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Case Number: 200102877

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PTO9583

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ACTION INR-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AMAD-00	A-00	ACQ-00	CIAE-00	INL-00
	DEAE-00	DINT-00	WHA-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	UTED-00	VC-00
	H-01	TEDE-00	IO-00	JUSE-00	LAB-01	L-00	VCE-00
	AC-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OIG-03	OMB-01	OPIC-01
	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00	P-00	SP-00	SS-00
	IAP-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	IIP-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00
	DRL-02	G-00	SSR-00	NEAT-00	SAS-00	/012W	

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O 042109Z OCT 00
 FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7428
 SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS BOGOTA 008820

DEPT FOR INR/R/MR, WHA/AND, WHA/PDA
 SECDEF FOR PA
 EMBASSIES FOR IO

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KMDR OPRC KJRE PREL SNAR PGOV CO PE
 SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: FORMER PERUVIAN INTELLIGENCE CHIEF
 MONTESINOS

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THIS MESSAGE ORIGINALLY SENT AS BOGOTA 08583, THIS IS A CORRECTED
 VERSION.

DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CASE OF FORMER PERUVIAN INTELLIGENCE ADVISER
 VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS CONTINUE TO GENERATE EDITORIAL COMMENT IN THE
 COLOMBIAN MEDIA:

AN OP-ED BY COLUMNIST DANIEL SAMPER PIZANO IN COLOMBIA'S TOP
 NATIONAL DAILY "EL TIEMPO" (9/27), UNDER HEADLINE "COLOMBIAN MONTESINO
 AND WORRIED NEIGHBORS" RELATED THE RECENT PERUVIAN EXPERIENCE TO
 COLOMBIA. THE COLUMN STATED: "THE LESSON (OF THE PERUVIAN RASPUTIN,

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VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS) IS THAT IT'S VERY DANGEROUS TO HAVE A POWER WORKING CLOSE TO THE PRESIDENT THAT'S SECRET, NOT SUBJECT TO SUPERVISION, WITH ITS OWN INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS, AND WHICH USES THE STATE'S SECURITY APPARATUS TO ACT ILLEGALLY. ALTHOUGH ITS AN EXAGGERATION TO SAY THAT THERE'S ANYONE IN COLOMBIA SIMILAR TO MONTESINOS, THERE ARE WORRYING SIGNS THAT THERE MAY BE HIDDEN POWERS INSIDE THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE. THE COLOMBIAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (DAS) HAS ILLEGALLY SPIED ON SEVERAL LEADERS OF THE LIBERAL PARTY (INCLUDING A PRESIDENTIAL ASPIRANT), TOP UNION LEADERS, COLUMNISTS CRITICAL OF THE GOVERNMENT, AND TWO WATCHDOG GOVERNMENT OFFICES. NONETHELESS, ACTION CHARACTERISTIC OF A SINISTER DICTATORSHIP HAS NOT HAD MAJOR REPERCUSSIONS. THIS CONTRASTS SHARPLY WITH MEXICO, WHERE THE GOVERNMENT IS GOING CRAZY OVER A LESS GRAVE SITUATION ... WHILE I HAVE NO DOUBT ABOUT PRESIDENT PASTRANA'S DEMOCRATIC INSTINCTS, HE HAS AN OBLIGATION TO KEEP IN CHECK THE THREAT OF LITTLE MONTESINOS LURKING IN THE SHADOWS."

AN ARTICLE IN BOGOTA'S SECOND DAILY "EL ESPECTADOR" SEPARATELY ARGUED THAT MONTESINOS WASN'T ENTITLED TO ASYLUM IN PANAMA BECAUSE HE DIDN'T
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MEET THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THAT STATUS CONTAINED IN EITHER THE 1928 HAVANA CONVENTION ON ASYLUM OR THE 1933 MONTEVIDEO CONVENTION ON POLITICAL ASYLUM. PATTERSON

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