UNCLASSIFIED

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Action ARA-01

Info log-00 acda-10 acde-00 inlb-01 aid-00 acq-01 inl-01
oasy-00 srpp-00 ds-00 eb-00 oigo-01 tebe-00 inr-00
l-01 ads-00 dsc-00 drl-09 /02SW

R 172211Z JAN 97
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4079
INFO DEA WASHDC
NDIC JOHNSTOWN PA
SECD TECH WASHDC//OCDEPS/
DIR NSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD
FBI WASHDC
DIA WASHDC
CIA WASHDC
DIOR DCP WASHDC
USCINCOS QUARRY HEIGHTS FM
NSC WASHDC
USIA WASHDC 1212
DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC
SECDEF WASHDC
DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC

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Southcom also for polad
DEA for of, opf, OC, AX
Justice for crm, Warren, richard and ndds/van vliet
FBI for cid/irs/IPU2
USIA for AR, I/GAR
Treasury for fincen

E.O. 12958: Decl: 1/17/02
Tags: prel, pgov, snar, pinr, KJUS, KCRM, CO
Subject: Police general montenegro to head das

Current class:  

United states department of state
Review authority: norman M. Bouton
Date/Case ID: 28 OCT 2002 200104364

Unclassified
1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY POL/ECONOFF PEG WILLINGHAM. REASON
1.5(D).

2. (C) COLOMBIAN NATIONAL POLICE (CNP) COMMANDER GENERAL ROSSO
JOSE SERRANO TELEPHONED AMBASSADOR THE AFTERNOON OF JANUARY 17 TO
SAY THAT PRESIDENT SAMPER HAD DECIDED TO NAME CNP DEPUTY
COMMANDER MAJOR GENERAL LUIS ENRIQUE MONTENEGRO RINCO AS THE NEW
CHIEF OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT OF SECURITY (DAS -- ROUGH
EQUIVALENT OF THE FBI). SERRANO SAID THE DECISION WOULD BE
ANNOUNCED PUBLICLY LATER THAT AFTERNOON.

3. (C) DEPARTING DAS DIRECTOR JAIME CABRERA BEDOYA, A FORMER
VICE MINISTER OF JUSTICE, HAD LASTED ONLY SIX MONTHS ON THE JOB,
HAVING BEEN NAMED TO REPLACE THE [REDACTED] MARCO
TULIO GUTIERREZ.

4. (C) SERRANO EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH MONTENEGRO'S
APPOINTMENT, SAYING THAT WHILE HE REGRETTED LOSING HIS RIGHT HAND
MAN, HE WAS HAPPY TO SEE A POLICE GENERAL RUNNING THE DAS.
SERRANO DECLARED THAT THE CNP AND DAS WOULD NOW BE ALLIES

5. (C) SERRANO SAID HE WOULD MAKE MAJOR GENERAL LUIS ALBERTO
PULIDO BARRIENTOS HIS DEPUTY TO REPLACE MONTENEGRO, AND WOULD
BRING BACK BRIGADIER GENERAL FELIX GALLARDO ANGARITA FROM THE
COLOMBIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON TO HELP OUT DURING THE
TRANSITION.

6. (C) COMMENT: THE CNP HAS LOST AN ABLE AND GUNG-HO DEPUTY IN
MONTENEGRO, WHO OFTEN SPENT HIS TIME IN THE FIELD, DRESSED IN
FATIGUES, DIRECTING POLICE RAIDS WITH GUSTO AND SKILL. PULIDO
WILL BE NEITHER AS FLAMBOYANT NOR HANDS-ON AS MONTENEGRO WAS.
ON THE OTHER HAND, PULIDO, UNTIL NOW INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE CNP,
WILL BRING INTELLIGENT AND MANAGERIAL SKILLS (HIS FORTE) TO THE
JOB. SERRANO NOW HAS AN ALLY IN DAS, SOMETHING HE HAD LACED UP
TO NOW DURING HIS TENURE AS CHIEF OF THE CNP. THIS APPOINTMENT
SPEAKS VOLUMES ABOUT THE OBVIOUS PRESTIGE ENJOYED BY SERRANO AT
THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT.