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CDS

CDSN = CFS410 MCN = 95266/00185 TOR = 952660006

RTTSZYUW RUEKJCS7134 2660006-SSSS--RUEANSS.

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HEADER

R 230006Z SEP 95

FM DIA WASHINGTON DC

INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC

RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC

RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC

RUEACMC/CMC WASHINGTON DC

RHHJMGY/JICPAC HONOLULU HI

RUETIAQ/MPC FT GEORGE G MEADE MD

RUGBSAA/LANTCOM IDHS NORFOLK VA

RUWSMXI/USCINTRANS INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//J2-J//

RUCQVAB/USCINCSOC INTEL OPS CEN MACDILL AFB FL

RUEOFAA/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC//J2//

RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

RUDMQAN/MARCORINTACT DET QUANTICO VA

RUDMGRD/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC

RUDMONI/ONI WASHINGTON DC

RUDHNIS/DIRNAVCRIMINVSERV WASHINGTON DC//NAVATAC/22//

RHEFOCB/OC

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RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC

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FM [REDACTED]

TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHINGTON DC

INFO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//OCDEPS//

RUETIAA/DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE

RUEBWJA/DEPTJUSTICE WASHDC

RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC

RUANJTF/DIRJIATF EAST //J2//

RUWMEGA/USCINCSO HOWARD AFB PM//SCJ3-DDD//

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC//INL/ARA/AND//

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC

RUWGTCH/DIRJIATF WEST //J2//

RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCJ2//

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SERIAL: (U) [REDACTED]

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) COLOMBIA (CO).

SUBJ: IIR [REDACTED] COLOMBIAN ARMY OFFICER UNDER
INVESTIGATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES (U) (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT
FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) [REDACTED]

REQS: (U) [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
25X1, E.O.13526

SUMMARY: (S) COLOMBIAN ARMY LTC ((HINCAPIE)), FORMER
BATTALION COMMANDER IN NEIVA, IS UNDER INVESTIGATION BY
THE NEIVA PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE FOR MURDERING LOCAL
INDIGENTS. THE COLONEL CLAIMED THE DEATHS AS GUERRILLAS
KILLED IN CONFRONTATIONS WITH BATTALION TROOPS.

TEXT: 1. (S) COLOMBIAN ARMY LIEUTENANT COLONEL (LTC)
(FNU) ((HINCAPIE)) WAS THE FORMER COMMANDER OF NINTH
ARTILLERY BATTALION IN NEIVA//GEOCOORD: 0256N/07518W//.
THE BATTALION IS REFERRED TO AS THE "TENERIFE" BATTALION.
LTC HINCAPIE IS UNDER INVESTIGATION BY THE NEIVA FISCAL
(PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE) FOR MURDERING LOCAL INDIGENTS. HE
WAS RELIEVED OF HIS COMMAND IN THE SPRING OF THIS YEAR
(MAR-APR 95), AND IS UNDER "HOUSE ARREST" IN PEREIRA.
SEVEN NCO'S ARE ALSO IMPLICATED IN THE ALLEGED CRIME, AND
ARE CURRENTLY IN JAIL.

2. (S) THE COLONEL AND THE NCO'S WERE ALLEGEDLY
INVOLVED IN SEIZING LOCAL INDIGENTS, TAKING THEM OUT INTO
THE COUNTRYSIDE, AND KILLING THEM, CLAIMING THEM AS
GUERRILLAS KILLED IN ACTION AGAINST BATTALION TROOPS.
THE LTC AND NCO'S WERE TURNED IN BY AN UNNAMED INFORMANT.
AS OF LATE SEP 95, THE FISCAL WAS STILL IN THE
INVESTIGATORY STAGE OF THE LEGAL PROCESS, AND LTC
HINCAPIE AND THE NCO'S ARE GROWING FRUSTRATED BY THE SLOW

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PAGE OF THE PROCEEDINGS.

[REDACTED] IF TRUE, THE
ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THE LTC GO FAR BEYOND THE "TRAGIC BUT
UNAVOIDABLE CONSEQUENCES OF WAR" EXPLANATION OFTEN GIVEN
BY ARMY OFFICERS TO JUSTIFY THE LOSS OF INNOCENT CIVILIAN
LIVES IN THE ONGOING GUERRILLA CONFLICT. IN THIS CASE,
THE FISCAL IS AT LEAST INVESTIGATING THE CHARGES, THE
ARMY IS REPORTEDLY COOPERATING WITH THE INVESTIGATION,
AND THE LTC HAS BEEN RELIEVED OF HIS COMMAND.
APPARENTLY, HE WENT EVEN TOO FAR FOR THE COLOMBIAN ARMY
HIGH COMMAND, WHICH OFTEN BACKS ITS OPERATIONAL
COMMANDERS AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE CHARGES IN THE FACE
OF WHAT APPEARS TO BE COMPELLING EVIDENCE AGAINST THE
ACCUSED INDIVIDUALS.

2. (S) EMBASSY COMMENT.

//IPSP: (U) [REDACTED]

//COMSOBJ: (U) 431//

ADMIN

PROJ: (U)

INSTR: (U)

PREP: (U)

ACQ: (U)

DISSEM: (U)

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