DOCUMENT INQNO: DOCNO: PRODUCER SOURCE: DOCTYPE: DOR: TOR: DOCPREC: ORIGDATE MHFNO: DOCCLASS: 5 CAVEATS: MOFORN
HEADER RR RUEAIIA DE RUEKJCS #5093 0640133 ZNY SSSSS
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RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC
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INFO RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QEUARRY HEIGHTS PM/(b)(2) BT
CONTROLS (b)(2)
S. E. C. R. E. T(U)(2)
-SECRET NOFORM
SERIAL: (U) IIR (b)(2)
TEXT
COUNTRY: (II) COLOMBIA (CO).

-WASTON

-CECRET

COMBINE: COMPLETE
SUBJ: IIR (b)(2) ATTITUDES TOWARD HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE COLAR 5TH BRIGADE (U)
WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED SECOND SEC
- DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DOI: (U) 940224.
REQS: (U) T-3CX-2250-01-90.
SOURCE: A (b)(1) (b)(1)
B TC/NE (b)(1)

SUMMARY: (S/NF) THE COLOMBIAN ARMY 5TH BRIGADE CONDUCTS REGULAR HUMAN RIGHTS TRAINING, AND MEMBERS SEEM TO UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. ON THE OTHER HAND, ABUSES OF SUSPECTED GUERRILLAS DO OCCUR, AND ARE NOT ALWAYS FORWARDED FOR INVESTIGATION.

- TEXT: 1. (S/NF) THE COLOMBIAN ARMY 5TH BRIGADE CONDUCTS REGULAR HUMAN RIGHTS TRAINING, AND MEMBERS SEEM TO UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. ON THE OTHER HAND, ABUSES OF SUSPECTED GUERRILLAS DO OCCUR, AND ARE NOT ALWAYS FORWARDED FOR INVESTIGATION.
- 2. (S/NF) MEMBERS OF THE 5TH BRIGADE EXPRESSED FRUSTRATION AND SOME ANGER ABOUT HOW HUMAN RIGHTS AS AN ISSUE IS PERCEIVED. SEVERAL COMMENTS WERE MADE (b)(2) TO THE EFFECT, "WHEN WE KILL A GUERRILLA THE HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS ARE UP IN ARMS, BUT WHEN GUERRILLAS AMBUSH AND KILL OUR COMPANIONS IT IS IGNORED, OR DISMISSED AS PART OF THE CONFLICT."
- 3. (S/NF) (b)(2) THAT AT TIMES IT WAS DIFFICULT TO PREVENT TROOPS IN THE FIELD FROM OVERREACTING WITH VIOLENCE TO GUERRILLAS ENCOUNTERED DURING A PATROL, ESPECIALLY WHEN THESE SAME GUERRILLAS HAD JUST KILLED OR WOUNDED SOME OF THE TROOPS' COMRADES.
- 4. (5/NF) (b)(2) ALSO HEARD SEVERAL COMMENTS TO THE EFFECT THAT MEMBERS OF HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS "WERE ALL LEFTISTS" WHO OFTEN USED LAWYERS TO COMPLAIN ABOUT IMAGINARY ABUSES, OR CONTRIVED ABUSES TO DISCREDIT ARMY MEMBERS. EXAMPLES WERE CITED OF LABOR LEADERS AND HUMAN RIGHTS LEADERS WHO HAD BEEN ARRESTED AFTER PROOF WAS

-SECRET

OBTAINED THAT THEY WERE ELN OR FARC MEMBERS. (b)(2) (b)(2) TO SEVERAL ARMY MEMBERS, THIS WAS ALL THE NEEDED TO LABEL ALL SUCH INDIVIDUALS GUERRILLAS OR GUERRILLA SYMPATHIZERS.)	PROOF
COMMENTS: 1. (G/NF) (b)(2) TAKEN ALL TOGETHER, (b)(2) IMPRESSION WAS THAT THE 5TH BRIGADE LIP SERVICE TO HUMAN RIGHTS, AND DOES CONDUCT REGU TRAINING, BUT FEELS THAT IT IS INVOLVED IN A DAILY STRUGGLE FOR SURVIVAL AND CONTROL OF COLOMBIAN TER AND IN A WAR "THINGS HAPPENED". THERE WAS NO SYMP. NOTED FOR WHATEVER MAY HAPPEN TO A GUERRILLA WHO E IN OPEN CONFLICT WITH THE STATE.	LAR ARMED RITORY, ATHY
2. (S/NF) (b)(2) IE NOT BELIEVE THE CHARGES OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS MURDER AGAINST THE NAVAL INTELLIGENCE CHIEF, COLON RODRIGO ((QUINONES)), BASED IN BARRANCABERMEJA, IN 5TH BRIGADE'S AOR. HE SAID IT MADE NO SENSE, BECA NAVY PERSONNEL LIKE THE GOOD LIFE, AND WERE NOT THREATENED DIRECTLY BY THE GUERRILLAS. HE ADDED T AN ARMY OFFICER HAD BEEN ACCUSED OF SUCH ACTIONS, WOULD FIND IT MORE CREDIBLE.	AND EL THE USE HAT IF
3 (b)(1) (b)(1)	
//IPSP: (U) (b)(2) //COMSOBJ: (U) (D)(Z)	,
ADMIN PROJ: (U) (b)(2) INSTR: (U) (b)(2) PREP: (U) (b)(2) ACQ: (U) (b)(2) DISSEM: (U) (b)(2) WARNING: (U) REPORT CLASSIFIED S & C R & T NOT- RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS	
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