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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 19756 211654Z  
ACTION ARA-00

INFO	LOG-00	ADS-00	AID-00	INR-05	SS-00	H-01	NSCE-00
NSAE-00	SSG-00	HA-09	L-03	TRSE-00	PM-10	PA-01	
OMB-01	INM-08	INRE-00	CA-02	USIE-00	SP-02	SNP-01	
PRS-01	DS-01	SCT-03	P-02	T-01	/051 W		

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 FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1461  
 INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY  
 USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM PRIDRITY  
 DEA WASHDC PRIORITY  
 AMEMBASSY LIMA  
 AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
 AMEMBASSY QUITO  
 DIA WASHDC  
 CIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 19756

SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD  
DEA FOR OF, OC, OIOC, DO

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
 TAGS: PTER, PINS, SNAR, PGOV, CO  
 SUBJECT: EIGHT DEAD BODIES FOUND IN BOGOTA HINT OF NARCO  
 WAR PROMPTED BY RODRIGUEZ GACHA'S DEATH

REF: BOGOTA 19694

1: (U) NATIONAL POLICE UNITS FOUND THE HOODED, BOUND  
 AND GAGGED BODIES OF EIGHT MEN IN BOGOTA DECEMBER 20,  
 ACCORDING TO THE PRESS. ALL WERE WELL-DRESSED AND ARE  
 BELIEVED TO BE CASUALTIES IN AN INCIPIENT WAR AMONG  
 NARCO HOODS PROMPTED BY THE DEMISE OF KINGPIN GONZALO  
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PAGE 02 BOGOTA 19756 211654Z

RODRIGUEZ GACHA.

United States Department of State Office of FOI, Privacy, & Classification Review Review Authority: MOSKOWITZ, SAM Date: 03/31/95 Case ID: 92029032
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2. (U) SIX OF THE BODIES WERE FOUND PILED TOGETHER IN A LARGE REFUSE DUMP NEAR A HIGHWAY LEADING OUT OF SOUTHERN BOGOTA. THE TWO OTHERS WERE LYING ON A STREET IN SOUTHERN BOGOTA. ALL EIGHT HAD BEEN TORTURED AND THEN KILLED WITH AUTOMATIC GUNFIRE. FORENSIC EXPERTS TOLD THE PRESS THAT ALL VICTIMS APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN KILLED ELSEWHERE AND THEN DUMPED AT THE SITES MENTIONED. NO DOCUMENTS WERE FOUND ON THE BODIES AND AUTHORITIES ARE FINGERPRINTING THEM TO ASCERTAIN THEIR IDENTITIES.

3. (U) THE POLICE SPECULATED TO THE PRESS THAT THE DEAD MEN MAY HAVE BEEN MEMBERS OF THE RODRIGUEZ GACHA GANG. THEY EXPLAINED THAT THE DEATH OF RODRIGUEZ GACHA MAY HAVE EMBOLDENED A RIVAL GANG, POSSIBLY THAT OF EMERALD TRAFFICKER VICTOR CARRANZA, TO SETTLE OLD SCORES WITH RG GANG MEMBERS IN BOGOTA. CONCEIVABLY, THE KILLINGS MAY HAVE BEEN A DIRECT RETALIATION BY THE CARRANZA GROUP FOR THE PRISON KILLINGS OF FIVE OF ITS MEMBERS IN A BOGOTA JAIL DECEMBER 19 (SEE REFTEL, PARA 3).

4. (C) COMMENT: A MORE LIKELY THEORY THAN THAT OF THE POLICE IS THAT THE VICTIMS WERE MEMBERS OF THE VICTOR CARRANZA GROUP AND WERE KILLED IN REVENGE FOR THE DEATH OF RODRIGUEZ GACHA. AS THE JAIL MASSACRE INDICATED, RODRIGUEZ GACHA FOLLOWERS BELIEVE THAT MEMBERS OF THE CARRANZA GROUP PROVIDED THE POLICE WITH INFORMATION LEADING UP TO RG'S DEATH. THEY ARE NOW APPEAR TO BE LOOKING FOR THE CULPRITS, AND TORTURING AND KILLING MEMBERS OF THE CARRANZA GROUP IN THEIR SEARCH FOR THIS  
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PAGE 03                      BOGOTA 19756 211654Z

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