

PTQ4487

RELEASED IN PART
B3, INA, B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

CONFIDENTIAL

PTQ4487

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 13544 01 OF 04 051928Z
ACTION INL-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	ACDE-00	AID-00	AMAD-01	ARA-01	SMEC-00
	OASY-00	DOEE-00	SRPP-00	EB-01	EUR-01	INLB-01	H-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	L-01	ADS-00	M-00	OIC-02
	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-00	SP-00	SS-00
	STR-01	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	PMB-00	PRME-01	DRL-09
	G-00	/041W					

-----F3C43F 051928Z /38

R 051914Z OCT 95
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3679
INFO DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE
NDIC JOHNSTOWN PA
SECDEF WASHDC//OCDEPS//
FBI WASHDC
NSC WASHDC
SECDEF WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BONN
RUEHZPAMEMBASSY PANAMA 5451
DEA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
DIA WASHDC
CIA WASHDC
DEPTJUSTICE WASHDC
DIRONDCP WASHDC
AMEMBASSY LIMA

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BOGOTA 13544 01 OF 04 051928Z
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
AMEMBASSY QUITO

UNCLASSIFIED

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 04 BOGOTA 013544

STATE FOR INL; ARA/AND; DRL, SHATTUCK
NSC FOR RICHARD FEINBERG
ONDCP FOR RICH PORTER
SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD
DEA FOR OF, OFL, AO, AX
FBI FOR DIV. 6

E.O. 12356: 10/4/2015
TAGS: PHUM, PGOV, PINR, PREL, CO
SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH RETIRED COLONEL
ALFONSO PLAZAS VEGA

REFS: A) BOGOTA 8063 B) BOGOTA 8858 C) BOGOTA
10524 D) BOGOTA 10846

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

SUMMARY

2. EMBOFFS MET ON SEPTEMBER 14 WITH RETIRED COLONEL
ALFONSO PLAZAS, WHO UNSUCCESSFULLY WAS PROPOSED FIRST
AS COLOMBIAN CONSUL GENERAL TO HAMBURG AND LATER TO
SAN FRANCISCO. DUE TO ALLEGATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS
VIOLATIONS, THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT AND LATER THE USG
PRESSED THE GOC TO WITHDRAW THE APPOINTMENTS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BOGOTA 13544 01 OF 04 051928Z
PLAZAS DENIED THE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST HIM, DENOUNCING
A PLOT AGAINST HIM AND OTHER MILITARY OFFICERS BY
FORMER M-19 GUERRILLAS THAT SPREAD SLANDEROUS AND
UNFOUNDED ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THEM. PLAZAS SAID THAT
AS A REWARD FOR POLITICAL SUPPORT, SAMPER PROMISED
HIM A CONSULATE.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE USG TOOK NO POSITION ON THE

B1, B3

UNCLASSIFIED

VERACITY OF THE CHARGES AGAINST HIM, AND THAT HE SHOULD GET AN OFFICIAL EXPLANATION FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF HIS NOMINATION TO SAN FRANCISCO FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.

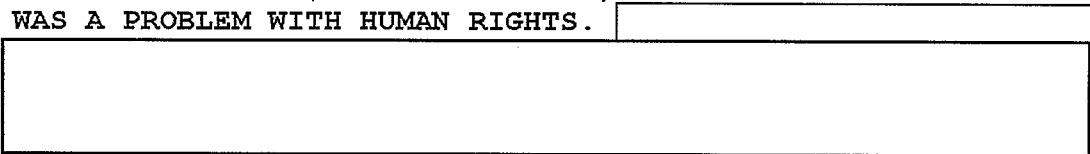
TWO CONSULAR APPOINTMENTS DENIED

3. ON SEPTEMBER 14, EMBOFFS MET WITH RETIRED COLOMBIAN ARMY COLONEL ALFONSO PLAZAS VEGA (BORN JUNE 21, 1944) AT HIS REQUEST. REFTELS REPORTED THAT PLAZAS WAS OFFERED THE COLOMBIAN CONSULATE IN HAMBURG UNTIL THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT PRESSURED THE GOC INTO WITHDRAWING THE APPOINTMENT DUE TO HUMAN RIGHTS ALLEGATIONS AGAINST HIM. PLAZAS THEN WAS OFFERED THE CONSULATE IN SAN FRANCISCO, AND THE USG AS WELL PUT PRESSURE ON THE GOC TO WITHDRAW THE NOMINATION. PLAZAS WANTED TO MEET WITH EMBOFFS TO EXPLAIN HIS POSITION AND TO SEE WHAT HIS "STATUS" WAS WITH THE USG.

4. EMBOFFS EXPLAINED THAT THE DECISION TO WITHDRAW
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 BOGOTA 13544 01 OF 04 051928Z
HIS NOMINATION TO HEAD THE CONSULATE IN SAN FRANCISCO WAS MADE BY THE GOC, AND THAT HE SHOULD ASK FOR AN EXPLANATION FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. WE DID TELL HIM THAT SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS ALLEGATIONS AGAINST HIM MADE ACCEPTANCE OF HIS DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS PROBLEMATIC. PLAZAS RESPONDED THAT HE HAD NOT YET RECEIVED OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT HIS NOMINATION HAD BEEN WITHDRAWN, AND THAT HE WAS STILL LISTED ON THE ROLLS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AS AN UNPAID EMPLOYEE UNTIL NOVEMBER, THE TIME BY WHICH HE WAS TO ASSUME HIS CONSULAR POST. WHILE HE KNEW THAT HE WOULD NOT NOW GET THE APPOINTMENT, HE NOTED THAT THE ONLY WORD HE RECEIVED WAS FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, MARCELA OCAMPO, WHO TOLD HIM THERE WAS A PROBLEM WITH HUMAN RIGHTS.



B1

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNPTQ4488

CONFIDENTIAL PTQ4488

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 13544 02 OF 04 051928Z
ACTION INL-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	ACDE-00	AID-00	AMAD-01	ARA-01	SMEC-00
	OASY-00	DOEE-00	SRPP-00	EB-01	EUR-01	INLB-01	H-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	L-01	ADS-00	M-00	OIC-02
	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-00	SP-00	SS-00
	STR-01	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	PMB-00	PRME-01	DRL-09
	G-00	/041W					

-----F3C445 051929Z /38

R 051914Z OCT 95
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3680
INFO DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE
NDIC JOHNSTOWN PA
SECDEF WASHDC//OCDEPS//
FBI WASHDC
NSC WASHDC
SECDEF WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BONN
RUEHZPAMEMBASSY PANAMA 5452

UNCLASSIFIED

DEA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
DIA WASHDC
CIA WASHDC
DEPTJUSTICE WASHDC
DIRONDCP WASHDC
AMEMBASSY LIMA

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BOGOTA 13544 02 OF 04 051928Z
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
AMEMBASSY QUITO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 04 BOGOTA 013544

STATE FOR INL; ARA/AND; DRL, SHATTUCK
NSC FOR RICHARD FEINBERG
ONDCP FOR RICH PORTER
SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD
DEA FOR OF, OFL, AO, AX
FBI FOR DIV. 6

E.O. 12356: 10/4/2015
TAGS: PHUM, PGOV, PINR, PREL, CO
SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH RETIRED COLONEL
ALFONSO PLAZAS VEGA

SOILED HONOR AND SLANDEROUS ALLEGATIONS

B1

5. PLAZAS SAID THAT IT WAS GROSSLY UNFAIR FOR HIM TO
HAVE HIS HONOR BESMIRCHED AND HIS APPOINTMENTS
DERAILED BY UNFOUNDED ALLEGATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS
VIOLATIONS MADE BY GUERRILLA SYMPATHIZERS. EMBOFF
ASKED PLAZAS ABOUT THE ALLEGATIONS MADE AGAINST HIM
IN THE BOOK, "STATE TERRORISM IN COLOMBIA," WRITTEN
BY THE DUTCH-BASED HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP, PAX CHRISTI,
AND OTHERS. (NOTE: THE BOOK NAMES FOUR SPECIFIC

