

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
n/a

Page: 1
RELEASED IN FULL

E26

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 00116 01 OF 02 042340Z
ACTION ARA-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AID-01	C-01	OASY-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00
	HA-09	H-01	INM-02	TEDE-00	INR-00	L-01	ADS-00
	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-01	PRS-01	P-01
	SNP-00	SP-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	/038W

-----1695BF 042342Z /38

P 042333Z JAN 94
 FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4990
 INFO DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC
 DEA WASHDC
 CIA WASHDC
 AMEMBASSY CARACAS
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
 AMEMBASSY LIMA
 AMEMBASSY QUITO
 USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

C ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 01 OF 02 BOGOTA 00116

STATE FOR ARA/AND, L/LEI,
 STATE PASS AID -- AA/LAC, LAC/SAM, LAC/DI
 JUSTICE FOR OIA, OAG
 USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
 TAGS: PGOV, KJUS, PINR, SNAR, CO
 SUBJECT: SECRET WITNESS LINKED TO VILLA ALZATE MISSING

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 02 BOGOTA 00116 01 OF 02 042340Z

REFS: BOGOTA 16464 AND PREVIOUS

1. (C) SUMMARY: LEADING BOGOTA DAILIES "EL TIEMPO" AND "EL ESPECTADOR" BOTH REPORTED JANUARY 4 THE DISAPPEARANCE LAST MAY OF A FORMER MEMBER OF THE ELITE POLICE UNIT (BLOQUE DE BUSQUEDA) THAT HUNTED DOWN AND ULTIMATELY KILLED PABLO ESCOBAR. THE EX-AGENT, JAIME RINCON LEZAMA, IS ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN A SECRET PAID WITNESS WHO WORKED FOR THE FORMER DELEGATE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR JUDICIAL POLICE AFFAIRS, GUILLERMO VILLA ALZATE. VILLA IS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
n/a

Page: 1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L. MILLS
 DATE/CASE ID: 27 AUG 2001 200004321

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

n/a

CURRENTLY UNDER INVESTIGATION BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE FOR ALLEGED LINKS WITH THE CALI CARTEL (SEE REFTELS). ALTHOUGH FAMILY MEMBERS ALLEGE THAT RINCON DISAPPEARED LAST MAY AFTER HAVING BEEN PAID 20 MILLION

PESOS, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE (PROCURADURIA) DENIED THAT THE INFORMANT WAS EVER ON ANY PAYROLL. PRESS REPORTS DREW NO DIRECT LINKAGES BETWEEN THE PROSECUTOR GENERAL'S (FISCALIA) DECISION TO INVESTIGATE AND THE CALI CARTEL, HOWEVER, MANY OBSERVERS WILL CONCLUDE THAT THE VALLE TRAFFICKERS ARE BEHIND THE DISAPPEARANCE. END SUMMARY.

2. (U) FAMILY MEMBERS OF FORMER MEDELLIN POLICE AGENT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 03 BOGOTA 00116 01 OF 02 042340Z
 JAIME RINCON LEZAMA, ALIAS "FERNANDO," MADE PUBLIC DECEMBER 31 HIS DISAPPEARANCE, ALONG WITH THAT OF HIS WIFE MARGOLY ROJAS, AND ALLEGED THAT HE WAS A PAID WITNESS WHO HAD BEEN PROVIDING EX-PROCURADOR VILLA ALZATE WITH INFORMATION ON THE IDENTITIES AND ACTIVITIES OF LOS PEPES WITHIN THE BLOQUE. (NOTE: LOS PEPES, AN ACRONYM FOR "THOSE PERSECUTED BY PABLO ESCOBAR," IS A SHADOWY PARAMILITARY GROUP DEDICATED TO THE EXTERMINATION OF THE DRUG CAPO AND HIS ASSOCIATES.) ACCORDING TO THE FAMILY'S REPORT, FERNANDO WAS A MEMBER OF THE BLOQUE IN MEDELLIN WHO HAD PROVIDED VILLA WITH DETAILED INSIDER INFORMATION AS TO THE PEPES IDENTITIES, ACTIVITIES AND MODUS OPERANDI. HE WAS LAST SEEN ALIVE IN BOGOTA ON MAY 12, JUST PRIOR TO A MEETING WITH VILLA IN WHICH THE TWO WERE SUPPOSED TO TRAVEL TO MEDELLIN TO FURTHER THE CORRUPTION INVESTIGATION THE THEN DELEGATE PROCURADOR WAS CONDUCTING INTO THE BLOQUE DE BUSQUEDA.

