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ACTION ARA-01 ANHR-01 DODE-00 ADS-00 AID-01 AMAD-01 CIAE-00 LOG-00 . INFO INR-01 INRE-00 INM-01 H-01 HA-09 EB-01 DS-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 L-03 IO-19 LAB-04 SIL-01 P-01 RP-10 SCT-03 PM-01 PRS-01 PA-01 T-01 TRSE-00 STR-18 SR-01 SS-01 SP-01 SNP-01

R 312342Z OCT 91
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9890
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

USIE-00

/087W

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BOGOTA 16980

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR TAGS: PHUM, PGOV, CO

SUBJECT: THREE PATRIOTIC UNION ACTIVISTS MURDERED

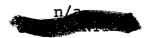
REFS: A) BOGOTA 14436 B) BOGOTA 15255 C) BOGOTA 16442

1. (U) THREE ACTIVISTS IN THE LEFTIST PATRIOTIC UNION PARTY (UP) IN THE SMALL CITY OF MESETAS, META DEPARTMENT, WERE KILLED OCTOBER 29 WHEN THE CAR IN WHICH



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THEY WERE RIDING WAS INTERCEPTED BY UNIDENTIFIED
GUNMEN. THE THREE UP ACTIVISTS WERE OFFICIALS OF THE
MESETAS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

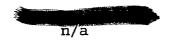
2. (U) THE DEAD WERE IDENTIFIED AS RAFAEL MOYA
HERNANDEZ, SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS IN MESETAS, AND TWO
WORKERS IN THE AGENCY, LUIS EDUARDO MARTINEZ AND JORGE
ELIAS SOSA RAMOS. MESETAS HAS BEEN THE SITE OF SEVERAL
ATTACKS AGAINST UP ACTIVISTS IN RECENT MONTHS. ON
SEPTEMBER 14, A UP OFFICIAL AND HIS FAMILY WERE MURDERED
BY PRESUMED RIGHTWING PARAMILITARIES (REFTEL A).



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE REVIEW AUTHORITY: WILLIAM E. LANDFAIR DATE/CASE ID: 30 OCT 2001 200003833

UNCLASSIFIED



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- 3. (U) THE MAYOR OF MESETAS, MIGUEL ANTONIO RUBIO, ALSO A UP MEMBER, SAID THAT ALL INDICATIONS POINT TO A CAMPAIGN TO EXTERMINATE THE UP IN META DEPARTMENT. RUBIO WAS HIMSELF A TARGET OF AN ATTACK LAST MONTH BUT ESCAPED UNHURT.
- 4. (C) COMMENT: THE MOST RECENT KILLINGS IN MESETAS, WHICH CAME JUST TWO DAYS AFTER THE UP'S EXPECTED POOR SHOWING IN NATIONAL CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS, IS FURTHER PROOF THAT THE PARTY'S POLITICAL IRRELEVANCE IS NOT SAVING IT FROM A VENGEFUL RIGHT, WHICH VIEWS IT AS THE LEGAL AND REACHABLE ARM OF FARC GUERRILLAS.
- 5. (C) AFTER THE LAST MESETAS KILLING, A TOP UP OFFICIAL IN BOGOTA, SPECULATED TO POLOFF THAT THE ATTACKS WERE CARRIED OUT BY PARAMILITARIES ASSOCIATED WITH NARCO-TAINTED EMERALD BARON VICTOR CARRANZA. THEY SEEM PRIME SUSPECTS IN THE LATEST MURDERS AS WELL. MESETAS MAYOR RUBIO, WHO SPOKE OF A

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CAMPAIGN OF EXTERMINATION AGAINST UP OFFICIALS IN THIS
ISOLATED REGION OF COLOMBIA, IS APPARENTLY NOT
EXAGGERATING. BUSBY



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