A FAVORITE OF THE COLAR COMMANDER, GENERAL JORGE ENRIQUE ((MORA)) RANGEL.

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4. ~~(S)~~ EVIDENCE STRONGLY SUGGESTS THAT COL MONTOYA HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF A SMEAR CAMPAIGN BY THE BELGIUM-BASED "PAX CRISTI" HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP. LISTED IN THE NGO'S 1992 "EL TERRORISMO DE ESTADO EN COLOMBIA" ("STATE TERRORISM IN COLOMBIA"), THEN-LTC MONTOYA IS NAMED AS A MEMBER, FROM 1978-79, OF A SO-CALLED "PARAMILITARY STRUCTURE KNOWN AS THE AMERICAN ANTICOMMUNIST ALLIANCE" (ALIANZA AMERICANA ANTICOMUNISTA)--OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "TRIPLE A." CONTAINED IN ITS SIX SENTENCES OF UNCORROBORATED ALLEGATIONS, PAX CRISTI ACCUSES THE TRIPLE-A OF "DYNAMITING COMMUNICATIONS CENTERS, DEATH THREATS AGAINST MEMBERS OF POLITICAL OPPONENTS AND ASSASSINATING MEMBERS AND SYMPATHIZERS OF INSURGENT GROUPS." FURTHERMORE, THE REPORT CHARGES THAT THREE EX-MILITARY INTELLIGENCE AGENTS WHO WERE FORMER MEMBERS OF THE "CHARRY SOLANO" INTELLIGENCE AND COUNTERINTELLIGENCE BATTALION, INDICATED THAT MONTOYA WAS A MEMBER OF THE TRIPLE A, AND TOOK PART IN THE DYNAMITING. THE REPORT PROVIDED NO CORROBORATING EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THESE ALLEGATIONS.

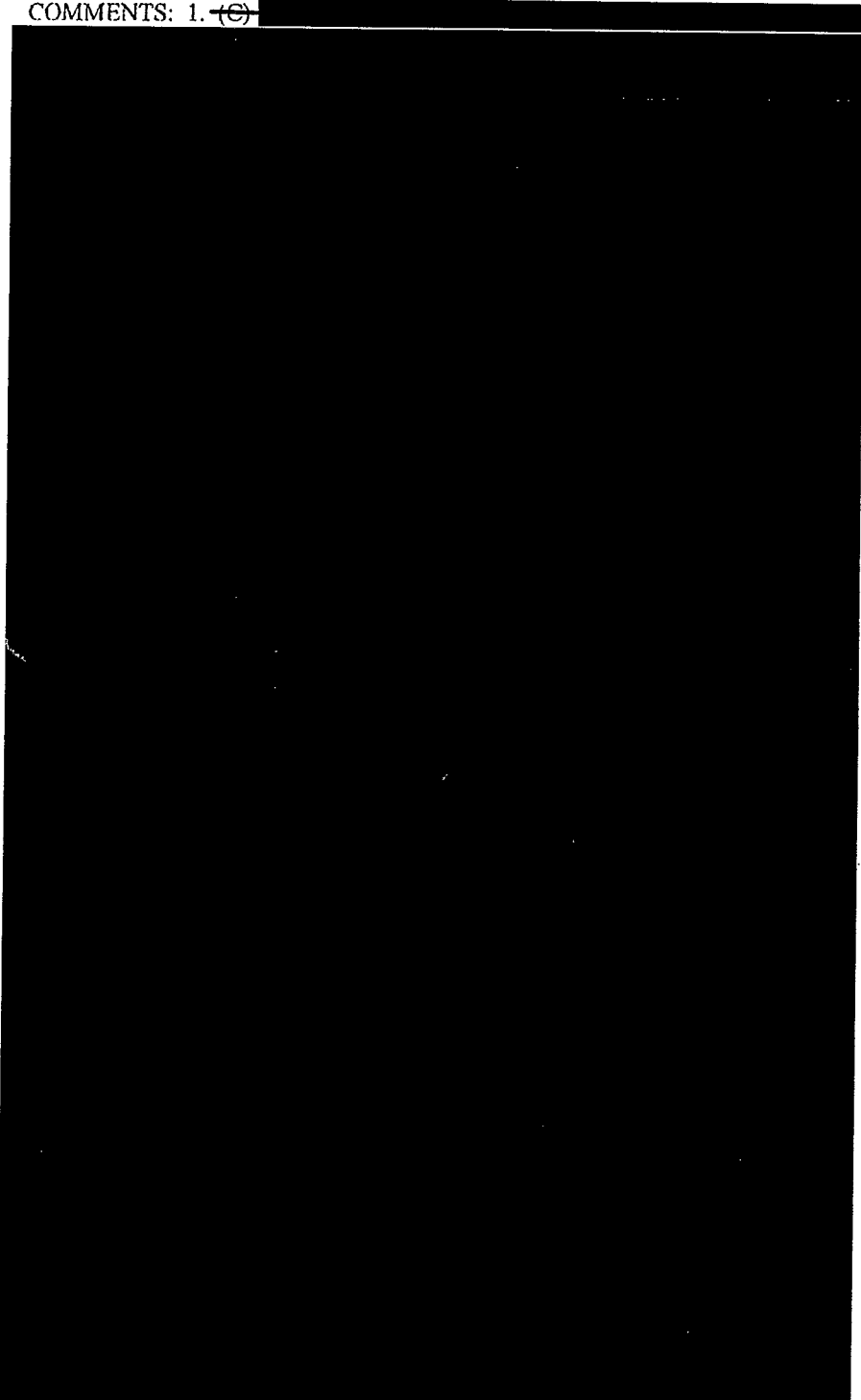
5. ~~(S)~~ COL PINEDA NINO'S MOST RECENT ASSIGNMENT WAS AS THE CHIEF OF THE WAR COLLEGE'S STRATEGY DEPARTMENT. HE ALSO HAS A VERY GOOD PROFESSIONAL REPUTATION, BUT IS WIDELY PERCEIVED TO BE MORE OF AN "ACADEMIC"--ESPECIALLY WHEN COMPARED TO MONTOYA--HIS CAVALRY COUNTERPART. PINEDA NINO ASSISTED GENERAL MORA IN FORMULATING THE REORGANIZATION PLAN THE COLAR IS CURRENTLY IMPLEMENTING.

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6. ~~(S)~~ COL PINEDA CARVAJAL IS WIDELY KNOWN AS THE COLAR'S FIRST "AUTHENTIC" MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OFFICER TO ATTEND THE CAEM. UNLIKE PINEDA NINO AND MONTOYA, PINEDA CARVAJAL IS AN INTELLIGENCE BRANCH

OFFICER. NEVERTHELESS, PINEDA CARVAJAL WAS WIDELY VIEWED AS HAVING DONE A GOOD JOB COMMANDING THE 14TH (INFANTRY) BRIGADE IN PUERTO BERRIO. PINEDA CARVAJAL WAS PREVIOUSLY ASSIGNED AS COLOMBIA'S DEFENSE ATTACHE TO BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA.

COMMENTS: 1. (S)



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