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15 DEC 89  
FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION

Dep. Dir.	_____
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Asst. Dir.:	_____
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Rec. Mgmt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Cong. Affs. Off.	_____
Off. of EEO	_____
Off. Liaison & Int. Affs.	_____
Off. of Public Affs.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

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0354 MRI 01569

00 RUEHFB FBIMM FBICG

DE BOG #0005 3491820

ZNR UUUUU

O 151819Z DEC 89

FM LEGAT BOGOTA (12B-55) (P)

TO DIRECTOR FBI/IMMEDIATE/

FBI MIAMI/IMMEDIATE/

FBI CHICAGO (SQ 6B)/IMMEDIATE/

BT

UNCLAS

SECTION ONE OF TWO SECTIONS

CITE: //5700:BOG564.349//

PASS: HAND CARRY TO: CID, CTS, IT-GU, ATTN: SSA [REDACTED] CID,

DS, C/SADTU, ATTN: SSA [REDACTED] CID, DS, DIU, ATTN: SSA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: "THE "MEDELLIN CARTEL", ET AL; C/SADTO; REI; OO: MM.

RE TELCALLS BETWEEN ALAT [REDACTED] AND SSA [REDACTED] AND ALAT

[REDACTED] AND SSA [REDACTED] DECEMBER 14, 1989.

FOR INFORMATION OF RECEIVING OFFICES ON DECEMBER 14, 1989,

16 APR 16 1990

CALLER:  
By fm Time 3:30pm

CC to DIU and COTOB/AMT/South America  
100 RM 5226  
12/15/89 Drug Traffics

PAGE TWO DE BOG 0005 UNCLAS

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[REDACTED] (PROTECT IDENTITY PER  
REQUEST), [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WERE INTERVIEWED AT THE LEGAT OFFICE, AFTER BEING  
REFERRED BY [REDACTED] AN FBI EMPLOYEE FROM THE PORTLAND  
DIVISION, WORKING IN A TDY STATUS IN BOGOTA, COLOMBIA, WITH  
RESULTS AS NOTED BELOW.

THEY ARE ORIGINALLY FROM MEDELLIN, COLOMBIA, WHERE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] RESIDE. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CURRENTLY RESIDING IN  
MEDELLIN, COLOMBIA, IS A "SICARIO" (HITMAN) FOR PABLO ESCOBAR  
GAVIRIA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] LIVES IN THE VICINITY OF [REDACTED] NEAR THE  
INTERSECTION OF [REDACTED] MEDELLIN, COLOMBIA, WITH  
ANOTHER UNKNOWN COLOMBIAN MALE, AKA [REDACTED] WHO IS ALSO A  
"SICARIO" WORKING FOR ESCOBAR GAVIRIA.

ON DECEMBER 7, 1989, BOTH INDIVIDUALS WERE DETAINED  
MOMENTARILY AT THE OLAYA HERRERA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, MEDELLIN,  
COLOMBIA, BY COLOMBIAN NATIONAL POLICE (CNP), AS THEY WERE  
RETURNING FROM BOGOTA, AND RELEASED.

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PAGE THREE DE BOG 0005 UNCLAS

[REDACTED] WHO RESIDES IN  
MEDELLIN, CALLED ON THE TELEPHONE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] NO FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS WERE GIVEN.

[REDACTED] WAS KNOWN TO HAVE AN APARTMENT LOCATED IN THE  
VICINITY OF [REDACTED] BOGOTA, COLOMBIA. HE HAS  
BEEN OBSERVED DRIVING [REDACTED] PICK-UP TRUCK WHILE  
TRANSPORTING [REDACTED]

IN ADDITION TO ABOVE INFORMATION, [REDACTED]  
PROVIDED BELOW-LISTED INFORMATION ON [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] DECLINE TO IDENTIFY ANY FURTHER.

[REDACTED] IS [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] PABLO ESCOBAR GAVIRIA, WHO IS  
PRESENTLY RESIDING AT [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] KNOWLEDGE OF CERTAIN EVENTS  
PECULIAR TO THE ESCOBAR GAVIRIA ORGANIZATION, TO INCLUDE:

[REDACTED] WAS ONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS WHO KILLED JORGE

PAGE FOUR DE BOG 0005 UNCLAS

ENRIQUE PULIDO, A WELL-KNOWN COLOMBIAN TELEVISION PRODUCER/REPORTER. HE HAS BEEN PAID MILLIONS OF COLOMBIAN PESOS FOR ASSASSINATING AN UNKNOWN GOVERNMENT OF COLOMBIA GOC) MINISTER.

2. [REDACTED] PABLO ESCOBAR GAVIRIA APPARENTLY WAS HIDING, AFTER SPENDING SOME TIME IN THE TOWN OF BARBOSA, DEPARTMENT OF ANTIOQUIA, DURING HIS ESCAPE FROM A FARM NEAR THE TOWN OF PUERTO TRIUNFO, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3. AN INDIVIDUAL BY THE NAME OF "HENAQ", WHO WAS KILLED DURING THE ATTEMPT TO ARREST SUPRA INDIVIDUALS, WAS ESCOBAR GAVIRIA ORGANIZATION'S "BRAIN MAN".

4. THE BOMB PLANTED ON AVIANCA AIRCRAFT HK-1803 WAS DONE BY THE ESCOBAR GAVIRIA ORGANIZATION, IN RETALIATION TO THE KILLING OF "HENAQ", BY THE COLOMBIAN NATIONAL POLICE (CNP).

5. ESCOBAR GAVIRIA'S ORGANIZATION HAS ALREADY MADE PLANS TO ATTACK, IN THE HARDEST POSSIBLE WAY, THE GOC, ITS INSTITUTIONS, FACILITIES AND PERSONNEL, IF ESCOBAR GAVIRIA IS ARRESTED AND IN ORDER TO PREVENT HIS EXTRADITION.

6. [REDACTED] IS

PAGE FIVE DE BOG 0005 UNCLAS

INVOLVED IN SOMETHING "BIG", WHICH INVOLVES THE KIDNAPPING OF AN UNKNOWN SUBJECT, WHICH WILL BE EXCHANGED FOR SOMETHING.

TO THIS EFFECT HE AND THE OTHERS INVOLVED, INCLUDING

[REDACTED] PREPARING FOR THIS OPERATION, WILL BE PAID [REDACTED] UPON COMPLETION OF THE MISSION.

WHEN QUESTIONED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ADVISED [REDACTED] NOT TO ASK ANY QUESTIONS.

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b7D

7. THE "MEDELLIN CARTEL" IS UPSET AT THE APPARENT COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE "CALI CARTEL" AND THE GOC, IN THEIR ATTEMPTS TO "WIPE THEM OUT".

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF [REDACTED] IS AS FOLLOWS:

PLACE/DATE OF BIRTH

HEIGHT

WEIGHT

HAIR

EYES

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF [REDACTED] IS AS FOLLOWS:

ONE

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PAGE SIX DE BOG 0005 UNCLAS

PLACE/DATE OF BIRTH:

HEIGHT

WEIGHT

HAIR

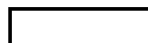
EYES

A large rectangular box used to redact personal information, likely a photograph or a detailed description of the individual.

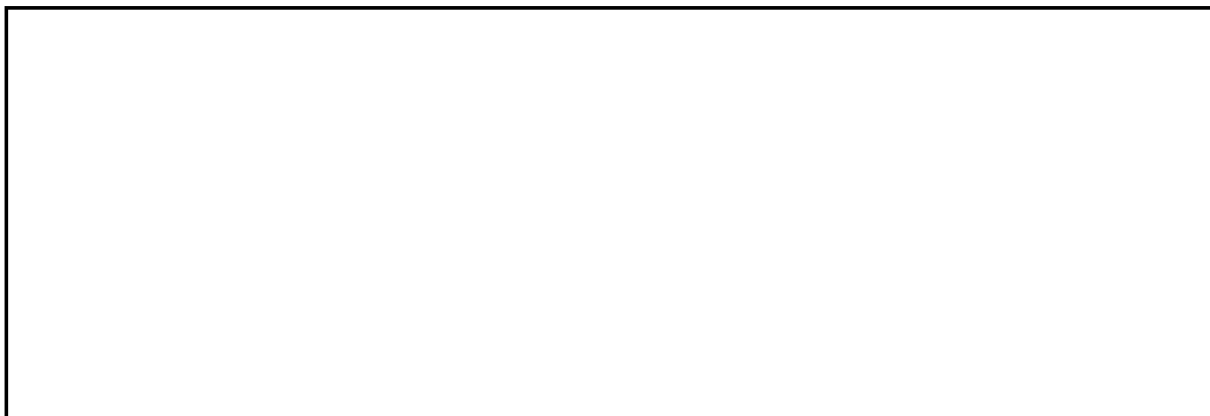
ON DECEMBER 14, 1989, SUPERVISORY SPECIAL AGENT

A small rectangular box used to redact a name or identifier.

FBIHQ, CID, COUNTERTERRORISM SECTION, IT-GU, ADVISED ALAT

A small rectangular box used to redact a name or identifier.

THROUGH SECURED COMMUNICATION THAT

A small rectangular box used to redact a name or identifier.A large rectangular box used to redact a significant portion of the document, likely containing sensitive information.

LEGAT, BOGOTA WILL MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH INDIVIDUALS  
PROVIDING SUPRA INFORMATION AND WILL REPORT RESULTS OF FUTURE  
MEETINGS TO INTERESTED OFFICES. INFORMATION ABOVE IS BEING

BT

#0005

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0290 MRI 01199

OO RUEHFB FBIMM FBICG

DE BOG #0004 3491551

ZNR UUUUU

O 151546Z DEC 89

FM LEGAT BOGOTA (12B-55) (P)

TO DIRECTOR FBI/IMMEDIATE/

FBI MIAMI/IMMEDIATE/

FBI CHICAGO (SQ 6B)/IMMEDIATE/

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UNCLAS

SECTION TWO OF TWO SECTIONS

CITE: //5700:BOG564.349//

PASS: HAND CARRY TO: CID, CTS, IT-GU, ATTN: SSA [REDACTED] CID,

DS, C/SADTU, ATTN: SSA [REDACTED] CID, DS, DIU, ATTN: SSA [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT: "THE "MEDELLIN CARTEL", ET AL; C/SADTO; REI; OO: MM.

TEXT CONTINUES:

SUBMITTED FOR ACTION AS DEEMED APPROPRIATE.

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PAGE TWO DE BOG 0004 UNCLAS

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FM FBI MIAMI (12H-MM-50238) (N-7) (P)

TO DIRECTOR FBI/IMMEDIATE/

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

CITE: //3460//

PASS: SSA [REDACTED] DRUG INTELLIGENCE UNIT, CID.

SUBJECT: MEDELLIN CARTEL; COLOMBIAN/SOUTH AMERICAN DRUG  
TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS; REI - DRUGS; (OO: MIAMI).

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND  
METHODS INVOLVED. THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS NEITHER RECOMMENDATIONS  
NOR CONCLUSIONS OF THE FBI. IT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE NOT TO BE  
DISTRIBUTED FURTHER WITHOUT CONSULTING FBI/MIAMI.

A SOURCE [REDACTED]

Dep. Dir.	
ADD Adm.	
ADD Inv.	
Asst. Dir.:	
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Crim. Inv.	
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Insp.	
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X-pg. 2

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MR Time 4:10

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PAGE TWO DE FBIMM 0005 UNCLAS E F T O

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] CONTACTED THE MIAMI DIVISION ON APRIL 16, 1990. THE  
SOURCE'S REPORTING HAS BEEN SUBSTANTIATED BY OTHER SOURCES,  
LIAISON CONTACTS, TECHNICAL MEANS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS  
IN COLOMBIA AND THE UNITED STATES IS CONSIDERED RELIABLE. THE  
DATE OF THE INFORMATION IS [REDACTED]

ACCORDING TO THE SOURCE, ~~PABLO EMILIO ESCOBAR GAVIRIA~~, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ARRIVED [REDACTED] IN  
THE AREA OF [REDACTED] COLOMBIA ON [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] AS A RESULT, THE GROUP LEFT THE AREA AFTER ONLY  
ABOUT TWO HOURS [REDACTED]

ADMINISTRATIVE (FBI DISSEMINATION ONLY):

THE SOURCE OF THIS INFORMATION IS [REDACTED] WHO  
COMMUNICATED CRIPTICALLY THE RESULTS OF RECENT DAYS. GREATER  
DETAILS ARE EXPECTED IN FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS.

BT

#0005

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FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

- ☐ Teletype  
☐ Facsimile  
☒ AIRTEL

## PRECEDENCE:

- ☐ Immediate  
☐ Priority  
☐ Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

- ☐ TOP SECRET  
☐ SECRET  
☐ CONFIDENTIAL  
☐ UNCLAS E F T O  
☐ UNCLAS

Date 7/26/90

SSP

CLASS

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI

R

LC

FROM:

LEGAT, BOGOTA (12B-55) (P)

SUBJECT: MEDELLIN CARTEL;

REI-DRUGS;

OO: MIAMI

Enclosed for receiving offices is a U.S. Department of State Cable number 11680 dated 7/25/90.

Enclosure is being submitted for action as deemed appropriate.

ENCLOSURE

- ③ - Bureau  
 (1 - CID, DS, C/SADTU) (Enc. 1)  
 (1 - CID, DS, DIU) (Enc. 1)  
 (1 - OLIA, FLU)  
 2 - Miami (12H-1973) (Enc. 1)  
 1 - Bogota  
 DSD/dg  
 (6)

92-19853-11

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Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_ Per \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Number) (Time)

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MAY 90 07:23

FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION

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FM FBI MIAMI (12H-MM-50238) (N-7) (P)

TO DIRECTOR FBI/IMMEDIATE/

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

CITE: //3460//

PASS: SSA [REDACTED] DRUG INTELLIGENCE UNIT (DIU),

ROOM 5226; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. 7325

SUBJECT: MEDELLIN CARTEL; COLOMBIAN/SOUTH AMERICAN DRUG  
TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS; REI - DRUGS; (OO: MIAMI).

SECRET SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS NEITHER RECOMMENDATIONS NOR CONCLUSIONS OF  
THE FBI. IT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED FURTHER  
WITHOUT CONSULTING FBI MIAMI.

