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	JUSE-00	L-03	ADS-00	NSAE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	PM-02
	P-01	SP-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	FMP-00	/052W

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 FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6458
 SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//CC/CV/SCJ3// IMMEDIATE
 INFO JOINTSTAFF WASHDC PRIORITY
 DIRONDCP WASHDC PRIORITY
 COMDT/COGARD WASHDC PRIORITY
 DEA WASHDC//OFL/OD// PRIORITY
 NSC WASHDC//CANAS// PRIORITY
 USCINCLANT NORFOLK VA PRIORITY
 HQUSAF WASHDC PRIORITY
 ANGRC ANDREWS AFB MD//CC// PRIORITY
 HQNORAD PETERSON AFB CO//J3//

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E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
 TAGS: SNAR, CO
 SUBJECT: BEYOND SUPPORT JUSTICE IV (SJIV)

REF: STATE 084858

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1. SECRET--ENTIRE TEXT.
2. WE, AND KEY FIGURES IN THE GOVERNMENT OF COLOMBIA (GOC), HAVE BEEN THINKING ON THE ISSUE OF WHERE WE GO BEYOND SJ-IV FOR SOME TIME AND HAVE DEVELOPED A PLAN TO MOVE SMOOTHLY INTO FUTURE STEADY STATE OPERATIONS. BECAUSE OF THE NATURE OF THE FIGHT IN COLOMBIA, WE HAVE DIFFICULTY FOCUSING SOLELY ON THE FUTURE OF AERIAL INTERDICTION AND AIR SOVEREIGNTY OUTSIDE OF THE CONTEXT OF OUR OVERALL COUNTRY TEAM (CT) STRATEGY. WE RECOMMEND

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J. OLSON
 DATE/CASE ID: 21 JAN 2003 200101981
 CLASSIFICATION: SECRET REASON: 1.6(6)
 DECLASSIFY AFTER: 29 MAR 2018

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EXPANDING THE SCOPE OF THIS EFFORT TO INCLUDE THE FULL ARRAY OF MILITARY SUPPORT FOR COUNTERDRUG (CD) OPERATIONS IN COLOMBIA WHICH GO FAR BEYOND SJ-IV. INDEED, WE ARE FOCUSING ON MILITARY OPERATION IN GENERAL AS AN ADJUNCT TO POLICE OPERATIONS; A NECESSARY ELEMENT TO CREATE THE CONDITION FOR ACHIEVEMENT OF OUR CD GOALS HERE.

3. WE ARE ENGAGED WITH THE GOC ON NUMEROUS CD AND NON CD ISSUES, MANY OF WHICH ARE NOT CONDUCIVE TO CONTINUING SMOOTH RELATIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, OUR COFFEE AND TEXTILE POLICIES COULD BE A SOURCE OF FUTURE FRICTION, AS COULD DRASTIC CUTS IN FMF AND ESF. THE SJIV CD EFFORT IS AT THE OTHER END OF THE SPECTRUM. IT HAS BEEN INCREASINGLY SUCCESSFUL AT BUILDING CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THIS INDUSTRIOUS, RELATIVELY WEALTHY NATION, WHICH IS ALREADY BUYING OR CONSIDERING CASH PURCHASES OF US MADE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, RADARS, AND HELICOPTERS. COOPERATION BETWEEN US AND COLOMBIA MILITARY PERSONNEL HAS GONE FAR TOWARD BUILDING VIABLE INSTITUTIONS

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SUPPORTIVE OF CONTINUING DEMOCRACY HERE, AS WELL AS CONTINUING FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH THE USG. COLOMBIA'S CD FORCES ARE ALREADY THE BEST IN THE REGION, AND WE MUST CONTINUE TO NURTURE THEIR VERY EFFECTIVE COUNTERNARCOTICS CAPABILITY. THE DRUG WAR IS ALL IMPORTANT TO COLOMBIA, AND THE GOC INTENDS TO CONTINUE THE EFFORT AT THE EXPENSE OF ITS TAXPAYERS.