3. (U) ACCORDING TO THE PRESS REPORTS, THE FAMILY DID NOT IMMEDIATELY DENOUNCE HIS DISAPPEARANCE, ATTRIBUTING IT TO THE FACT THAT FERNANDO HAD TOLD THEM THAT HE WAS A PAID SECRET WITNESS IN THE EMPLOY OF THE PROCURADURIA. THE FAMILY CLAIMS THAT VILLA ALZATE PERSONALLY ASSURED THEM TELEPHONICALLY BEFORE THE MAY DISAPPEARANCE THAT FERNANDO HAD BEEN PAID 20 MILLION PESOS FOR THE INFORMATION HE HAD PROVIDED. SUSPICIONS THAT HE MIGHT NOT BE IN A WITNESS PROTECTION PROGRAM BEGAN TO SURFACE WHEN THE VILLA ALZATE WIRETAP SCANDAL BROKE IN OCTOBER (SEE REFTELS). IN A CONVERSATION WITH POLOFF JANUARY 4 A PROCURADURIA SPOKESPERSON CATEGORICALLY DENIED THE ASSERTION THAT

n/a

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
n/a

FERNANDO WAS A PAID INFORMANT, CLAIMING THAT THE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 04 BOGOTA 00116 01 OF 02 042340Z
INSTITUTION HAS NO SECRET WITNESS PROGRAM (SUCH AS THE ONE
RUN BY THE FISCALIA) AND THAT IF FERNANDO RECEIVED ANY
MONIES, IT COULD ONLY HAVE BEEN ILLEGALLY THROUGH VILLA
ALZATE PERSONALLY.

4. (C) COMMENT: AS A RESULT OF THIS DEVELOPMENT, BOTH
THE FISCALIA AND THE PROCURADURIA HAVE INITIATED NEW
INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE NARCO-LINKED EX-PROCURADOR VILLA
ALZATE, WHOSE EXACT WHEREABOUTS REMAIN UNCLEAR. IF, AS IS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NNNN

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 00116 02 OF 02 042341Z
ACTION ARA-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AID-01	C-01	OASY-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00
	HA-09	H-01	INM-02	TEDE-00	INR-00	L-01	ADS-00
	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-01	PRS-01	P-01
	SNP-00	SP-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	/038W

-----1695C2 042342Z /38

P 042333Z JAN 94
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4991
INFO DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC
DEA WASHDC
CIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BOGOTA 00116

STATE FOR ARA/AND, L/LEI,
STATE PASS AID -- AA/LAC, LAC/SAM, LAC/DI
JUSTICE FOR OIA, OAG

n/a
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
n/a

Page: 4

USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PGOV, KJUS, PINR, SNAR, CO

SUBJECT: SECRET WITNESS LINKED TO VILLA ALZATE MISSING

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 02 BOGOTA 00116 02 OF 02 042341Z

WIDELY SUSPECTED, VILLA ALZATE WAS ON THE CALI CARTEL'S PAYROLL, THE DISAPPEARANCE OF AN INFORMANT WHO WAS WILLING TO EXPOSE CALI-BASED "PEPE" ACTIVITY MAKES SENSE. ON THE OTHER HAND IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO DISCOUNT ALTOGETHER UNOFFICIAL POLICE PARTICIPATION IN HIS DISAPPEARANCE CONSIDERING THAT FERNANDO SUPPOSEDLY FINGERED OVER 10 OF HIS FORMER COLLEAGUES AS OPERATIVES OF LOS PEPES. REGARDLESS OF THE PERPETRATORS OF THE FORCED DISAPPEARANCE, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT FERNANDO AND HIS WIFE ARE STILL ALIVE. MEANWHILE, THIS LATEST WRINKLE AGAIN UNDERSCORES THE FACT THAT VILLA ALZATE WAS UNDOUBTEDLY INVOLVED IN HIGHLY IRREGULAR ACTIVITIES AND YET REMAINS NOT ONLY FREE, BUT UNLOCATED. BUSBY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NNNN

n/a
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Page: 4

UNCLASSIFIED