RE TELCON WITH [REDACTED] FBIHQ OPERATION CENTER ON

5/5/90.

12C RM 6224

Redacted copy disseminated  
to STATE DEPT & CIA/CNE  
with cover sheet 5/9/90  
By DIU RUS

RUS  
5/8/90

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Director's Sec'y	

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PAGE TWO DE FBIMM 0024 UNCLAS E F T O

A SOURCE [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] CONTACTED THE MIAMI DIVISION ON 5/5/90. THE SOURCE'S REPORTING HAS BEEN SUBSTANTIATED BY OTHER SOURCES, LIAISON CONTACTS, TECHNICAL MEANS, AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS IN COLOMBIA AND THE UNITED STATES AND IS CONSIDERED RELIABLE. THE DATE OF THE INFORMATION IS 5/5/90.

MESSAGE PASSED BY SOURCE ON 5/5/90 AT 18:15 EST INDICATES THAT PLAN AGAINST U.S. EMBASSY PERSONNEL IS BY PABLO ESCOBAR AND INVOLVES AN ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE OR KIDNAP A U.S. EMBASSY PERSON. DETAILS REGARDING SPECIFIC TARGET(S) METHOD OR TIME PERIOD ARE UNKNOWN. REASON FOR PLANNED ACTION IS RETALIATION FOR RECENT LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS AGAINST CARTEL.

MIAMI DIVISION CONTINUING EFFORTS THROUGH AVAILABLE CHANNELS. TO INQUIRE FOR THE DETAILS WHICH WILL BE PASSED ASAP.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

SOURCE IN THIS MATTER IS [REDACTED] CODENAMED [REDACTED]

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FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION  
DIVISION NIGHT DUTY OFFICE

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Off. of Public Affs.	
Telephone Rm.	
Director's Sec'y	

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PP RUCNFB FBIMM FBILA

DE BOG #0002 2712343

ZNR UUUUU

P 282343Z SEP 90

FM LEGAT BOGOTA (12B-55) (12B-MM-50237) (P)

TO DIRECTOR FBI/PRIORITY/

FBI MIAMI/PRIORITY/

FBI LOS ANGELES/PRIORITY/

FBI CHICAGO/PRIORITY/

FBI NEW YORK/PRIORITY/

BT

UNCLAS

CITE: //5700:BOG478W.271//

PASS: CID, DS, DIU UNIT CHIEF [REDACTED] C/SATU UNIT CHIEF

[REDACTED] MIAMI SSA [REDACTED]

LOS ANGELES SSA [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CHICAGO SSA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: THE MEDELLIN CARTEL; RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE

INVESTIGATION (REI); OO: FBIHQ; THE CALI CARTEL; REI; OO: FBIHQ.

FOR INFORMATION OF RECEIVING OFFICES, DURING THE EVENING

DEC 8 1990

OLIA  
AM: 7442

T copy to Div

245-1760-276

FILED IN

RECORDED

92-19853-74

PAGE TWO DE BOG 0002 UNCLAS

HOURS OF SEPTEMBER 25, 1990, A GROUP OF SOME TWENTY ARMED INDIVIDUALS, CARRYING AUTOMATIC WEAPONS AND WEARING UNIFORMS OF THE COLOMBIAN ANTI-NARCOTICS POLICE, ATTACKED A GROUP OF APPROXIMATELY 60 PERSONS ATTENDING A SOCCER MATCH APPROXIMATELY 30 MILES SOUTH EAST OF CALI, COLOMBIA, ON A FARM REPORTED TO BE THE PROPERTY OF [REDACTED] (A SIGNIFICANT FIGURE IN THE CALI CARTEL). EIGHTEEN PERSONS WERE KILLED AS A RESULT OF THIS ATTACK. BOTH MEDIA AND LOCAL SOURCE INFORMATION ATTRIBUTE THIS ATTACK TO THE MEDELLIN CARTEL WHO WAS ATTEMPTING TO ASSASSINATE [REDACTED] AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT MEMBERS OF THE CALI CARTEL. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION DEVELOPED BY LEGAT, BOGOTA, AT LEAST SIX OF THOSE KILLED WERE MEMBERS OF THE CALI CARTEL, ALTHOUGH THEIR RELATIVE IMPORTANCE TO THE ORGANIZATION IS UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME.

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INFORMATION DEVELOPED BY LEGAT, BOGOTA AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE U.S. EMBASSY, BOGOTA, COUNTRY TEAM INDICATE THAT A NEW WAVE OF VIOLENCE BETWEEN THE MEDELLIN AND CALI CARTELS HAS BEGUN WITH THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED ATTACK IN RETALIATION FOR NUMEROUS HOMICIDES AND OTHER ACTS OF VIOLENCE RECENTLY CARRIED OUT AGAINST THE MEDELLIN CARTEL. IN-COUNTRY SOURCES HAVE REPORTED THAT THE CALI CARTEL IS NEGOTIATING WITH [REDACTED]

PAGE THREE DE BOG 0002 UNCLAS

[REDACTED] TO ELIMINATE PALBO ESCOBAR AND [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] A PARAMILITARY, SELF-  
DEFENSE GROUP, (MOVIMIENTO DE AUTODEFENSA CAMPESINA) WHICH  
OPERATES IN THE MAGDELENA MEDIO AREA OF COLOMBIA AND WHICH AT ONE  
TIME WAS ASSOCIATED WITH [REDACTED] NOW VIEWS  
ESCOBAR AND [REDACTED] AS A THREAT TO HIS OPERATIONS IN THE MAGDELENA  
MEDIO AREA AND HOLDS THEM RESPONSIBLE FOR NUMEROUS MURDERS AND  
KIDNAPPINGS WHICH HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT AGAINST MEMBERS OF HIS  
ORGANIZATION. [REDACTED] HAS REPORTEDLY APPROACHED THE CALI CARTEL  
AND OFFERED TO CAPTURE/ELIMINATE ESCOBAR AND [REDACTED] THE CALI  
CARTEL HAS REPORTEDLY TENTATIVELY AGREED TO PAY THREE MILLION  
DOLLARS FOR THE ELIMINATION OF ESCOBAR. SHOULD [REDACTED] DECIDE TO  
PURSUE ESCOBAR AND/OR [REDACTED] HE WOULD HAVE A DECIDED ADVANTAGE  
OVER THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT DUE TO HIS FAMILIARITY WITH THE  
MAGDELENA MEDIO AREA AND HIS ABILITY TO OBTAIN INFORMATION FROM  
SOURCES AND FORMER ASSOCIATES IN THE MEDELLIN CARTEL.

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RECEIVING OFFICES WILL BE KEPT ADVISED OF ADDITIONAL  
DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS MATTER.

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8/9/90

Director, FBI

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SACs, Los Angeles  
(Attn: SSA [redacted])  
Miami (12H-MM-50238) (N-7)

PABLO EMILIO ESCOBAR-GAVIRIA;  
MEDELLIN CARTEL;  
REI - DRUGS;  
(OO: MIAMI)

Enclosed is a copy of Miami airtel dated 7/13/90,  
captioned as above, with an LHM detailing information taken from  
[redacted] on 6/21/90.

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On page 7 of the LHM under the heading "Drug  
Movements," the [redacted] Family and the [redacted] Family are named as  
receivers and distributors of Escobar's shipments in the United  
States.