4. WHILE WE DON'T HAVE A FORMAL DOCUMENT UPDATING OUR JOINT COMPREHENSIVE CD PLAN, WE DO HAVE A COLOMBIAN RADAR PLAN IN DRAFT WHICH SHOULD BE RELEASED BY THE END OF APRIL. COLOMBIAN OVERALL THINKING HAS MATURED IN FREQUENT DISCUSSIONS WITH US. THEY ARE INTENT ON WRESTING INFLUENCE FROM THE NARCOS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. THEY LAUNCHED OPERATION AGUILA IN LATE JULY 1992 TO COMPLEMENT SJIV AND TO MILITARILY ENGAGE THE NARCOS' USE OF CIVIL AVIATION. THE [REDACTED] B1

[REDACTED] PROJECT WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO OCCUR SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH OUR RADAR DEPLOYMENTS IN SJIV AND THE KICKOFF OF AGUILA, BUT DELAYS WERE CAUSED BY THE U.S. CONTRACTOR. THEY HAVE WORKED HARD TO IMPROVE THEIR TACTICAL REACTION CAPABILITY. WE SEE EVIDENCE THEY ARE READY TO COMMIT

[REDACTED]
n/a

[REDACTED]
n/a

MONEY TO DEVELOP NEW INITIATIVES. THEY ARE BUYING BLACKHAWKS. THEY HAVE ASKED FOR P&A DATA FOR PURCHASE OF MD-500'S AND UPGRADING OF THEIR AC-47'S. BOTH WILL BE CASH FMS CASES. THEY ARE PLANNING TO CAPITALIZE ON THE GREAT STRIDES IN TACTICAL CAPABILITY (WHICH WE PROVIDED) MADE IN THE SEARCH FOR PABLO ESCOBAR. THE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOC AND USG, AS EXEMPLIFIED IN THE ESCOBAR TASK FORCE, IS TREMENDOUSLY SUCCESSFUL.

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[REDACTED]
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POST-PABLO, THE GOC INTENDS TO EXPAND TASK FORCE OPERATIONS TO CALI AND THE NORTH COAST. CONTINUAL USG SUPPORT WILL BE CRITICAL TO SUCCESS IN SHUTTING DOWN NARCO OPERATIONS. OUR PLANNING FOR TRANSITION INTO THE FUTURE TAKES COLOMBIAN CAPABILITIES INTO ACCOUNT. OUTLINING OUR PLAN, WE BELIEVE, WILL ANSWER MOST OF THE QUESTIONS POSED IN REF.

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INFO LOG-00 ACDA-17 AID-01 AMAD-01 ARA-01 CIAE-00 CTME-00
C-01 OASY-00 OIGO-01 FBIE-00 TEDE-00 INR-00 IO-19
JUSE-00 L-03 ADS-00 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PM-02
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O 292305Z MAR 93
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6459
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//CC/CV/SCJ3// IMMEDIATE
INFO JOINTSTAFF WASHDC PRIORITY
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HQUSAF WASHDC PRIORITY
ANGRC ANDREWS AFB MD//CC// PRIORITY

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5. WITHIN THIS EXPANDED CONTEXT, AERIAL INTERDICTION AND

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ENFORCEMENT OF COLOMBIAN AIR SOVEREIGNTY IS A DEFINITE
AREA OF EMPHASIS AND FUNDING COMMITMENT FOR THE GOC.
THE FIRST EXTENSION OF SJIV, IN DECEMBER 1992, WAS TO
SHOW WHETHER THERE WAS MERIT TO DETECTION AND MONITORING
(D&M) OPERATIONS USING RADAR AND OVERHEAD PLATFORMS IN
COLOMBIA.

6. THE EXPANDED JOINT PLANNING ASSISTANCE TEAM (JPAT) IN
COLOMBIA, WITH 45 TDY MILITARY PERSONNEL, IN CONJUNCTION
WITH MOUNTING THE RADAR ON TOWERS AND INCREASED SOUTHCOM
OVERHEAD PLATFORM ALLOCATIONS, PROVED THE CONCEPT
VALID. DURING THE SECOND PHASE (JAN-MAR), OUR
EFFECTIVENESS AT ENSURING END GAMES ON ACTIONABLE TRACKS
INCREASED FROM AN AVERAGE OF 38 PERCENT TO ABOUT 60
PERCENT, AND THE OVERALL NUMBER OF TRACKS DECREASED
SIGNIFICANTLY. WITH INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION GATHERED
BY THESE RESOURCES, WE ALSO STIMULATED GROUND OPERATIONS
IN THE VALLE DEL CAUCA, SERIOUSLY DISRUPTING NARCO
OPERATIONS. IN TOTAL, COLOMBIAN FORCES WITH OUR SUPPORT
CAPTURED 14 AIRCRAFT, 1700 KILOS OF COCAINE AND BASE,
12,400 GALLONS OF PRECURSOR MATERIALS, AND DESTROYED
APPROXIMATELY 20 LABS, COSTING THE NARCOS WELL OVER USD
12 MILLION.

