SUMMARY: REPORT PROVIDES BIOGRAPHICAL DATA ON COL. MONTOYA, DIRECTOR OF ARMY INTELLIGENCE SINCE JAN 98. PRIOR TO THAT, HE WAS BRIEFLY 15TH BRIGADE COMMANDER IN BOGOTA, AND DURING 1997 WAS MILITARY ATTACHÉ TO THE UK. HE MET WITH THE DIA DIRECTOR IN BOGOTA IN APR 98.

TEXT:

1. NAME OF COUNTRY (U) COLOMBIA
2. DATE OF INFORMATION (U) 971209-980600
3. DATE OF REPORT (U) 980626
4. NAME (U)
4.A. FULL NAME (U) MARIO (MONTOYA) URIBE
4.B. NAME BY WHICH INDIVIDUAL PREFERS TO BE ADDRESSED (U)
   (1) IN OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE (U) CORONEL MONTOYA
   (2) ORALLY AT OFFICIAL GATHERINGS (U) CORONEL MONTOYA, OR MARIO
4.C. FULL NAME IN NATIVE ALPHABET (U) MARIO ((MONTOYA)) URIBE
4.D. VARIANTS, ALIASES OR NICKNAMES (U) UNKNOWN
5. RANK (U)
5.A. ENGLISH LANGUAGE (U) COLONEL
5.B. NATIVE (U) CORONEL
6. DATE OF RANK (U) 941206
7. POSITION/BILLET (U)

