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INFORMATION PAPER

6 January 1997

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1. PURPOSE: To inform the CNC about the credibility of Peruvian General Robles's allegations

2. SUMMARY: Retired Peruvian General Rodolfo Robles alleges that the Peruvian Army (EP) and National Intelligence Service (SIN) operate a death squad, known as La Colina. He also alleges that General Hernoza, Peru's CNC, and Vladimiro Montesinos, Peru's de-facto intelligence chief and national security advisor, are largely responsible for creating and directing La Colina.

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3. (U) BACKGROUND:

a. (U) According to Robles, La Colina was created in the early 1990s, during the height of the war against Sendero Luminoso (SL). He claims it is a joint SIN-Army intelligence operation, designed to carry the war to SL and its sympathizers. Its tactics include extra-judicial killings and torture. Robles claims further that La Colina executed 10 university students in 1992, in what is known as the La Cantuta massacre. He also suggests that La Colina now operates against opponents of the Fujimori administration.

b. General Hernoza and Vladimiro Montesinos have been President Fujimori's principal national security advisors since his election in 1990. Both played key roles in the war against Sendero. Montesinos, however, is viewed suspiciously, having been compared variously to such sinister figures as Rasputin, Darth Vader, Torquemada and Cardinal Richelieu. Robles's allegations are not the first to suggest Montesinos's involvement in executions and torture.

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