7. BUT THE REAL SUCCESS OF THESE OPERATION IN COLOMBIA
HAS BEEN INSTITUTION BUILDING. THE COLOMBIAN AIR FORCE
(FAC) AND ANTINARCOTICS POLICE (DAN) NOW WORK
SIDE-BY-SIDE IN THE CENTRO DE NACIONAL VIGILANCIA
(CNV). AN ARMY OFFICER WILL SOON BE INCLUDED. THIS WAS
NOT EVEN CONCEIVABLE SIX MONTHS AGO. TACTICAL
INTELLIGENCE SHARING BETWEEN THE MILITARY AND POLICE AND

[REDACTED]
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n/a

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 OURSELVES IN THE CNV IS NOW ROUTINE AND HAS RESULTED IN
 THE CAPTURE OF NUMEROUS AIRCRAFT. THE MINISTER OF
 DEFENSE (MOD) HAS ENDORSED AND PROMISED TO FIND WORK
 SPACE FOR THE NEXT EVOLUTION OF THIS COOPERATION--A
 COMBINED US/COLOMBIAN CD OPERATIONS PLANNING AND
 INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT CELL DUBBED THE COMBINED PLANNING
 GROUP (CPG)

8. OUR CT PLAN IS TO CONTINUE BUILDING THIS
 INSTITUTIONAL COOPERATION WHILE ENHANCING COLOMBIAN
 EQUIPMENT CAPABILITIES. OUR CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS TO
 THE END OF SJIV PROVIDES TWO MAJOR GOALS: (1) TO
 TRANSITION TO COLOMBIA-ONLY OPERATIONS, AS US MILITARY
 CD FORCES COMMENSURATELY DECLINE, AND (2) TO ENHANCE
 US/GOC JOINT CD OPERATIONS. THE TRANSITION GOAL IS
 PERHAPS MOST DIFFICULT. OUR SHORT TERM OBJECTIVES FOLLOW:

A.
 TO HELP ALLEVIATE THE MANPOWER SHORTFALLS OF THE AIR
 NATIONAL GUARD AT THE LETICIA AND ARARACUARA RADARS, WE
 ARE RESEARCHING THE POSSIBILITY OF COLOMBIA TAKING OVER
 AT LEAST 50 PERCENT OF THE POSITIONS. WHILE WE CAN MAKE
 NO PROMISES, WE ARE QUITE HOPEFUL THIS WILL COME TO
 FRUITION. OVER THE LONGER TERM, POST-SJIV, WE ENVISION
 THE COLOMBIANS WILL BE ABLE TO PICK UP EVEN MORE OF THE
 RESPONSIBILITY AS THEY GAIN EXPERIENCE IN MAINTAINING
 THE RADARS.

B.
 AS MENTIONED EARLIER, OUR CPG HAS BEEN CHARTERED TO
 CONDUCT CD OPERATIONS PLANNING AND INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT,

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 WORKING AS AN INTEGRATED TEAM WITH COLOMBIAN PLANNERS.
 WE MUST EXPLORE MANNING WITH SOUTHCOM, CONSIDERING THAT
 THIS CELL WILL HAVE TO BE MANNED WITH TDY MILITARY
 PERSONNEL, BUT AS COLOMBIAN PLANNING EXPERTISE
 INCREASES, US MANNING CAN BE REDUCED. WE ARE LOOKING AT

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 FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
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 INFO JOINTSTAFF WASHDC PRIORITY
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THREE OPTIONS:

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(1)
 FULL JPAT-LEVEL OPERATIONS WHICH ENABLES CONTINUED D&M,
 GROUND AND RIVERINE OPERATIONS AND PURSUIT OF VARIOUS
 STAFF INITIATIVES ENHANCING CD OPERATIONAL
 EFFECTIVENESS. THIS OPTION WILL INITIALLY REQUIRE 45
 PEOPLE FOR 90 DAY PERIODS.

(2)
 A REDUCED CELL FOCUSING ON D&M ONLY, WITH NO GROUND OR
 RIVERINE SUPPORT. THIS OPTION WILL TAKE 23 PEOPLE.