For the investigative assistance of Los Angeles,  
[redacted] served as Escobar's  
primary Los Angeles representative as of 9/88. [redacted] supervised  
60 employees in Los Angeles as of 6/88. He is [redacted]  
[redacted] This information was obtained from [redacted]  
database. Additional information which may be of assistance to  
you is available [redacted]

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For the information of Miami, the [redacted] Family is  
believed to be:

1-ENCLOSURE  
Enclosure

APPROVED:

Adm. Servs. \_\_\_\_\_ Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_ Off. of Liaison  
Crim. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_ Rec. Mgnt. \_\_\_\_\_ & Int. Affs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director \_\_\_\_\_ Ident. \_\_\_\_\_ Tech. Servs. \_\_\_\_\_ Off. of  
Dep. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_ Inspection \_\_\_\_\_ Training \_\_\_\_\_ Public Affs. \_\_\_\_\_  
ADD-Adm. \_\_\_\_\_ Intell. \_\_\_\_\_ Cong. Affs. Off. \_\_\_\_\_  
ADD-Inv. \_\_\_\_\_ Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_ Off. of EEO \_\_\_\_\_

MAILED 1  
AUG 10 1990

Exec AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Exec AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Exec AD LES \_\_\_\_\_  
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Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director's Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

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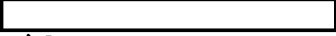
92-19853-35  
RSH/RUB

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b7C


Airtel from Director, FBI, to SACs, Los Angeles, et al, dated 8/9/90

RE: PABLO EMILIO ESCOBAR-GAVIRIA; MEDELLIN CARTEL; REI - DRUGS;  
(OO: MIAMI)



 is a DEA fugitive who may be residing in Colombia. The  have had residences in the Miami/Hialeah, Florida area.

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Any questions concerning the above may be directed to Intelligence Research Specialist  Room 7325, Extension 6484, Drug Intelligence Unit, FBIHQ.

FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype  
☐ Facsimile  
☒ AIRTEL

## PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate  
☐ Priority  
☐ Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET  
☐ SECRET  
☐ CONFIDENTIAL  
☐ UNCLAS E F T O  
☐ UNCLAS

Date 7/13/90

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI  
 (ATTN: SSA [REDACTED] DRUG INTELLIGENCE UNIT)

FROM : SAC, MIAMI (12H-MM-50238) (N-7) (P)

PABLO EMILIO ESCOBAR-GAVIRIA;  
 MEDELLIN CARTEL;  
 REI - DRUGS;  
 (OO: MIAMI)  
 EXPIRES: 10/7/90

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Enclosed for the Bureau are six (6) copies of an LHM detailing information taken from [REDACTED] on June 21, 1990.

The information gathered during the debriefing was as a result of requirements set out by the Counter Narcotics Center (CNC) and passed through liaison in Miami on June 20, 1990.

The Miami Division is still in need of feedback from the CNC and/or other users of intelligence provided by [REDACTED]. The Miami Division has been unable to determine the financial worth of recent information provided by the source which Miami understands resulted in very significant raids and seizures of Escobar properties and records in Colombia. The Miami Division would like to reward the source but needs to be able to justify it.

REQUEST OF THE BUREAU:

1. The Bureau is requested to disseminate the enclosed LHM to the CNC and request that they provide feedback regarding the content of the enclosures as well as other intelligence LHMs provided in the past.

2. Disseminate to other divisions or agencies as deemed necessary.

② - Bureau (Enc. 6)  
 2 - Miami  
 JRI:ksl  
 (4)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_ Per \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Number) (Time)

92-19853-35  
 ENCLOSURE



U.S. Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please refer to  
File No. 12H-MM-50238  
(Medellin Cartel)

Miami, Florida

June 25, 1990

**PABLO EMILIO ESCOBAR-GAVIRIA**  
**Racketeering Enterprise Investigation**

This investigation is predicated by U. S. Attorney General guidelines and corresponding FBI directives for conducting criminal intelligence investigations. The data contained herein is source information that has not been evaluated.

**SOURCE**



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[redacted] reporting has been substantiated by other sources, liaison contacts, technical means, and law enforcement operations in Colombia and the U.S. and is considered reliable. The information was provided on June 21, 1990. The date of information (DOI) is June, 1990.

**SYNOPSIS**

This communication contains psychological and physical health assessments of Pablo Escobar and discusses his personal security and communications arrangements and practices, whereabouts, finances, and relations with other Medellin and Cali group members.

**LIMITED OFFICIAL USE**

**Sensitive Intelligence Sources and Methods Involved**

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency. It and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

DETAILS

Psychological Assessment

The Colombian Government's (GOC) campaign to locate and apprehend Pablo Escobar has had a very detrimental impact on Escobar's health and judgement. Escobar's behavior and appearance has taken a visible turn for the worst since about a year ago. The breakdown of "peace talks" with the GOC has contributed particularly heavily to this.

Prior to President Bush's visit to Cartagena, Colombia early this year, Pablo Escobar and President Virgilio Barco had reached an agreement to call-off the "war." This agreement was reached through their intermediaries: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The agreement was reached with the following conditions on Escobar:

- Turn in and/or destroy the laboratories;
- Dismantle the Escobar organization;
- Discontinue all cocaine production.

In return, President Barcos had agreed to:

- Not extradite Escobar or his lieutenants;
- Hold their criminal trials in Colombia only; and,
- Escobar's family would be allowed to keep its wealth.

Escobar had already begun to meet his end of the agreement before President Bush's arrival to Colombia. He had turned over several large laboratories to the GOC. But as soon as President Bush left Colombia the GOC went back on its word and started up again. Since then, Escobar "has not cared" and is out of control and demoralized. He has become more aggressive rather than weak in resolve.

The pressure of the campaign has caused him to become more conscious about his personal security arrangements, but his thinking is less rational. In the past he was more calculating and he considered consequences. Now he is reacting more like a caged animal. He trusts very few people because of an increasing paranoia. His circle of trusted friends has shrunk from hundreds to no more than fifteen or twenty. Among them are:

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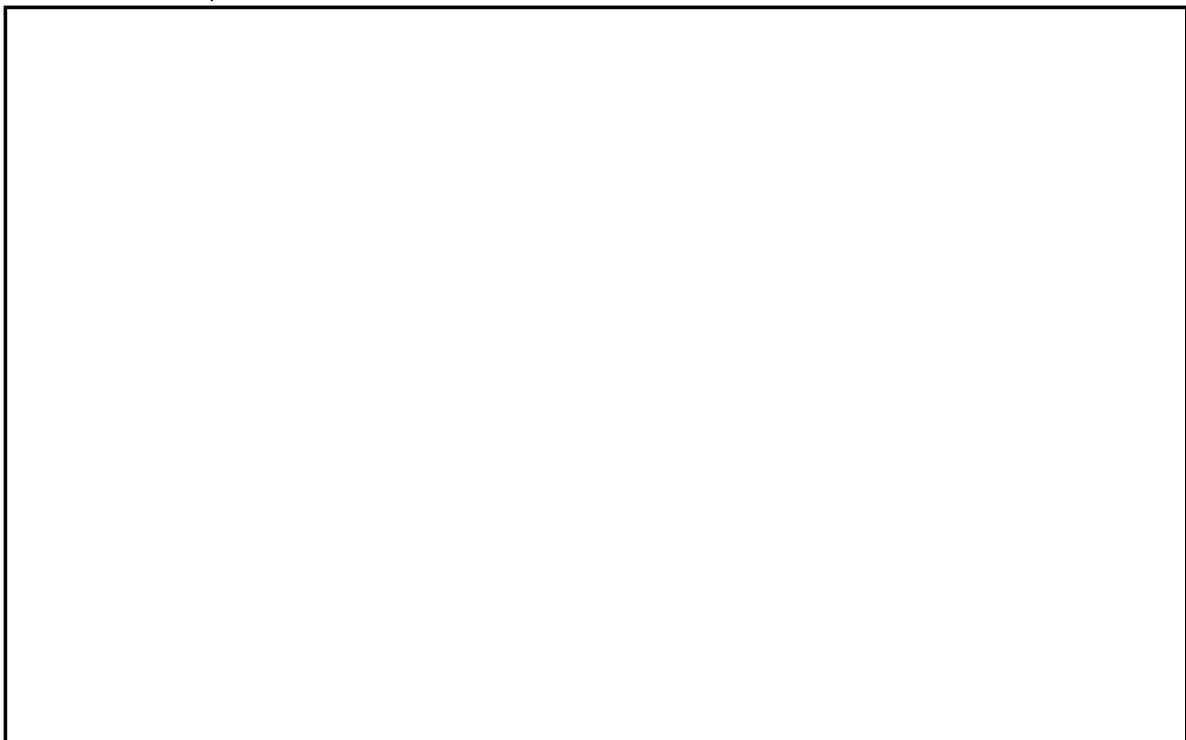
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Because Escobar has dedicated himself to the organization's "war strategy" he has left the business to [redacted] and his staff, who manage laboratories (production), transport and sales. Nevertheless, Escobar would immediately negotiate if he got word that the GOC was disposed to.

#### Physical Health

Several signs of worsening health are evident in Escobar: weight gain, loss of concentration, nervousness, anxiety and gastritis since about a year ago. These maladies and the pressures of being on-the-run over a prolonged time period have caused him to develop bad sleeping habits, and he has aged very quickly lately. His health is deteriorating. The friendly, social person of the past has disappeared. Now he is frequently tired, [redacted] (not further identified) [redacted] and a second unknown individual.

#### Personal Security



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The bustle he enjoys and previously had with the large entourages and free reign of Antioquia are now replaced with a small circle of movement and desolation: no crowds, no luxurious beds, not much liquor or women, and very ordinary surroundings.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] local custom in Antioquia is to wear casual street clothing for business. If in the mountains, jeans are in order.

Before the GOC's campaign, Escobar had control of all of Envigado and Medellin, and much of the Antioquia Province, and moved infrequently. As enforcement efforts intensified his circle of movement became restricted to Envigado, parts of Medellin and some parts of Antioquia. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Rumors that Escobar has altered his physical appearance are untrue beyond the normal changes and disguises he can do without surgery. [REDACTED]

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Many people in Medellin and Envigado used to support and help Escobar. But because of the indiscriminate deaths by bombs he has lost about two thirds of his supporters. Those who continue to assist and protect him are largely from the low class. Most people in Antioquia are tired of the "war." Some are openly saying they wish Escobar would be killed to put an end to the war.

#### Whereabouts

One of Escobar's worries about traveling to other countries is that an ordinary person will give him away without knowing who he is. In Colombia, particularly in the Province of Antioquia, people know and fear him; he has control and enjoys their protection. In a foreign country he could be turned in to authorities as just another Colombian. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Most recently, several weeks ago, the false news was that he was in Cocorna (near Las Mercedes and Puerto Triunfo). Escobar has not travelled out of Colombia in two years.

#### Communications

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] They also make use of a network of public telephones and telephone company employees who verify that callers are group members and connect them between public telephones. Since the "La Colina" communications center fell to authorities they have had a poor communications system. They have been unable to set up a similar base. [REDACTED]



Communications between Pablo Escobar [redacted] is usually by telephone, but it has diminished to sporadic contacts. [redacted] continue to reside in Medellin. [redacted] public telephone to talk with Escobar. [redacted]

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[redacted] He is mostly without his family or close friends.

### Associates and Personal Relations

Pablo Escobar continues to head the Medellin Cartel because members fear him. But most of them are against his war against the GOC. One member who has openly expressed his discontent is [redacted]. The others are not willing to publicly express their opposition or go against Escobar. They are also unwilling to go against Escobar's long-time friends/associates who are with him. Yet, if Escobar were killed by the Colombian army or police, neither [redacted] would retaliate.

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Meetings with others in the Medellin Cartel occurs only on the infrequent occasions that Escobar calls on someone. This happens perhaps once or twice a month. Mostly, Escobar meets with other leaders [redacted]

[redacted] It is believed that Escobar himself is not meeting with [redacted]. But [redacted], acting in behalf of the Pablo Escobar organization, is meeting regularly with [redacted] to discuss and coordinate drug trafficking. It is unknown if Escobar is in contact with members of the [redacted] organization.

Other members of the Medellin Cartel have made half-hearted efforts to influence Escobar to stop his campaign of violence. They have not been more forceful for fear of offending him.

Of Pablo Escobar's associates, [ ] is the most respected. In fact, [ ] is very respected within the Medellin Cartel. He is liked and is considered very intelligent and a perfectionist who carries out tasks well. [ ] also likes to invest money, avoids public spectacles, and does not like violence (although he is capable of it, but does not use it indiscriminately like [ ]). [ ] is considered the logical replacement if Pablo Escobar were to die. [ ] has been overheard several times to say that he would get out of the drug trade and go into legitimate businesses, if he could. It is understood that he continues only out of loyalty to Escobar, while Escobar is alive.

Similarly, [ ] personality is very much like [ ]. [ ] wants [ ] to stay in drug trafficking and is prone to violence, like Pablo Escobar.

#### Drug Movements

[ ] is in charge of the drug trafficking business while Pablo Escobar is preoccupied with his legal problems. He is assisted by [ ] who handle accounting and money laundering. [ ] is charged with assembling the drugs and shipping them out of Colombia. And members of the [ ] family and the [ ] family receive and distribute the shipments once they reach the U.S.

#### Finances

The Escobar organization hides its assets by owning corporations indirectly. The organization deposits its profits in banks [ ]

#### Turf War with the Cali Cartel

One of the thorns in Escobar's paw is that he is convinced that [ ] the *Direccion Administrativa de Seguridad* (DAS), is allowing the Cali Cartel to operate unhindered, while pressuring the Medellin groups. Escobar would be less angry about law enforcement pressures if all traffickers were being targeted.

The acrimony between the Medellin and the Cali groups began not as a turf war over New York but as a falling-out between the Pablo Escobar and Cali Cartel members [redacted]

[redacted]

The trouble started several years ago when Pablo Escobar wanted to syndicate all drug traffickers in Colombia to fix the price of cocaine. All the traffickers went along with Escobar except the [redacted] groups.

[redacted] are very close friends of [redacted] who influenced [redacted] to not go along with Escobar's plan. Cali fired the first salvo by detonating a bomb in the Monaco Building in Medellin, where Escobar resided about four years ago. The "New York turf war" was a consequence of the "price war."

