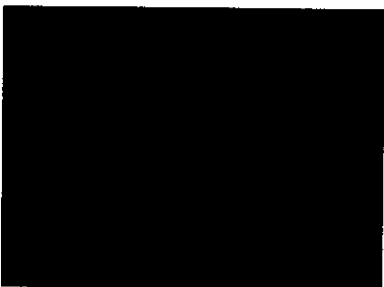


(b)(2)



DOCCLASS: ~~S~~

HEADER  
RR RUEAIIA  
OF RUEKJCS #0731 0972348  
ZNY ~~00000~~  
R 072348Z APR 97  
FM DIA WASHINGTON DC  
INFO RUEACMC/CMC WASHINGTON DC

~~RUFTNAB/COMUSNAVCENT/~~  
RUCBAIC/LANTCOM IDHS NORFOLK VA  
RUWSMXI/USCINTRANS ~~SCOTT AFB IL/~~  
RUCQVAB/USCINCSOC ~~MACDILL AFB FL~~  
RUEOFAA/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC/  
RHHJJPI/PACOM IDHS HONOLULU HI  
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC  
~~[Redacted]~~

RUEALGX/SAFE  
R 072324Z APR 97  
FM ~~[Redacted]~~  
TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC/  
~~[Redacted]~~  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC/  
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM/  
BT

CONTROLS  
~~SECRET~~ ~~[Redacted]~~

~~SECRET~~

SERIAL: (U) IIR ~~[Redacted]~~

TEXT  
COUNTRY: (U) COLOMBIA (CO); PANAMA (PM); MEXICO (MX).  
COMBINE: COMPLETE

(b)(2)

SUBJ: IIR [REDACTED] THE CONVIVIR IN ANTIOQUIA --  
BECOMING INSTITUTIONALIZED AND SPREADING ITS REACH (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT  
FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED  
~~SECRET~~.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
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DOI: (U) 970322.

REOS: (U) [REDACTED]

SOURCE: (U) [REDACTED]

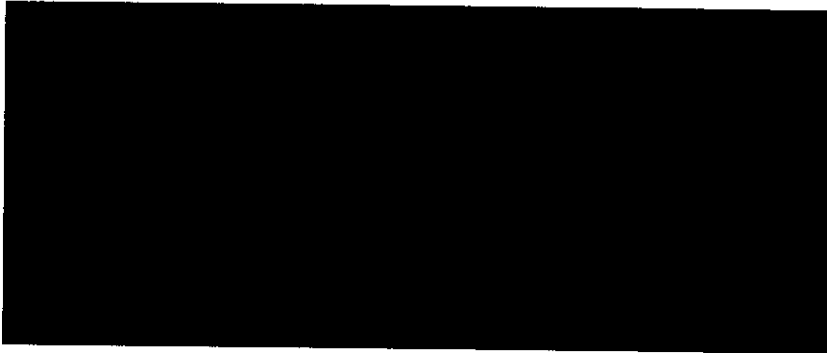
(b)(1)

SUMMARY: ~~(S)~~ ANTIOQUIA IS THE HEARTLAND OF THE SECURITY  
COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT "CONVIVIR." [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] MOVEMENT IS SPREADING  
ACROSS COLOMBIA. DESPITE ITS LEGALITY, CONVIVIR HAS BEEN  
UNABLE TO DISPEL FEARS IT MAY BECOME JUST ANOTHER ILLEGAL  
PARAMILITARY EFFORT.

TEXT: 1. ~~(S)~~ [REDACTED]

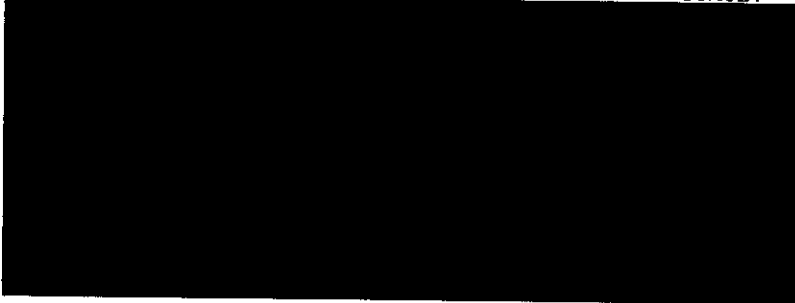
2. ~~(S)~~ [REDACTED]

(b)(1)



3. ~~TS~~ [REDACTED] THE CONVIVIR IS A TOTALLY LEGAL, GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED GROUPING OF "ASSOCIATIONS."