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

CHARGES AGAINST PLAZAS VEGA: 1) THAT IN 1981-2,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BOGOTA 13544 02 OF 04 051928Z
PLAZAS HELPED FORM AND DIRECT A PARAMILITARY GROUP,
MAS, IN COLOMBIA'S EASTERN PLAINS, IN CONJUNCTION
WITH MEDELLIN CARTEL LEADERS; 2) THAT IN 1985, WHILE
COMMANDER OF THE CAVALRY SCHOOL IN BOGOTA, PLAZAS
SPONSORED ANOTHER PARAMILITARY GROUP; 3) THAT
PLAZAS, WHO COMMANDED THE ARMORED VEHICLES USED IN
THE ASSAULT ON THE PALACE OF JUSTICE IN NOVEMBER,
1985, WHICH WAS HELD BY M-19 GUERRILLAS, HAD ORDERED
THE DISAPPEARANCE OF M-19 MILITANT IRMA FRANCO
PINEDA, WHO HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE SEIZURE OF THE
BUILDING AND HAD APPARENTLY SURVIVED THE ARMY'S
ASSAULT; 4) THAT ON AUGUST 15, 1986, PLAZAS ORDERED
THE ARREST OF ALVARO FALLA, WHO DROWNED UNDER
SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES. ANOTHER BOOK, "THE WALK IN
THE FOG," ACCUSES PLAZAS OF ORDERING THE
DISAPPEARANCE OF ANOTHER WOMAN, GLORIA ANZOLA, DURING
THE ASSAULT ON THE JUSTICE PALACE. END NOTE).

6. PLAZAS REPLIED THAT HE HAD NEVER HAD ANY CHARGES
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS LODGED AGAINST HIM AND
HAD NEVER EVEN BEEN INVESTIGATED. HE SWORE THAT HE
HAD NEVER HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH PARAMILITARY
GROUPS. WITH REGARD TO THE STORMING OF THE JUSTICE
PALACE, HE RELATED HOW HE COMMANDED THE FOUR ARMORED
VEHICLES THAT SPEARHEADED THE ASSAULT ON THE PALACE.
THE VEHICLES WERE NEEDED TO BREAK OPEN THE HEAVY
DOORS OF THE PALACE TO ALLOW THE INFANTRY AND POLICE
TO ENTER WITHOUT EXCESSIVE LOSSES. HE SAID THAT HIS
MEN FROM THE CAVALRY SCHOOL WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR
CLEARING THE FIRST TWO FLOORS, THE ARTILLERY SCHOOL
WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE THIRD FLOOR, AND THE POLICE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 BOGOTA 13544 02 OF 04 051928Z
-- INSERTED ON THE ROOF FROM HELICOPTERS -- WERE
RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FOURTH FLOOR. HE CONTINUED THAT
THE 48 M-19 GUERRILLAS, WHO WERE THE CREAM OF THE
M-19'S FIGHTERS, HELD 244 HOSTAGES AND FOUGHT
BITTERLY TO THE END, KILLING A NUMBER OF HOSTAGES.
PLAZAS OPINED THAT THE M-19 HAD BEEN INDUCED TO
ASSAULT THE PALACE BY MEDELLIN CARTEL DRUG LORDS TO
BURN UP THE CASE FILES AGAINST THE NARCOS LOCATED IN
THE BUILDING. THE M-19 DID INDEED BURN MUCH OF THE
BUILDING DURING THE TWO-DAY (NOVEMBER 6-7) BATTLE,
PLAZAS OBSERVED AND HIS MEN FOUND MANY OF THE
HOSTAGES THAT WERE KILLED, EXECUTED WITH THEIR HANDS
TIED BEHIND THEIR BACKS AT CLOSE RANGE BY THE
GUERRILLAS.

7. PLAZAS DENIED KNOWING ANYTHING ABOUT IRMA FRANCO
OR GLORIA ANZOLA. AS FAR AS HE KNEW, ALL THE M-19
GUERRILLAS HAD BEEN KILLED IN COMBAT. HE ASSERTED
THAT AN OFFICER ALLEGEDLY HEARD GIVING AN ORDER TO
"DISAPPEAR" A GUERRILLA (NOTE: THIS ALLEGATION WAS
MENTIONED IN ANOTHER HUMAN RIGHTS BOOK OF ALLEGATIONS
AGAINST COLOMBIAN MILITARY OFFICERS. END NOTE), WAS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNPTQ4490

CONFIDENTIAL PTQ4490

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 13544 03 OF 04 051929Z
ACTION INL-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	ACDE-00	AID-00	AMAD-01	ARA-01	SMEC-00
	OASY-00	DOEE-00	SRPP-00	EB-01	EUR-01	INLB-01	H-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	L-01	ADS-00	M-00	OIC-02
	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-00	SP-00	SS-00
	STR-01	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	PMB-00	PRME-01	DRL-09
	G-00	/041W					

