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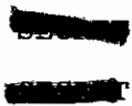


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ACTION INM-02

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AID-01	ARA-01	A-01	CA-02	CCO-00
	CTME-00	C-01	OASY-00	DS-00	OIGO-01	FAAE-00	FBIE-00
	FBO-01	HA-09	H-01	IMMC-01	INRE-00	INR-01	L-03
	ADS-00	M-01	NSAE-00	OCS-06	OMB-01	OPR-01	PA-01
	PM-02	PRS-01	P-01	SCT-03	SNP-00	SP-00	SR-00
	TRSE-00	T-01	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01	/061W	

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O 012314Z FEB 93  
 FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4597  
 INFO USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM  
 DEA WASHDC  
 DEPTJUSTICE WASHDC  
 AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
 AMEMBASSY LIMA  
 AMEMBASSY QUITO  
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
 AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA  
 AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
 AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
 DIRONDCP WASHDC  
 JOINTSTAFF WASHDC//CNOD//  
 NSC WASHDC  
 DIA WASHDC//CN//  
 CIA WASHDC  
 USCINCLANT NORFOLK VA



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NSC FOR AMBASSADOR GILLESPIE  
 STATE FOR INM/LEVITSKY, ARA/ARONSON, ARA/AND, AND  
 DS/DSS/ITA, DS/I/CT  
 ONDCP FOR GOVERNOR MARTINEZ  
 DEA WASHDC FOR OF, OFL, DO, AO, AX, OC, NK

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR  
 TAGS: ASEC, PTER, PGOV, SNAR, AMGT, CO  
 SUBJECT: ESCOBAR FAMILY TARGET OF MEDELLIN BOMBINGS

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REFS: A) BOGOTA 859; B) BOGOTA 01530

1. (U) ACCORDING TO NEWS REPORTS TWO CAR BOMBS EXPLODED IN FRONT OF MEDELLIN APARTMENT BUILDINGS HOUSING FAMILY MEMBERS OF DRUG BARON PABLO ESCOBAR EARLY MORNING JANUARY 31. NO ONE WAS KILLED AND ONLY MINOR INJURIES WERE REPORTED IN THE TWO BLASTS, ONE ESTIMATED AT 100 KILOS OF DYNAMITE, THE OTHER AT 80. THE EXPLOSIONS IN THE EXCLUSIVE EL POBLADO RESIDENTIAL AREA DAMAGED BUILDINGS VARIOUSLY HOUSING ESCOBAR'S WIFE AND TWO CHILDREN, HIS SISTER, AND HIS MOTHER. THE TWO BOMBS EXPLODED WITHIN TWO BLOCKS OF ONE ANOTHER AT ABOUT 12:30 AM.

2. (U) THE PRESS ALSO REPORTS THAT UNIDENTIFIED MEN DYNAMITED THE FINCA (WEEKEND COUNTRY RETREAT) OF ESCOBAR'S MOTHER LATER THE SAME DAY. FIVE MEN APPROACHED THE FINCA AND ORDERED THE LONE CARETAKER OUT BEFORE BLOWING UP THE HOUSE WITH DYNAMITE

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CHARGES. THE FINCA WAS LOCATED IN THE EL PENOL AREA, ABOUT 62 KILOMETERS FROM MEDELLIN AND A FORMER VACATION RETREAT FOR MEDELLIN TRAFFICKERS.

3. (C) COMMENT: THESE ATTACKS ARE ALMOST CERTAINLY RELATED, PERHAPS CARRIED OUT BY MEMBERS OF THE GALLEANO-MONCADA ORGANIZATION RETALIATING FOR ESCOBAR'S MURDER OF THE TWO FORMER TRAFFICKING COLLEAGUES. BUT THERE ARE MANY TRAFFICKERS IN MEDELLIN AND CALI WHO WOULD LIKE TO SEE ESCOBAR OUT OF THE PICTURE. BY TARGETTING ESCOBAR'S FAMILY THEY MAY HOPE TO PROVOKE HIM INTO AN ESCALATING FEUD THAT COULD RAISE ESCOBAR'S PROFILE AND MAKE HIM MORE LIKELY TO BE FOUND, EITHER BY HIS CRIMINAL ENEMIES OR THE GOVERNMENT. GIVEN THE RECENT ESCOBAR-RELATED CAR BOMBINGS, ESCOBAR'S ENEMIES COULD ALSO PLANT BOMBS AND BLAME ESCOBAR, PUTTING ADDITIONAL PRESSURE ON ESCOBAR AS WELL AS ON THE GOC TO FIND HIM.

4. (C) OTHER POSSIBILITIES BEHIND THE ATTACKS COULD INCLUDE ROGUE POLICEMEN TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE RASH OF BOMBINGS TO GIVE ESCOBAR A TASTE OF HIS OWN MEDICINE, OR EVEN ESCOBAR HIMSELF. IT SEEMS UNUSUAL NO ONE WAS SERIOUSLY INJURED, EVEN GIVEN THE LATE HOUR, AND ESCOBAR HAS ALREADY SENT A LETTER (SEPTTEL)

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TO LOCAL NEWSMEDIA POINTING TO THE BOMBINGS AS  
EVIDENCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS BY THE POLICE.  
BUSBY

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