[REDACTED] THE CONVIVIRS WERE ESTABLISHED UNDER MINISTRY OF DEFENSE (MOD) DECREE NO. 356/94, ENTITLED "SERVICIOS ESPECIALES DE VIGILANCIA Y SEGURIDAD PRIVADA" (SPECIAL SERVICES OF VIGILANCE AND PRIVATE SECURITY). [REDACTED] THROUGH A "SUPERINTENDENCY" IN BOGOTA, CAREFULLY MONITORS THE BURGEONING CONVIVIR ELEMENTS TO ENSURE THEY DO NOT FOLLOW THE PATTERNS OF THOSE NOTORIOUS PARAMILITARY/"AUTODEFENSA" ORGANIZATIONS THAT OPERATE "ON THE MARGINS OF THE LAW." HE WAS VERY INSISTENT THAT THERE ARE STRIKING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE LEGAL GOC/MOD-SANCTIONED CONVIVIRS AND THE ILLEGAL PARAMILITARIES THAT ARE DECLARED ENEMIES OF THE STATE.



4. ~~TS~~ [REDACTED] THE "FUNCTIONAL SUPPORT" ROLE OF THE ELEMENTS AS ONE OF PROVIDING "INTELLIGENCE" AND "COMMUNICATIONS," ALONG WITH A "SOCIAL COMMITMENT" TO THE COMMUNITIES IN WHICH THEY RESIDE. IN NO WAY DO THE CONVIVIR'S CONDUCT "INDEPENDENT OPERATIONS," [REDACTED] AND THEY ARE ESSENTIALLY UNARMED UNLESS THEY CARRY THEIR PERSONAL WEAPONS THAT MANY RURAL PEASANTS TEND TO OWN (MAINLY SHOTGUNS OR PISTOLS). TO ENSURE THEY STICK TO THE ROLE INTENDED, THE MOD MAINTAINS A SUPERINTENDENCY THAT EXERCISES OVERSIGHT AND ISSUES LICENSES FOR THE CONVIVIR'S TO OPERATE. [REDACTED]

(b)(1)

EVERYTHING REGARDING THE CONVIVIR'S IS DONE ABOVE-BOARD AND ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION. THEY ARE "NOT CLANDESTINE," HE INSISTED, AND MERELY SERVE AS ONE MORE "LEGAL TOOL" FOR INTEGRATING COUNTERGUERRILLA-ORIENTED ELEMENTS INTO SOCIETY

5. ~~(C)~~ [REDACTED] HOW THE CONVIVIR ELEMENTS COMMUNICATE THE INFORMATION THEY PICK UP, GIVEN THAT MOST ARE POOR PEASANTS WITH NO TELEPHONES, [REDACTED] THE BRIGADE PROVIDES THEM WITH A RADIO. A SEPARATE "CODE" (NO DOUBT HE MEANT A CALLSIGN) IS ASSIGNED TO EACH RADIO SO THAT WHEN INFORMATION IS CALLED IN IT IS KNOWN RIGHT AWAY WHERE IT IS COMING FROM. [REDACTED] THE NODE FOR COLLECTING THESE DATA IS THE BRIGADE B-2 OFFICE. [REDACTED] WHAT SORT OF PREVIOUS TRAINING INDIVIDUALS IN THE CONVIVIR'S HAD. [REDACTED] IT WAS A MIXED BAG, BUT THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF THEM WERE RESERVISTS OR FORMER SOLDIERS WHO WERE STILL ABLE TO APPLY THE TRAINING THEY HAD RECEIVED WHILE ON ACTIVE DUTY IN THE COLAR.

6. ~~(S)~~ [REDACTED]

7. ~~(S)~~ [REDACTED]

IF A HUMAN RIGHTS CASE DEVELOPS AT BATTALION LEVEL, THE BATTALION HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICER (LOWEST LEVEL THE POSITION EXISTS) REPORTS THE INFORMATION TO HIS COMMANDER, WHO IN TURN REPORTS IT TO THE BRIGADE COMMANDER, AND ON UP TO THE DIVISION COMMANDER. FROM THERE, IT WOULD GO TO THE COLAR INSPECTOR GENERAL (IG) OFFICE IN BOGOTA, SINCE THE ARMY STAFF IS THE LOWEST LEVEL TO HAVE AN IG (UNLIKE IN THE

U.S. ARMY WHERE CORPS AND DIVISION-SIZED UNITS HAVE A FULLTIME IG ASSIGNED.) THE CURRENT COLAR IG IS MG FERNANDO ((TAPIAS)) STAHELIN, FORMER FIFTH DIVISION COMMANDER IN BOGOTA AND BEFORE THAT BOTH D-2 AND D-3 ON THE MILITARY FORCES STAFF.

(b)(1)

COMMENTS: 1. ~~(S)~~ [REDACTED]

2. ~~(S)~~ [REDACTED]

3. ~~(S)~~ [REDACTED]

4. ~~(S)~~ [REDACTED]