-----F3C451 051929Z /38

R 051914Z OCT 95
 FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3681
 INFO DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE
 NDIC JOHNSTOWN PA
 SECDEF WASHDC//OCDEPS//
 FBI WASHDC
 NSC WASHDC
 SECDEF WASHDC
 AMEMBASSY BONN
 RUEHZPAMEMBASSY PANAMA 5453
 DEA WASHDC
 AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
 AMEMBASSY CARACAS
 DIA WASHDC
 CIA WASHDC
 DEPTJUSTICE WASHDC
 DIRONDCP WASHDC
 AMEMBASSY LIMA

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BOGOTA 13544 03 OF 04 051929Z
 USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
 AMEMBASSY QUITO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 04 BOGOTA 013544

STATE FOR INL; ARA/AND; DRL, SHATTUCK
 NSC FOR RICHARD FEINBERG
 ONDCP FOR RICH PORTER
 SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

DEA FOR OF, OFL, AO, AX
FBI FOR DIV. 6

E.O. 12356: 10/4/2015

TAGS: PHUM, PGOV, PINR, PREL, CO

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH RETIRED COLONEL
ALFONSO PLAZAS VEGA

USING A CALL SIGN THAT BELONGED TO ANOTHER OFFICER.
IF ANY GUERRILLAS WERE CAPTURED ALIVE, THE ONLY ONES
THAT MIGHT HAVE TAKEN THEM AWAY WOULD HAVE BEEN FROM
ARMY INTELLIGENCE, ABOUT WHOSE OPERATIONS HE KNEW
NOTHING.

A LONG-TIME FRIEND OF THE U.S.

8. NOTING THAT HE HAD HAD A LONG ASSOCIATION WITH
THE USG, PLAZAS EXPRESSED CONCERN AND DISAPPOINTMENT
THAT THE USG WAS NOW DISTANCING ITSELF FROM HIM BASED
ON UNFOUNDED SLANDER. HE TOLD OF HIS MILITARY
TRAINING IN THE U.S.: ARMOR OFFICERS COURSE AT FT.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BOGOTA 13544 03 OF 04 051929Z
KNOX IN 1977; ENGLISH AT LACKLAND AFB IN 1983;
COMMAND AND GENERAL STAFF COURSE. STATING THAT HE
HAD ALWAYS BEEN A GOOD FRIEND OF THE U.S., HE TOLD AN
ANECDOTE OF EX-PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER'S VISIT TO
COLOMBIA IN 1986 TO DELIVER HUMANITARIAN AID TO
EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS. CARTER NEEDED SOMEWHERE SECURE
TO JOG, AND WANTED AN ENGLISH-SPEAKING OFFICER TO JOG
WITH HIM. PLAZAS, WHO SPEAKS ENGLISH AND WAS
COMMANDER OF THE SECURE CAVALRY SCHOOL, WAS
DESIGNATED TO JOG WITH CARTER ON THE SCHOOL'S
COMPOUND DURING CARTER'S SEVERAL DAYS IN BOGOTA.
(NOTE: THE CAVALRY SCHOOL IS WHERE EX-MINISTER
FERNANDO BOTERO, UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR HIS ROLE IN
THE ACCEPTANCE OF DRUG MONEY INTO SAMPER'S 1994
PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN, IS CURRENTLY BEING CONFINED.
END NOTE).

9. EMBOFFS EXPLAINED THAT THE USG WASN'T TAKING A

UNCLASSIFIED

POSITION ON THE VERACITY OF THE CHARGES AGAINST HIM.

B3

AS A FIRST STEP IN CLEARING HIS NAME, PLAZAS SAID THAT ON THE VERY DAY OF OUR CONVERSATION, HE HAD FILED A CIVIL COMPLAINT FOR SLANDER AGAINST THE AUTHORS OF "STATE TERRORISM."

THE COLONEL ENTERS POLITICS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 BOGOTA 13544 03 OF 04 051929Z

10. PLAZAS THEN DESCRIBED HIS CAREER AFTER RETIRING FROM THE ARMY IN 1992. HE TOLD US THAT HE MADE HIS LIVING FROM PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, SUPPLEMENTED BY HIS RETIREMENT PAY. BITTEN BY THE POLITICAL BUG, PLAZAS SAID HE DECIDED TO ORGANIZE OF GROUP OF RETIRED OFFICERS THAT SUPPORTED THE LIBERAL PARTY. HE ASSERTED THAT HE WAS A PERSONAL FRIEND OF SAMPER, AND THAT HE HAD SUPPORTED SAMPER'S CANDIDACY IN 1994. PLAZAS, WHO SAID HE LOST HIS BID FOR A SENATE SEAT IN THE MARCH, 1994, CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS, LATER SUPPORTED LIBERAL BOGOTA CITY COUNCILMAN ENRIQUE VARGAS LLERAS' CAMPAIGN DURING THE LOCAL ELECTIONS IN OCTOBER, 1994. PLAZAS SAID THAT SAMPER OFFERED HIM A CONSULATE AS A REWARD FOR POLITICAL SUPPORT.