Since then, a treaty was reached sometime in November or December of 1989, between [redacted] representing the Medellin groups, and [redacted] representing the Cali groups, that has held to date. In the treaty Pablo Escobar is allowed by Cali to fight only one front, against Colombian authorities, as long as he does not attack Cali members.

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Pablo Escobar Gaviria (12H-MM-50238)

ADMINISTRATIVE

Reporting Agent

The information contained in this report was acquired by SA [redacted] of the Miami Division, on June 21 and 22, 1990 during a debriefing of [redacted] codenamed [redacted]

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FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

- ☐ Teletype  
☒ Facsimile  
☒ AIRTEL

## PRECEDENCE:

- ☐ Immediate  
☐ Priority  
☒ Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

- ☐ TOP SECRET  
☐ SECRET  
☐ CONFIDENTIAL  
☐ UNCLAS E F T O  
☒ UNCLAS

Date 8/21/90

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
 FROM: LEGAT, BOGOTA (12B-55) (P)  
 SUBJECT: MEDELLIN CARTEL;  
 REI-DRUGS;  
 OO: MIAMI

Enclosed for receiving offices are two newspaper articles, El Colombiano dated 8/16/90 and El Tiempo dated 8/17/90.

Enclosures are being submitted for action as deemed appropriate.

- ③ - Bureau  
 (1 - CID, DS, C/SADTU) (Enc. 1)  
 (1 - CID, DS, DIU) (Enc. 1)  
 (1 - OLIA, FLU)  
 2 - Miami (JIG) (Enc. 1)  
 1 - Bogota  
 DSD/dg  
 (6)

ENCLOSURE

92-19853-39

SEP 5 1990

Approved: 

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(Number)

(Time)

★ U.S. Gov

: 1984-431-613/6249

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b7c

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

newspaper, city and state.)

Date:  
Edition:

Medellín, jueves 16  
de agosto de 1990

El COLOMBIANO

3A

Character:

or  
Classification:  
Submitting Office:

## En Operación Apocalipsis I

# Auto de detención contra cinco de los capturados

BOGOTÁ, (Colprensa). Cinco de las 21 personas capturadas en el Magdalena Medio en desarrollo de la "Operación Apocalipsis I" montada para capturar a Pablo Escobar Gaviria, fueron cobijadas ayer con auto de detención.

Las restantes 16 personas fueron puestas en libertad al no poderseles demostrar cargos que los implicaran en los delitos imputados a la red terrorista que tenía la base de operaciones en la Hacienda Nápoles, de Puerto Triunfo.

Uno de los sindicados con auto de detención en su contra, es Hernán Darío Henao Quintero, alias "H.H.", quien las autoridades señalan de ser cuñado de Escobar Gaviria y como pieza clave de la organización terrorista que el Cartel de Medellín había instaurado en el Magdalena Medio.

Así mismo, otros cobijados con medida de aseguramiento son Hugo Jaramillo Buitrago, alias "Mantequilla", sindicado de coordinar numerosos actos terroristas en Medellín y otras ciudades del país; Carlos Taborda Pérez, alias "El Negro", jefe de un grupo de seguridad de Escobar en el oriente antioqueño, y Jorge Echeverry Londoño, químico del Cartel de Medellín y según la Dijin responsable de una negociación de 9.000 kilos de dinamita.

También figura José Eduardo Reyes, vigilante de los sitios adyacentes a la hacienda Nápoles.

En la lista de excarcelados aparecen José David Cortés Mejía, quien había sido señalado como el médico al servicio de Escobar; Julio Jaime Betancurt Vélez, Telésforo Linares Tejedor, Jaime Orozco, José Miguel Posada Palacios, Iván Gómez Díaz, Jesús María Giraldo Domínguez, alias "Chucho", Marcelo Soto Pamplona y Wilson Velancia, alias "Ricardo".

Otros son Inocencio Osorio Medina, alias "El Ché", William Herrera Carreño, alias "Daniel", Carlos Albeiro Quintero Betancurt, alias "Topo Gigio", Gildardo Rodríguez, Gilberto Antonio Giraldo Martínez, Oyer Londoño Torres y Luis Eduardo Castrillón Granada.

La "Operación Apocalipsis I" se llevó a cabo a mediados de julio en una vasta región del oriente antioqueño, en particular en el territorio de jurisdicción de la gigantesca Hacienda Nápoles, desplegada por el Cuerpo Elite de la Policía Nacional en procura de capturar a Pablo Emilio Escobar Gaviria, acción que sin embargo no se cumplió en su objetivo central.

Las personas capturadas se encuentran privadas en la Cárcel Nacional Modelo.

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92-19853-39  
ENCLOSURE

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ajusta a los requisitos de ley.

Paralelamente era investiga-  
da la posible vinculación de  
ocho abogados que aparecían en  
el organigrama como Ovidio, Li-  
zandro, Héctor Navas, Arniegas,  
Aura, Vega, Navarrete y Palacios.

Los capturados durante la Operación Onix habían caído en poder de la Policía en desarrollo de 49 allanamientos realizados en Bogotá.

\* Pocos días después de su captura había sido puesta en libertad Alba Belén Estévez, acusada en principio de ser la financista de la organización. El juzgado no halló pruebas de peso en su contra.

Con su decisión, el juez acogió los argumentos jurídicos expuestos por los abogados Nury Tole Bahamón, Gustavo Salazar Pineda y Carlos Martínez Palacios.

Según sus planteamientos, la manera como fue conseguida la confesión de los capturados no es confiable procesalmente ni se

Desvirtuó así los resultados de la Operación Onix que en marzo permitió a la Policía desarticular la red y poner al descubierto una peligrosa infiltración que permitía al narcotráfico conocer por anticipado algunos de los planes operativos del Departamento Administrativo de Seguridad (DAS) y de la XIII Brigada del Ejército.

Las demás personas beneficiadas con la revocatoria de los autos y las tareas que cumplían, según los organismos de inteligencia, son las siguientes:

Luis Alberto Gómez Guzmán, 'Crithoper', coordinador de la red y responsable de los pagos a quienes la integraban, según los organismos de inteligencia.

Guillermo Rodríguez Ortiz,  
'El Mono', responsable de las ra-

La orden de libertad favorece,

newspaper, city and state.)  
Date: 8/17/90  
Edition: EL TIEMPO, BOGOTA,  
Title: 8A  
Character:  
or  
Classification:  
Submitting Office:  
Indexing:

info  
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FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

- ☐ Teletype  
☐ Facsimile  
☒ AIRTEL

## PRECEDENCE:

- ☐ Immediate  
☐ Priority  
☐ Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

- ☐ TOP SECRET  
☐ SECRET  
☐ CONFIDENTIAL  
☐ UNCLAS E F T O  
☐ UNCLAS

Date 4/19/90

1 To : DIRECTOR, FBI  
 2 From : ATTENTION: CID/DIU, SSA [REDACTED] RM 7325)  
 3 Subject: SAC, MIAMI (12H-50238) (N-7) (P)

4 [X] MEDELLIN CARTEL; [ ] CALI CARTEL; [ ] NORTH COAST  
 REI REI TRAFFICKING  
 5 (OO: MIAMI) (OO: MIAMI) ORGANIZATIONS;  
 REI  
 6 [ ] EL DORADO/BOGOTA [ ] CUBAN TRAFFICKING (OO: MIAMI)  
 CARTEL; ORGANIZATIONS;  
 REI  
 7 (OO: MIAMI) (OO: MIAMI)  
 8

9 Enclosed for FBIHQ/receiving offices is 1 copy of  
 1 [X] LHM, 1 [X] DEA-6, [ ] Other:

## REQUEST OF FBIHQ:

11 [X] For information only.  
 12 [ ] Disseminate to appropriate agencies.  
 13 [X] Other: See Page Two.

