SUMMARY: (U) TROOPS OF THE COLOMBIAN ARMY'S NINTH BRIGADE DISCOVERED AND DESTROYED AN OPIUM POPPY FIELD IN SOUTHERN HUILA. THERE WERE FOUR ARRESTS.
The Twenty-Sixth Infantry Battalion "Cacique Pigoanza" discovered an eight-hectare field of opium poppies on 910315. The battalion detained

The discovered field contained 55,000 plants, some 10,000 grown only for seeds. The prisoners indicated that they sold plant pressings to a man who came from Medellin (NFI).

3. That the same unit had found another cultivation near Algeciras on 910206. That one was owned by the II FARC front, two of whom were killed in the action.

Comments: 1. Opium poppies are grown in several other areas of the country. Guerrilla groups are always involved.

2. This is not the first indication that someone is growing opium poppies in Colombia.

ADMIN
PROJ: (U).
COLL: (U) AB.
INSTR: (U) U.S.
PREP: (U)
DISSEM: (U) FIELD: EMBASSY AT BOGOTA.
ACQ: (U) BOGOTA, COLOMBIA (910327).
WARNING: (U) REPORT CLASSIFIED