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BOGOTA 19212 01 OF 02 172050Z

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ACTION SS-00

PAGE 01

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FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4610
INFO JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
DEA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
NSC WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM IMMEDIATE
USSOCOM MACDILL AFB FL IMMEDIATE

USSOCOM MACDILL AFB FL IMMEDIATE DIRONDCP WASHDC IMMEDIATE

DIRONDCP WASHDC IMMEDIATE
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DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD//G2//J

DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD//G2//DCN LINEAR// IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BOGOTA 19212

SPECAT/EXDIS ROUSING (C) PROVEN OPTION MESSAGE (U)

STATE FOR ARA/WATSON; INM/GELBARD, ARA/AND, AND, DS/DSS/ITA, DS/I/CT
JCS FOR GENERAL SHALIKASHUILI
CIA FOR DIRECTOR WOOLSEY
DEA FOR GREEN
NSC FOR TONY LAKE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 BOGOTA 19212 01 OF 02 172050Z USCINCSO FOR GENERAL WORTHINGTON USSOCOM FOR GENERAL DOWNING ONDCP FOR DIRECTOR BROWN \_\_\_\_\_\_

**EXTEND CLASSIFICATION** 

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR

TAGS: PGOV, ASEC, SNAR, PTER, CO

SUBJECT: GOMEZ PADILLA RESIGNS; IMPACT ON FUTURE

OPERATIONS AGAINST THE CALI CARTEL.

REF: BOGOTA 18955

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT. PARA 6 CARRIES ADDITIONAL CONTROLS.

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Current Class: SECRET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: MELVIN E. SINN
DATE/CASE ID: 15 FEB 2002 200200107
CLASSIFICATION: SECRET REASON: 25X1, 25X6

UNCLASSIFIED

· Current Class: SECRET Current Handling: EXDIS

Document Number: 1993BOGOTA19212

Page: 2

Channel: n/a

2. SUMMARY: THE AMBASSADOR MET WITH COLOMBIAN NATIONAL POLICE DIRECTOR GENERAL MIGUEL GOMEZ PADILLA MID-DAY ON DECEMBER 16, WHO INFORMED HIM THAT PRESIDENT GAVIRIA HAD ACCEPTED HIS RESIGNATION THE EVENING BEFORE. GOMEZ SAID THAT DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL OCTAVIO VARGAS SILVA WOULD ASSUME COMMAND OF THE CNP ON 17 DECEMBER.

B

AND ADVISED THE AMBASSADOR TO WAIT UNTIL PARDO IS BACK ON THE JOB TO COORDINATE THE EFFORT. END SUMMARY.

PARDO'S PROPOSAL

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PAGE 03

BOGOTA 19212 01 OF 02 172050Z

3. IN A MEETING ON DECEMBER 10 (PER REFTEL), MOD PARDO OUTLINED FOR ME HIS CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS FOR EFFECTIVELY COMBATTING THE CALI CARTEL.

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GOMEZ PADILLA RESIGNS

4. THAT NIGHT, AFTER OUR MEETING, PARDO UNDERWENT

Current Class: SECRET

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Page: 2

Current Class: SECRET Current Handling: EXDIS

Document Number: 1993BOGOTA19212

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Page: 3

Channel: n/a

EMERGENCY OPEN-HEART SURGERY TO REPAIR A RUPTURED AORTA. IN LIGHT OF PARDO'S CONDITION, I WAITED UNTIL I COULD SPEAK DIRECTLY WITH GOMEZ PADILLA WHO WAS IN

PANAMA AT THE TIME. WE MET ON DECEMBER 16 TO DETERMINE THE STATUS OF PLANS

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PAGE 04

BOGOTA 19212 01 OF 02 172050Z

AS WE SAT

DOWN GOMEZ PADILLA INFORMED ME OF HIS RESIGNATION. I ASKED GOMEZ IF HE FELT THAT THE OPERATIONS IN CALI WOULD PROCEED ON SCHEDULE GIVEN PARDO'S ABSENCE, AND HIS OWN RESIGNATION. HE REPLIED THAT THE GOC WOULD CARRY OUT

BI

HE SAID VARGAS WOULD COORDINATE THE OPERATIONS AN HE HAD NO DOUBT THEY

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 19212 02 OF 02 172051Z

ACTION SS-00

INFO LOG-00 OASY-00 ADS-00 /000W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4611

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DEA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

NSC WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM IMMEDIATE

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DIRFBI WASHDC IMMEDIATE

DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD//G2//DCN LINEAR// IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 BOGOTA 19212

SPECAT/EXDIS ROUSING (C)

PROVEN OPTION MESSAGE (U)

Current Class: SECRET

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Page: 3

Current Class: SECRET Current Handling: EXDIS

Document Number: 1993BOGOTA19212



Page: 4

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STATE FOR ARA/WATSON; INM/GELBARD, ARA/AND, AND, DS/DSS/ITA, DS/I/CT
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PAGE 02 BOGOTA 19212 02 OF 02 172051Z USCINCSO FOR GENERAL WORTHINGTON USSOCOM FOR GENERAL DOWNING ONDCP FOR DIRECTOR BROWN

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR TAGS: PGOV, ASEC, SNAR, PTER, CO SUBJECT: GOMEZ PADILLA RESIGNS; IMPACT ON FUTURE OPERATIONS AGAINST THE CALI CARTEL.

WOULD COMMENCE.

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Current Class: SECRET
Current Handling: EXDIS
Document Number: 1993BOGOTA19212

Page: 5

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PAGE 04

BOGOTA 19212 02 OF 02 172051Z

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