B1

PLAZAS' FIRST CHOICE WAS HAMBURG BECAUSE

UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNPTQ4492

CONFIDENTIAL PTQ4492

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 13544 04 OF 04 051929Z
ACTION INL-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	ACDE-00	AID-00	AMAD-01	ARA-01	SMEC-00
	OASY-00	DOEE-00	SRPP-00	EB-01	EUR-01	INLB-01	H-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	L-01	ADS-00	M-00	OIC-02
	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-00	SP-00	SS-00
	STR-01	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	PMB-00	PRME-01	DRL-09
	G-00	/041W					

-----F3C45E 051929Z /38

R 051914Z OCT 95
 FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3682
 INFO DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE
 NDIC JOHNSTOWN PA
 SECDEF WASHDC//OCDEPS//
 FBI WASHDC
 NSC WASHDC
 SECDEF WASHDC
 AMEMBASSY BONN
 RUEHZPAMEMBASSY PANAMA 5454
 DEA WASHDC
 AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
 AMEMBASSY CARACAS
 DIA WASHDC
 CIA WASHDC
 DEPTJUSTICE WASHDC
 DIRONDCP WASHDC

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

AMEMBASSY LIMA

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BOGOTA 13544 04 OF 04 051929Z
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
AMEMBASSY QUITO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 04 OF 04 BOGOTA 013544

STATE FOR INL; ARA/AND; DRL, SHATTUCK
NSC FOR RICHARD FEINBERG
ONDCP FOR RICH PORTER
SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD
DEA FOR OF, OFL, AO, AX
FBI FOR DIV. 6

E.O. 12356: 10/4/2015
TAGS: PHUM, PGOV, PINR, PREL, CO
SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH RETIRED COLONEL
ALFONSO PLAZAS VEGA

IT IS AN IMPORTANT COMMERCIAL PORT WHERE A GREAT DEAL
OF COLOMBIAN COFFEE ENTERS EUROPE. AS A BONUS, HE
NOTED, THE CONSUL GENERAL IN HAMBURG HAD HIS OWN
HOUSE.

11. WHEN THE HAMBURG APPOINTMENT WAS WITHDRAWN,
PLAZAS' SECOND CHOICE WAS SAN FRANCISCO. HE LISTED
SEVERAL REASONS FOR WANTING SAN FRANCISCO: HE HAS AN
AMERICAN CITIZEN BROTHER IN CALIFORNIA; THE CITY IS
ALSO AN IMPORTANT COMMERCIAL PORT; AND HIS OLDEST
SON, WHO HAS ONE YEAR LEFT BEFORE GRADUATING FROM
JAVERIANA UNIVERSITY IN BOGOTA WANTS TO TAKE ENGLISH
AT BERKELEY AND THEN GO TO GRADUATE SCHOOL AT
STANFORD. WHEN EMBOFFS POINTED OUT THAT HIS SON

CONFIDENTIAL

UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BOGOTA 13544 04 OF 04 051929Z
 COULD STILL GO TO SCHOOL IN THE U.S. WITH A STUDENT
 VISA, PLAZAS ANSWERED THAT IT WOULD BE TOO EXPENSIVE,
 SINCE HIS SON COULD HAVE LIVED WITH HIM IN SAN
 FRANCISCO AND SAVED LIVING EXPENSES.