7.A. PRESENT POSITION (U) DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE AND COUNTERINTELLIGENCE, COLOMBIAN ARMY
7.B. MILITARY ADDRESS (U) MINISTERIO DE DEFENSA NACIONAL, ESTADO MAYOR DEL EJERCITO, 3 PISO, CENTRO ADMINISTRATIVO NACIONAL (CAN), AVENIDA EL DORADO, BOGOTA, REPUBLICA DE COLOMBIA
7.C. DATE ASSUMED POSITION (U) 980116
7.D. SCHEDULED DATE OF DEPARTURE (U) UNDETERMINED, BUT AT LEAST ONE FULL YEAR SHOULD BE EXPECTED ASSUMING HE IS NOT REMOVED PREMATURELY, AS WAS THE CASE WITH HIS PREDECESSOR, OR A MAJOR SHAKEUP DOES NOT OCCUR AFTER THE NEW PRESIDENT IS SWORN IN ON 7 AUG 98. THERE ARE RUMORS COL MONTOYA MAY BE SELECTED FOR THE WAR COLLEGE SENIOR COURSE (CAEM), SINCE HIS YEAR GROUP IS IN THE RUNNING, WHICH WOULD MEAN HE WOULD GO TO THE CAEM IN JAN 99
AND BE PROMOTED TO BRIGADIER GENERAL IN DEC 99.
THAT WAS THE DESTINATION OF THE MAN WHO SERVED AS
E-2 FOR MOST OF 1997, COL REINALDO ((CASTELLANOS))
TRUJILLO.
7E. NAME OF PREDECESSOR (U) JAIME ERNESTO ((CANAL))
ALBAN
(1) PREDECESSOR’S RANK (U) BRIGADIER GENERAL
(2) PREDECESSOR’S BRANCH OF ARMED SERVICE (U)
COLAR
(3) DATE PREDECESSOR ASSIGNED (U) 971211
(4) DURATION OF PREDECESSOR'S ASSIGNMENT (U)
APPROXIMATELY ONE MONTH (TRANSFERRED TO A
BRIGADE COMMAND)
8. BRANCH OF ARMED SERVICE (U) COLAR
9. SPECIALTY/OTHER ORGANIZATIONS (U) CAVALRY
10. DATE OF BIRTH (U) 480429
11. PLACE OF BIRTH (U) BUGA, VALLE DEL CAUCA
    DEPARTMENT, COLOMBIA
12. SEX (U) MALE
13. HOME ADDRESS (U) (b)(6)
14. TELEPHONE NUMBER (U)
14A. HOME (U) (b)(6)
14B. WORK (U) (b)(6)
15. MARITAL STATUS (U) MARRIED
16. CITIZENSHIP (U) COLOMBIAN
17. ETHNIC GROUP (U) CAUCASIAN
18. NATIONALITY (U) COLOMBIAN
19. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION (U)
19A. NAME (U) CATHOLIC
19B. PRACTICING OR NON-PRACTICING (U) (b)(6)
20. TITLES, HONORIFICS (U) UNKNOWN
21. HIGH ORDER DECORATIONS (U)
   --ORDER OF MILITARY MERIT ANTONIO NARINO,
   CATEGORIES OF OFFICER AND KNIGHT COMMANDER
   --ORDER OF MILITARY MERIT JOSE MARIA CORDOBA,
   CATEGORIES OF GRAND OFFICER AND KNIGHT COMMANDER
   --MEDAL FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE IN PUBLIC ORDER
   FOR THE 1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD TIMES
   --MEDAL FOR TIME IN SERVICE OF 15 AND 20 YEARS
   --HONOR MEDAL FOR WORK COMPLETED IN THE
   MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JOSE DE CUCUTA
   --MERCEDES ABRIGO MEDAL
   --GRAND CROSS OF CIVIC MERIT FRANCISCO DE PAULO
   SANTANDER, REGULAR CATEGORY
   --CENTAURIO DE ORO AWARD, GOVERNMENT OF META
   DEPARTMENT
   --SAN JORGE MEDAL
   --RANGEL DE CUELLAR MEDAL, CUCUTA
   --COLOMBIAN DISTINCTIVE OPERATION RIBBON
22. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION (U)
22A. FACIAL HAIR (U) NONE
22B. TEETH (U) NATURAL
22C. HARD OF HEARING (U) NO
22D. GLASSES (U) NO, ONLY ON OCCASION FOR READING
22E. COLOR OF EYES (U) BROWN
22F. BALD (U) NO
22G. COLOR OF HAIR (U) BLACK, BUT GRAYING
22H. WRITING HAND (U) RIGHT
22I. POSTURE (U) ERECT
22J. HEIGHT (U) 70 INCHES
22K. WEIGHT (U) 170 POUNDS
22L. BUILD (U) MEDIUM; SUPERB PHYSICAL CONDITION
23. MEMBERSHIP IN ORGANIZATIONS (U) UNKNOWN
24. PREFERENCES (U) LIKES TO DRINK SCOTCH WHISKY, BUT NOT TO EXCESS
25. PUBLISHED WORKS (U) UNKNOWN
26. CIVIL EDUCATION (U) UNKNOWN
27. LANGUAGES (U) SPANISH - NATIVE; ENGLISH - FAIR
  (UNDERSTANDS BETTER THAN HE SPEAKS, EVEN THOUGH HE SPENT A YEAR IN ENGLAND; PREFERS TO CONVERSE IN SPANISH, BUT WILL INTERJECT SLANG PHRASES IN ENGLISH TO CUE THE LISTENER THAT HE HAS HAD THAT LANGUAGE EXPOSURE)
28. INTERNATIONAL TRAINING/TRAVEL (U) ATTENDED THE FOLLOWING INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSES--
   --PARTICIPATED IN A "COLLECTIVE COMMISSION" TO PANAMA (DATE AND NATURE OF VISIT UNKNOWN, BUT PROBABLY A CADET OR JUNIOR OFFICER COURSE AT THE U.S. ARMY SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS WHEN IT WAS AT FT GULICK, I.E., PRE-1984)
   --PARTICIPATED IN A "SPECIAL COMMISSION" TO MEXICO (DATE AND NATURE OF VISIT UNKNOWN)
   --GRADUATED FROM U.S. ARMY ARMOR ADVANCED COURSE, FT KNOX, KY, 1990
   --SERVED AS GUEST INSTRUCTOR AT THE U.S. ARMY SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS, FT BENNING, GA, TEACHING TACTICS TO THE COMMAND AND GENERAL STAFF COURSE, 9301-9401; ALSO ATTENDED AN UNSPECIFIED USAISR
29. PHOTO SUBMITTED (U) NO
30. DATE OF PHOTO (U) N/A
31. MILITARY SERVICE (U) (SINCE PROMOTION TO MAJOR)
   --AIDE TO COMMANDER, 14TH BRIGADE, PUERTO BERRIO (ANTIOQUIA) (MAJ)
   --ASSISTANT BRIGADE PERSONNEL OFFICER (B-1), 13TH BRIGADE, BOGOTA (MAJ)
   --DEPUTY COMMANDER AND EXECUTIVE OFFICER, 5TH MECHANIZED CAVALRY GROUP "GENERAL HERMOGENES MAZA," SAN JOSE DE CUCUTA (NORTE DE SANTANDER)
OF COURSE, WHEN BG CANAL (PROMOTED ON 11 DEC 97) STAYED IN THE JOB ONLY A MONTH, THERE WERE NO OTHER QUALIFIED BG'S WAITING IN THE WINGS; THUS, COL MONTOYA WAS TAPPED, PROBABLY BECAUSE HE WAS A NEWLY APPOINTED BRIGADE COMMANDER IN BOGOTA (AND HENCE READILY AVAILABLE) AND HAD SOME INTELLIGENCE EXPERIENCE WITHOUT BEING ONE OF THE 29TH BRIGADE "INSIDERS." IN FACT, EVEN THOUGH MONTOYA IS NOW THE B-2 AND RAMIREZ IS THE COLAR INSPECTOR GENERAL AND DESPITE THE FACT THERE IS NO EVIDENT PERSONAL ANIMOSITY BETWEEN THE TWO, THEY PRETTY MUCH STAY OUT OF EACH OTHER'S WAY.