(3)

n/a

[REDACTED]

n/a

A REDUCED CELL WHICH FOCUSES ONLY ON GROUND AND RIVER OPERATIONS WITHOUT ANY D&M SUPPORT. THIS OPTION REQUIRES 17 PEOPLE.

C. NUMEROUS INITIATIVES ARE UNDERWAY TO ENHANCE JOINT COLOMBIAN CD OPERATIONS.

(1) OUR NEXT CONOPS AIMS TO CONTINUE PRESSURE ON THE NARCOS IN THE VALLE DEL CAUCA BY PROVIDING PLANNING ASSISTANCE AND INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT THROUGH THE CPG.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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(2) WE HAVE ALREADY APPROACHED COLOMBIAN MILITARY LEADERS WITH A CONCEPT OF DEVELOPING JOINT, FAST REACTION CD TEAMS USING FAC HELICOPTERS MATCHED WITH ARMY AND DAN GUN TEAMS. AS THIS CAPABILITY IS DEVELOPED, WE INTEND TO DO STRIKE AND DENIAL OPERATIONS IN LA GUAJIRA.

(3) WE ARE GOING TO GIVE MORE PRIORITY TO RIVERINE AND COASTAL OPERATIONS THROUGHOUT COLOMBIA, BUT PARTICULARLY FOCUSING ON LA GUAJIRA AND SAN ANDRES.

(4) WE MUST DILIGENTLY PURSUE RESOLUTION OF LEGAL AND POLITICAL IMPEDIMENTS TO OUR EFFECTIVENESS, E.G. CUSTOMS RELEASE OF FLIR TAPES TO THE GOC AND THE E-3 RIDER ISSUE.

(5) [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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DEVELOPED WE ARE CONTINUING TO WORK ON THE PROBLEM OF
CORRUPTION IN THE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM.

(6)
WE PROPOSE EXPLORING THE TRANSFER OF THE LETICIA AND
ARARACUARA RADARS TO COLOMBIA, PROVIDING CORE EXPERTISE
ON OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE AND A SUPPLY OF SPARE
PARTS FOR A YEAR. RIGHT NOW, THE GOC IS OPPOSED TO THE
IDEA OF INHERITING THESE OLD RADARS PERMANENTLY, BUT
THEY REMAIN A USEFUL DETERRENT TO THE NARCOS AND GIVE
THE COLOMBIAN OPERATIONAL EXPERIENCE. WITH OR WITHOUT
THESE RADARS, THEY INTEND TO PURCHASE THEIR OWN WITHIN
THE NEXT YEAR.

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(7)

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(8)
WE EXPECT AN COLOMBIAN DECISION ANY DAY ON THE PURCHASE
OF FIVE BLACKHAWKS BASED ON THE PRICE AND AVAILABILITY
DATA PROVIDED EARLIER. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THIS,
COLOMBIA HAS NIGHT VISION GOGGLE QUALIFIED INSTRUCTOR
PILOTS WHO ARE TRAINING NEW PILOTS IN NIGHT OPERATIONS,
AND WE PROPOSE HAVING THE USG SUPPLY MOBILE TRAINING
TEAMS FOR MORE FORMAL NVG TRAINING. THE RADARS AND NVG
CAPABILITIES PROMISE TO HELP RESOLVE SOME OF THE SERIOUS

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SHORTFALLS FACING IN NIGHT REACTION CAPABILITY.

(9)
THERE APPEARS TO BE NEW RESOLVE TO ATTACK CORRUPTION, AT
LEAST WHEN IT COMES TO THE ATTENTION OF POLICY MAKERS.
DURING SJIV, WE IDENTIFIED A DAN MAJOR IN CALI WHO WAS
SUPPORTING NARCO TRAFFICKING THROUGH THE AIRPORT. THE
PROBLEM STOPPED WITHIN A DAY AFTER THE AMBASSADOR SHARED
THE INFORMATION WITH THE MOD. COLOMBIAN AIRFORCE
OFFICIALS THEMSELVES SUGGESTED WE FILE FALSE INFORMATION
WITH OUR OVERFLIGHT CLEARANCE REQUESTS, SO THE AIR
TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM COULD NOT TIP THE NARCOS ABOUT
OUR CD OVERFLIGHTS. WE SIMILARLY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO
DISCIPLINE OR REMOVE TOWER CONTROLLERS IN CALI. WHEN WE

n/a
[REDACTED]

n/a

STARTED THE JANUARY PHASE OF SJIV, CALI WAS A VERITABLE SAFEHAVEN. AFTER A CONCENTRATED EFFORT ATTACKING CORRUPTION, WE CAPTURED AT LEAST THREE AIRPLANES AND TRAFFICKERS THERE IN THE LAST TWO MONTHS.

