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TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE  
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FOR AMB/DCM FROM ARA/AND JOHN DAWSON

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: AMGT BL PE CO VE EC  
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE ASDAR FROM DECEMBER 5, 1994
2. [REDACTED] ENTIRE TEXT

[REDACTED]

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BEGIN TEXT:

(U) VENEZUELA: GOV TAKES ACTION ON CORRUPTION. PERHAPS  
SEEKING TO ENHANCE ITS BONA FIDES BEFORE MAKING  
CORRUPTION A KEY SUMMIT ISSUE, THE GOV ORDERED A  
REORGANIZATION OF THE DIRECTORATE OF IDENTIFICATION AND  
ALIEN AFFAIRS (DIEX). DIEX OFFICIALS INFORMED EMBASSY  
CARACAS ON NOVEMBER 29 THAT 148 VENEZUELAN PASSPORTS HAD  
BEEN STOLEN FROM DIEX OFFICES (AND A VENEZUELAN

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J. OLSON  
DATE/CASE ID: 8 AUG 2001 200003853

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DIPLOMATIC POUCH) IN A 3-MONTH PERIOD. DURING HIS NOVEMBER VISIT TO THE U.S., INTERIOR MINISTER ESCOVAR NOTED THAT COLOMBIAN TRAFFICKERS COMMONLY BRIBE DIEX STAFF TO GET FALSE IDS. (DONOGHUE)

(U) VENEZUELA: CONGRESS PASSES FOREIGN EXCHANGE LAW. A JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS PASSED THE FOREIGN EXCHANGE LAW ON 12/1. THE LAW METES OUT STIFF PENALTIES FOR THOSE WHO PROVIDE FALSE INFORMATION TO OBTAIN FOREIGN CURRENCY FROM THE CENTRAL BANK. IT IS ONE OF A PACKAGE OF FOUR EMERGENCY LAWS PRESIDENT CALDERA HAS DEMANDED BEFORE LIFTING THE SUSPENSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES. THE INSURANCE AND REINSURANCE LAW WAS RETURNED TO CONGRESS FOR MODIFICATION AND MAY BE COMPLETED BEFORE THE DECEMBER 10 RECESS, BUT THE FINANCIAL EMERGENCY REGULATION LAW AND THE CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW ARE UNLIKELY TO BE PASSED UNTIL CONGRESS RESUMES ON MARCH 3. (BALL)

(C) PERU: ELECTION UPDATE: THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS BOARD (JNE) SUBMITTED A BILL TO CONGRESS PROHIBITING A PRESIDENT FROM USING STATE COMMUNICATIONS (RADIO, TV, AND PRESS) AND TRANSPORTATION ASSETS IN A RE-ELECTION  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]

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 CAMPAIGN. THE JNE ALSO ANNOUNCED A NEW RULE PROHIBITING STATE-OWNED MEDIA FROM RUNNING PIECES FAVORABLE TO OR DISPARAGING OF ANY CANDIDATE. THIRD-PLACE CANDIDATE ALEJANDRO TOLEDO COMPLAINED TO AMBASSADOR ADAMS THAT FUJIMORI'S USE OF STATE RESOURCES, INCLUDING THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE, FOR PARTISAN PURPOSES WAS UNFAIR. ALTHOUGH TOLEDO EXPRESSED DOUBT REGARDING THE JNE'S IMPARTIALITY, EMBASSY LIMA VIEWS THE JNE PROPOSALS AS SHOWING ENCOURAGING AUTONOMY. (MELZOW)

(U) COLOMBIA: DEMONSTRATION AT RADAR SITE. A GROUP OF ABOUT 25 IRATE LOCALS DEMONSTRATED ON DECEMBER 1 AT THE RADAR SITE IN ARARACUARA. THEY BLAME U.S. MILITARY AIRCRAFT FOR DAMAGING THE RUNWAY TO SUCH A DEGREE THAT THE LOCAL COMMERCIAL AIRLINE CANNOT LAND TO PICK UP THEIR FISH AND PRODUCE FOR MARKET. THEY ARE CONTEMPLATING A LAWSUIT. THE EMBASSY SAYS C-130S ARE STILL FLYING INTO ARARACUARA. (WELLS)

(U) COLOMBIA: EU TRADE: PREFERENTIAL TARIFFS, BANANAS. THE EU HAS EXTENDED THE PREFERENTIAL TARIFFS FOR MANUFACTURED GOODS FROM COLOMBIA TO 2005. SEVERAL

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AGRICULTURAL AND SEAFOOD PRODUCTS WERE EXCLUDED, INCLUDING TUNA AND SHRIMP. FRANCE VOTED AGAINST EXTENSION OF THE PREFERENCES TO COLOMBIA TO PROTECT SHRIMP IMPORTS FROM FRENCH GUIANA. INDUSTRY SOURCES SAY THE DECISION WILL AFFECT 65 MILLION IN EXPORTS AND 20,000 JOBS ON BOTH COASTS. THE IMPORT CEILING ON CARNATIONS WAS SET AT THE HIGHEST AMOUNT OVER THE LAST THREE YEARS. THE GOC SIGNED THE DECREE DECEMBER 1 WHICH WILL IMPLEMENT THE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR BANANAS

[REDACTED]

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BEGINNING JANUARY 1. TRADE MINISTER MAZUERA KNOWS THAT IMPLEMENTATION WILL AUTOMATICALLY TRIGGER A 301 INVESTIGATION AGAINST THE GOC. (WELLS)

END TEXT  
TARNOFF

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