INQUIRE=DOC24D ITEM NO=00357726 ENVELOPE MCN = 93336/37836 TOR = 933362226CDSN = LGX929RTTCZYUW RUEKJCS4405 3362229--RUEALGX. ZNY **HEADER** R 022229Z DEC 93 FM DIA WASHINGTON DC INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC RUEACMC/CMC WASHINGTON DC RUFGAID/USEUCOM AIDES VAIHINGEN GE RUEKMDT/USDP CRISIS COORDINATION CENTER WASHDC RUFQBBA/US SURVEY SHAPE BE RHLBAAK/CDRUSARSO MAXI FT CLAYTON PM//SDIN-IDI// RHHJMCY/JICPAC HONOLULU HI RUWMBKA/12AINS DAVIS MONTHAN AFB AZ RUETIAQ/MPC FT GEORGE G MEADE MD RHCGSRB/CDRFORSCOM FT MCPHERSON GA//AFOP-OD// RUCBSAA/CINCUSACOM NORFOLK VA//J2// RUWSMXI/AMC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//IN// RUCQVAB/USCINCSOC INTEL OPS CEN MACDILL AFB FL RUEOFAA/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC//J2// RUFTAKC/UDITDUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE /SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC RUEATIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC RULKQAN/MARCORINTACT DET QUANTICO VA RUDMONI/ONI SUITLAND MD RULKNIS/DIRNAVCRIMINVSERV WASHINGTON DC//NAVATAC/22// RUFTAKA/UCIRF AUGSBURG GE RUEALGX/SAFE R 022107Z DEC 93

TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHINGTON DC
INFO RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCJ2/SCCG//
RUWMEGA/USCINCSO HOWARD AFB PM//J3-DDN//
RULSJGA/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC
RUANJTF/CJTF FOUR//J2//
RUWANGD/CJTF FIVE//J2//
RUEABNE/COGARD LO EPIC EL PASO TX
RUEBMRA/US CUSTOMS SERVICE//INTEL//
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CONTROLS

SECTION 01 OF 02

SERIAL: (U) IIR

/*************************************
COUNTRY: (U) COLOMBIA (CO).
SUBJ: IIR ANTI-NARCOTIC POLICE OPERATIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUILA (U)
WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT. NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED
- DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DOI: (U) 931116.
REQS: (U)
SOURCE:
SUMMARY: ANTI-NARCOTIC POLICE OPERATIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUILA FOCUS PRINCIPALLY ON SUPPORT TO THE SPECIAL POLICE POPPY SPRAYING COMMISSION
TEXT: 1. ANTI-NARCOTIC POLICE OPERATIONS IN THE. DEPARTMENT OF HUILA FOCUS PRINCIPALY ON SUPPORT TO THE SPECIAL POLICE POPPY SPRAYING COMMISSION
THE PERSONNEL ARE DESIGNATED AS DEPLOYABLE PERSONNEL ABOARD THE POLICE HELICOPTERS WHILE FLYING COMBAT AIR SUPPORT FOR THE TURBO THRUSH CROP SPRAYING AIRCRAFT WHEN SPRAYING OPERATIONS ARE CONDUCTED. EACH HELICOPTER CARRIES ANTI-NARCOTIC POLICE PERSONNEL IN ADDITION TO THE AIR CREW. THE DEPLOYED POLICE PERSONNEL ARE USED AS DOOR GUNNERS AS WELL AS GROUND ATTACK TROOPS IF THE SITUATION SO DEMANDS. POOR FLYING CONDITIONS OVER THE POPPY FIELDS ARE COMMON AND CONSTANTLY PLAQUE SPRAYING OPERATIONS.
2. THE DEPARTMENT OF HUILA IS THE

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MOST PRODUCTIVE POPPY CULTIVATION REGION OF COLOMBIA.
DEPARTMENTS OF TOLIMA AND CAUCA ARE ALSO HIGH PRODUCERS
OF POPPY PLANTS. THE LIMITED
NUMBER OF CROP SPRAYING AIRCRAFT DOES NOT ALLOW CONSTANT
PRESSURES TO BE BROUGHT TO BEAR AGAINST ALL CULTIVATION REGIONS AT ONCE WHICH IS REQUIRED TO ERRADICATE <u>POPPY</u>
CULTIVATION. 80 PER CENT OF COLOMBIAN
LATEX IS PRODUCED IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF TOLIMA, HUILA,
AND CAUCA.
3. THE ANTI-NARCOTICS POLICE PERSONNEL ARE ALSO
TASKED WITH PROVIDING PHYSICAL SECURITY TO THE MUNICIPAL
AIRPORT AND THE INSPECTION OF ARRIVING/DEPARTING
PASSENGERS AND CARGO, ONE OF THEIR MAIN TASK IS TO
PROVIDE PROTECTION TO THE POLICE HELICOPTERS AND TURBO-
THRUSH CROP SPRAYING AIRCRAFT WHICH ARE KEPT AT THE
AIRPORT.
CONTROL DODDY EDGADICATION COOLIND OPERATIONS ARE
4. POLICE POPPY ERRADICATION GROUND OPERATIONS ARE NOT COMMON BUT ARE PERIODICALLY CONDUCTED TARGETING THOSE
POPPY FIELDS WHICH ARE ACCESSIBLE USING VEHICULAR
SUPPORT.
THE ANTI-NARCOTIC
POLICE DON'T LIKE TO CONDUCT GROUND OPERATIONS WITHOUT HELICOPTER SUPPORT DUE TO THE REAL OR PERCEIVED GUERRILLA
THREAT. THE ANTI-NARCOTIC POLICE HAVE
CONDUCTED JOINT OPERATIONS WITH THE COLOMBIAN ARMY
STATIONED AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO IN THE
FUTURE. THE ARMY COMMANDERS ARE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THESE OPERATIONS BUT THE ENLISTED
PERSONNEL, PARTICULARLY THE DRAFTEES, ARE LESS THAT
SUPPORTIVE OF THESE OPERATIONS DUE TO THE GUERRILLA
THREAT.

PRIOR TO A SPRAYING MISSION, AN OPERATIONAL BRIEFING IS CONDUCTED WHERE DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS ARE MADE FOR THAT DAYS MISSION. THE TURBO THRUSH AND HELICOPTER PILOTS, THE COMMANDER OF THE SPRAYING COMMISSION, AND COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE ANTI-NARCOTIC UNIT ATTEND THE OPERATIONAL PLANNING MEETING.

6. DURING ACTUAL SPRAYING OPERATIONS,

THE TURBO THRUSH AIRCRAFT SWEEP A POPPY FIELD ONLY TWICE. EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT THE AIRCRAFT BEGIN RECEIVING SMALL ARMS FIRE FROM THE GROWERS GENERALLY ON THE THIRD PASS.

COMMENTS: 1. ______, MORE AIR RESOURCES ARE REQUIRED TO DO A MORE EFFICIENT JOB IN ERRADICATING <u>POPPY</u> CULTIVATIONS. EXTENSIVE <u>POPPY</u> CULTIVATION SITES EXIST AND ARE EXPANDING.

ADMIN PROJ: (U).

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COLL: (U) AA.

INSTR: (U) U.S.

PREP: (U)

ACQ: (U) COLOMBIA, NEIVA (931116). DISSEM: (U) FIELD: EMBASSY AT BOGOTA.

WARNING: (U) REPORT CLASSIFIED

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