## ENCLOSURE

14 3 - Bureau (Enc. 2)  
 2 - Boston (Enc. 2)  
 2 - Chicago (Enc. 2)  
 2 - El Paso (Enc. 2)  
 15 2 - Houston (Enc. 2)  
 2 - Jackson (Enc. 2)  
 16 2 - Los Angeles (Enc. 2)  
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 2 - Phoenix (Enc. 2)  
 18 2 - San Diego (Enc. 2)  
 2 - Seattle (Enc. 2)  
 19 2 - WMFO (Enc. 2)  
 5 - Miami  
 20 (1 - 12H-MM-50238 Main)  
 (1 - 12H-MM-50238 SUB A)  
 21 (1 - 12H-MM-50238 SUB C)  
 (1 - 12H-MM-50238 SUB AA3)  
 (1 - 12H-MM-50238 SUB LL3)

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Approved: [Signature]

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

Per [Signature]

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Show how to deliver to CIA  
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 4/25

92-19853-41

12 APR 24 1990



12H-MM-50238

ADMINISTRATIVE:

The source in this matter is [ ] codenamed  
[ ] debriefed by SA [ ] on April 4, 1990.

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# REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Page 1 of 3

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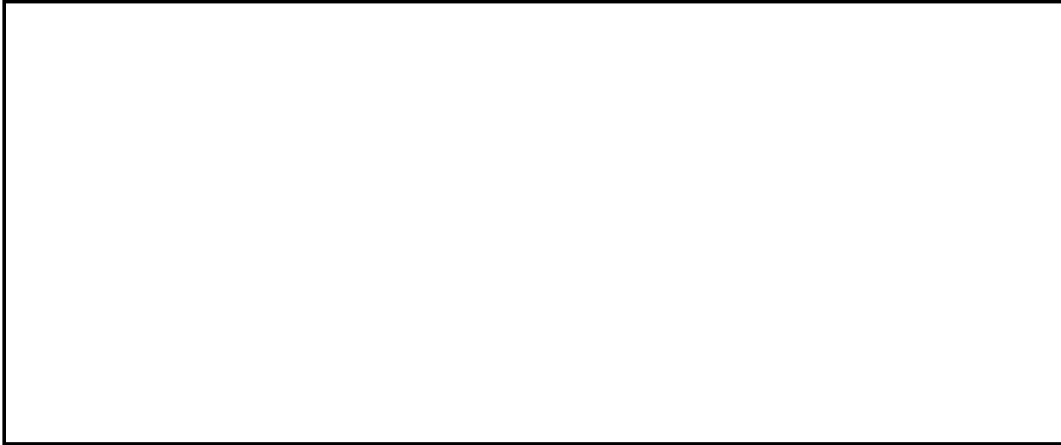
1. PROGRAM CODE SFIP-3000-39		2. CROSS FILE FILE		3. FILE NO. GFG1-87-8001		4. G-DEP IDENTIFIER IL1-CO	
5. BY: [REDACTED] AT: FBI MIAMI		<input type="checkbox"/> 12H-MM-50238 <input type="checkbox"/> " SUB A <input type="checkbox"/> " SUB C <input type="checkbox"/> " SUB AA3 <input type="checkbox"/> " SUB LL3		6. FILE TITLE FBI/DEA JOINT DRUG INTELLIGENCE GROUP (JDIG)			
7. <input type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Requested Action Completed <input type="checkbox"/> Action Requested By:		8. DATE PREPARED April 17, 1990					
9. OTHER OFFICERS: SA [REDACTED]							
10. REPORT RE: Debriefing of FBI source on April 4, 1990.							

## DETAILS:

Attached is an FBI Letterhead memo, which contains a source description, synopsis, details, and other pertinent information.

## INDEXING SECTION:

1. [REDACTED]
2. PABLO EMILIO ESCOBAR-GAVIRIA, NADDIS #1020528. Along with [REDACTED] has moved base of operations and hideouts [REDACTED]



11. DISTRIBUTION:		12. SIGNATURE (Agent)		13. DATE	
REGION AMRI/OC/ZE		[REDACTED SIGNATURE]		4/18/90	
DISTRICT FBI MIAMI				15. DATE	
OTHER G1/GP2				[REDACTED DATE]	

DEA Form  
(May 1980) - 6

DEA SENSITIVE

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

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Previous edition may be used.

92-19853-41  
ENCLOSURE



U.S. Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please refer to  
File No. 12H-MM-50238  
(Medellin Cartel)

Miami, Florida  
April 5, 1990

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PABLO EMILIO ESCOBAR-GAVIRIA

Colombian/South American  
Drug Trafficking Organizations  
Racketeering Enterprise Investigation

This investigation is predicated by U. S. Attorney General guidelines and corresponding FBI directives for conducting criminal intelligence investigations. The data contained herein is source information that has not been evaluated.

SOURCE

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] reporting has  
been substantiated by other sources, liaison contacts, technical means, and law  
enforcement operations in Colombia and the U.S. and is considered reliable. The  
information was provided on April 4, 1990.

SYNOPSIS

Pablo Escobar and [REDACTED] have been forced into a reduced circle of movement  
around [REDACTED] Medellin, Colombia. They have also set up new  
administrative offices in Medellin. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Because of law enforcement pressure most members of the Medellin Cartel, including  
Escobar's group, have moved their processing and shipping operations to Ecuador and  
Bolivia, and are shipping directly from those two countries.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Sensitive Intelligence Sources and Methods Involved

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and is loaned to your agency. It and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

Several Antioquia politicians won senate and representative seats in the Colombian Government. They represent the Colombian Liberal Party (PLC). Their campaigns were assisted by Escobar's group. Also, Escobar's [redacted] who is a personal friend of Colombian President Barco, has been [redacted]

## DETAILS

## ORGANIZATION

Since recent raids on "La Colina," and "La Setenta," the former office site and attending communications/security center in Envigado, Pablo ESCOBAR [redacted] have been forced to move their base of operations and hideouts [redacted]

Barring renewed Government activity ("war") against Escobar and [redacted] they intend to [redacted]

## OPERATION

The Pablo Escobar group and many other Medellin traffickers have been busy moving their operations out of Colombia to Ecuador and Bolivia, where law enforcement is lax. They have set up large-scale labs in those countries. Product (cocaine) shipments now are largely being made directly out of those countries as well, rather than out of Colombia.

## FINANCES

Pablo Escobar and [redacted] have a substantial bank account [redacted]

[redacted]

## POLICE/PUBLIC CORRUPTION

[redacted] recently gained a seat as representative in the Colombian House of Representatives (*Camara de Representantes*). His campaign was helped with over ten million pesos. It was [redacted] the source believes, who tipped off Escobar and [redacted] of the impending law enforcement action in January or February of this year, when the Colombian Army [redacted] raided "La Colina" and "La Setenta." [redacted] became aware of irregular, preparatory troop movements in the town and immediately alerted Escobar.