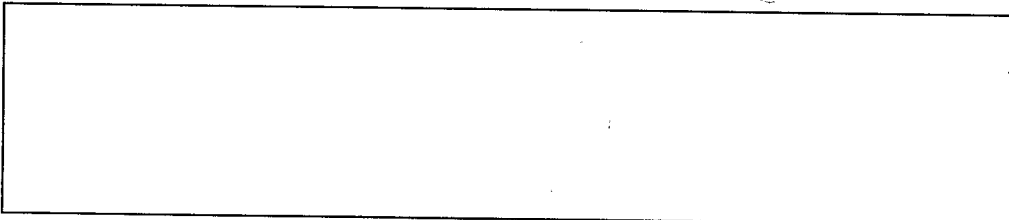
A CONSPIRACY BY THE M-19

12. PLAZAS THEN OFFERED THAT FORMER M-19 GUERRILLAS,
 WHO HAVE NEVER FORGIVEN HIM FOR HIS ROLE IN THE
 ASSAULT ON THE JUSTICE PALACE, AND THEIR ALLIES ARE
 BEHIND THE ALLEGATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS
 AGAINST HIM AND OTHERS. HE NOTED THE IRONY THAT
 FORMER M-19 GUERRILLAS, WHO COMMITTED ATROCIOUS HUMAN
 RIGHTS VIOLATIONS DURING THE GUERRILLA WAR, ARE NOW
 COLOMBIAN DIPLOMATS -- PLAZAS SAID THERE ARE 17 --
 WHILE HE IS DENIED THE OPPORTUNITY BECAUSE OF THEIR
 SLANDER. PLAZAS ACCUSED VERA GRABE, WHOM HE SAID IS
 THE COLOMBIAN HUMAN RIGHTS ATTACHE -- ANOTHER BITTER
 IRONY FOR PLAZAS -- IN GERMANY, OF ORGANIZING THE
 HUMAN RIGHTS PROTESTS IN GERMANY THAT DERAILED HIS
 HAMBURG APPOINTMENT. PLAZAS ALSO CONDEMNED WHAT HE
 TERMED THE CAMPAIGN WAGED BY THE M-19 AND ONE OF ITS
 CHIEF SYMPATHIZERS, FORMER ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR HUMAN
 RIGHTS HERNANDO VALENCIA VILLA, THAT SUCCESSFULLY
 DESTROYED THE CAREER OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ALVARO
 VELANDIA HURTADO. (NOTE: VELANDIA WAS DISMISSED
 FROM THE ARMY ON SEPTEMBER 11 FOR FAILING TO PREVENT
 THE 1987 DISAPPEARANCE AND DEATH OF M-19 MILITANT
 NYDIA BAUTISTA, WHICH HAS CAUSED ILL-FEELING
 THROUGHOUT THE ARMY (SEPTTEL). END NOTE).

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

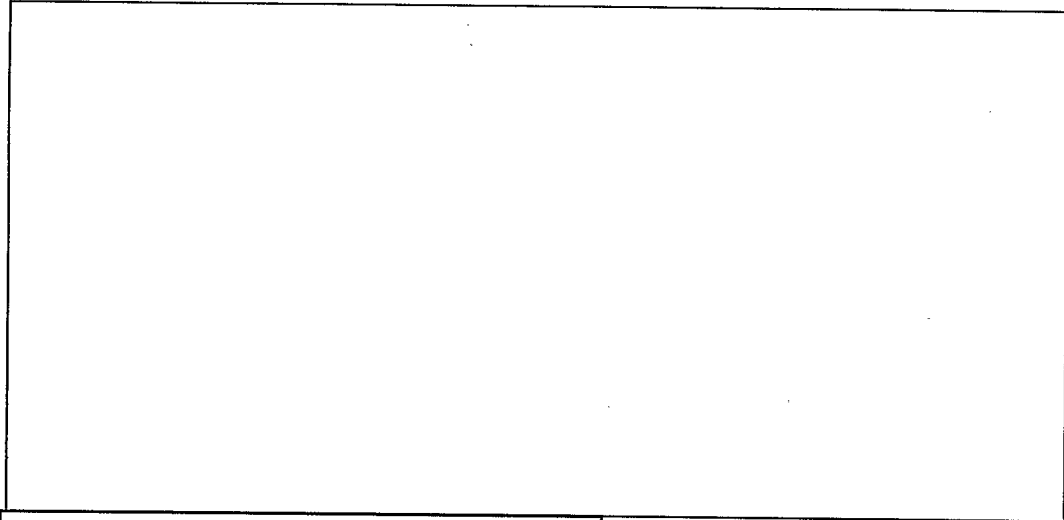
PAGE 04 BOGOTA 13544 04 OF 04 051929Z



B1

UNCLASSIFIED

B1



GARZA

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNN

UNCLASSIFIED