(10)

COLOMBIA HAS RESEARCHED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MANDATORY AIRPORT OF ENTRY (AOES) AND WANTS TO DO SO. THE HOLD UP AT THE MOMENT IS MANNING FOR THE OPERATION. RELATIVE TO ITS POPULATION, COLOMBIA HAS A CONSIDERABLE VOLUME OF TRAFFIC CROSSING ITS BORDERS DAILY, SO THE INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS AT THESE AIRPORTS WILL BE SUBSTANTIAL.

(11)

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ENTRY AND EXIT CORRIDORS HAVE SIMILARLY BEEN EXPLORED AND ARE A LONG TERM GOAL. THIS INITIATIVE WHEN COUPLED WITH AOES WILL PROVIDE THE LEGAL BASIS FOR ENGAGING NARCO AIRCRAFT IN FLIGHT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL AVIATION LAW. THE RADARS COMING ON LINE

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FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6462
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//CC/CV/SCJ3// IMMEDIATE
INFO JOINTSTAFF WASHDC PRIORITY
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COMDT/COGARD WASHDC PRIORITY
DEA WASHDC//OFL/OD// PRIORITY

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[REDACTED]
n/a

NSC WASHDC//CANAS// PRIORITY
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AND THESE LEGAL STEPS WILL ULTIMATELY BE THE TOOLS WITH

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WHICH COLOMBIA REGAINS SOVEREIGN CONTROL OF ITS AIRSPACE.

9. IN THE LONG TERM, THE COLOMBIAN MILITARY IS TRYING TO RESOLVE ITS INABILITY TO ATTACK NARCOS AT NIGHT AND IN REMOTE LOCATIONS.

(A)
THEY HAVE ASKED US TO CHECK AVAILABILITY OF D-MODEL OV-10'S WHICH ARE NVG COMPATIBLE AND FLY AS FAST AS THE TYPICAL NARCO AIRCRAFT. THEIR A-MODELS TOP OUT AT 170 KNOTS AND ARE FREQUENTLY OUT RUN BY THE NARCOS. THEY INTEND TO MAKE MODIFY THEIR A-37'S FOR NVG OPERATIONS AS WELL.

(B)
THEY HAVE ASKED MILGP TO DEVELOP A PROPOSAL FOR A LOW COST MODEL OF AN AC-130 GUNSHIP. THE ENVISIONED AIRCRAFT WILL HAVE FLIR AND MINIGUNS BUT NOT THE COSTLY HOWITZERS, ETC., ON U.S. MODELS.

(C)
THEY ARE IN THE PROCESS OF UPGRADING THEIR AC-47 GUNSHIPS WITH TURBOPROP ENGINES, EXTENDING THEIR LIFE AND PERFORMANCE SO THEY CAN GO AFTER THE NARCOS IN THEIR SAFEHAVENS, I.E., THE MOUNTAINOUS REGIONS.

(D)
ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE NOT MENTIONED ANYTHING ABOUT IT, A FLIR-EQUIPPED, TRACK TO GROUND PLATFORM OF THEIR OWN WOULD BE A USEFUL SUPPLEMENT TO [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
n/a

[REDACTED]
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[REDACTED] THE T-47 SYSTEM COULD PROVIDE THIS CAPABILITY.

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10. REFTTEL RAISES POINTED CONCERNS ABOUT COLOMBIAN ABILITY TO AFFORD THEIR PROPOSED PROGRAMS. THE GOC AND MILITARY LEADERS DO NOT SHARE DETAILED FUNDING DATA WITH US, BUT MOST OF THEIR PURCHASES ARE CASH. OUR PROGRAMS SUPPLY LESS THEN SEVEN PERCENT OF THEIR MILITARY BUDGET, AND AFTER LONG-TERM OBSERVATION, WE HAVE NO REASON TO DOUBT THEIR FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY OR THAT THEY HAVE CONSIDERED LIFE CYCLE COST--NOT JUST INITIAL PURCHASE FOR ANY OF THIS EQUIPMENT. THEY ARE CAREFUL NOT TO BROACH SUBJECTS THEY CANNOT AFFORD.

CRAIG

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[REDACTED]
n/a