Other Antioquia Department politicians helped successfully by Escobar and [redacted] in the recent 1990 elections are:

— [redacted]  
—  
—  
—

Despite [redacted] public denials, he has been [redacted]  
[redacted] is no friend of the Medellin Cartel, he has  
remained helpful to certain Cartel members who are [redacted] personal friends, such as  
[redacted] who functions as Escobar's [redacted]

[redacted]

## SECURITY

The Army's attention on "La Colina" and "La Setenta" has deprived them of their former, wider area of influence in the Medellin-Envigado area and has forced them to diminish their circle of safe movement [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] continues to [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] in behalf of Pablo Escobar and [REDACTED] The  
owner of this office is [REDACTED] who frequents it often and is aware of  
[REDACTED] organizational function [REDACTED] are used to [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Occasionally, Escobar and [REDACTED] will also  
use [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] are probably unaware of the use to which  
they are put, [REDACTED] acting in behalf of Escobar and  
[REDACTED] uses [REDACTED]

## ASSESSMENT OF GROUP

The Medellin Cartel has fragmented as a result of law enforcement pressure. Many of the formerly close-allies of the Escobar [REDACTED] leadership have quietly disengaged and gone solo, at least during the continuing hostilities with the Government. For the moment, at least, they are forming new alliances with other, less-strident groups, and are moving their operations out of Colombia.

## ADMINISTRATIVE

## REFERENCE MAPS

1. See 1989 map of the Medellin area [redacted]  
[redacted] 1:25,000 scale; for reference to Medellin, Colombia streets mentioned in this report (H-1/4 crossfix).

2. See 1982 map the Department of Antioquia, by the Ministry of the Treasury and Public Credit (*Ministerio de Hacienda y Credito Publico*), "Agustin Codazzi" Geographic Institute (*Instituto Geografico "Agustin Codazzi"*), Second Edition; 1:500,000 scale; for reference to [redacted] and surrounding area (coordinates 5 deg. 53 min. N/74 deg. 57 min. W)

## SOURCE COMMENTS

The precise locations [redacted] could not be determined, but everyone in the [redacted] area is aware of their locations because the families are well known and wealthy.

If Escobar and [redacted] go through with their plan, the increased activity for the daily needs of the entourage, such as meals, should be detectable. A few mon-and-pop restaurants may be available in [redacted]. A better selection can be found in [redacted]. Still, restaurants are not large or plentiful. Preparing an order for thirty or forty people is bound to strain their normal capacity and raise eyebrows. Alert [redacted]

[redacted] may be able to detect such increased activity and recognize the food messengers/bodyguards of the group, who could then be surveilled to the hideout.

**PRÉCÉDENCE:**

☐ Immediate  
☐ Priority  
☐ Routine

**CLASSIFICATION:**

☐ TOP SECRET  
☐ SECRET  
☐ CONFIDENTIAL  
☐ UNCLAS E F T O  
☐ UNCLAS

Date 3/7/90

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (12H-MM-50238) (N-7) (P)

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(GROUP) ;

PABLO EMILIO ESCOBAR-GAVIRIA (GROUP);

(GROUP) ;

\_\_\_\_\_, (GROUP) ;

(GROUP) ;

\_\_\_\_ (GROUP):

\_\_\_\_ (GROUP) ;

(GROUP) ;

CARLOS OCTAVIO PIEDRAHITA-TABARES (DECEASED) (GROUP);

JOSE GONZALO RODRIGUEZ-GACHA (DECEASED) (GROUP) :

(GROUP) ;

MEDELLIN CARTEL;

COLOMBIAN/SOUTH AMERICAN

DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS:

RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE INVESTIGATION

(.00: MIAMI)

(2) - Bureau (Enc. 3) **ENCLOSURE**

2 - Miami

DL:mcj

(4)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_ Per \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number) (Time)



MM 12H-MM-50238

Enclosed for the Bureau are three copies of a letterhead memorandum outlining the Miami Division's initiation of a Racketeering Enterprise Investigation (REI) directed at the criminal activities of the so-called "Medellin Cartel."

FBIHQ is requested to obtain authorization for the following REI:

The purpose of the REI is to obtain information concerning the nature, structure, composition, and activities of the Medellin Cartel operations operating in the United States, particularly in the Miami Division's jurisdiction. The Cartel groups targeted by the Miami Division are those consisting of at least two or more persons engaged in a continuing pattern of illegal drug trafficking for the purpose of obtaining profits through their racketeering activities. The long range objective of this effort will be the detection and prosecution of the criminal members of the enterprise, as well as the identification and seizure of their assets.

The Miami Division's Medellin Cartel - REI is designed to consolidate information on Medellin groups previously collected under the Colombian/South American Drug Trafficking Organizations - REI. It will also continue to collect and update the identity of the members of the respective organization or enterprise and the role these individuals play in furtherance of the criminal enterprise. The REI will also serve to gather, collect, and analyze the financial enterprise and develop a comprehensive investigative strategy based on the past and current activities of the organization. These intelligence efforts will result in the opening of substantive drug cases based on a substantial predicate and cause a more efficient use of FBI resources.



U.S. Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please refer to  
File No. 12H-MM-New

Miami, Florida

March 1, 1990

**MEDELLIN CARTEL;  
Colombian/South American  
Drug Trafficking Organizations  
Racketeering Enterprise Investigation**

**SYNOPSIS**

Practically all Colombian/South American drug trafficking organizations with operations in the South Florida area are affiliated with, or subcontract their services to one of the Medellin Cartel members.

The members of the Medellin Cartel frequently use North Coast or other independent groups on an *ad hoc* basis for specialized tasks, such as transportation or money laundering. They began their drug trafficking with marihuana during the early marihuana trading days. In recent years, the cartels have turned to trafficking the more lucrative and easier to transport drug—cocaine. They are currently expanding their markets into Europe, where demand is growing. The North Coast groups continue to traffic in marihuana as well.

**Members.** The directors of this cartel are Pablo Emilio Escobar-Gaviria, [redacted]  
[redacted] Other influential leaders of this  
group are [redacted]

[redacted] Jose Gonzalo Rodriguez-Gacha, also known as (aka) "El Mejicano" was  
killed in a shoot-out with Colombian police in December, 1989. His successor is  
believed to be [redacted] The following is the current list of Medellin  
based narcotics organizations:

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**LIMITED OFFICIAL USE**

**Sensitive Intelligence Sources and Methods Involved**

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92-19853-47  
ENCLOSURE

[redacted] (Group); [redacted] (Group); [redacted]  
(Group); [redacted] (Group); [redacted] (Group); [redacted]  
[redacted] (Group); [redacted] (Group); [redacted] (Group); [redacted]  
[redacted] (Group); [redacted] (Group); [redacted] (Group); [redacted]  
[redacted] (Group); [redacted] (Group); [redacted] (Group); [redacted]  
[redacted] (Group); [redacted] (Group); Pablo Emilio Escobar-Gaviria (Group);  
[redacted] (Group); [redacted] (Group); [redacted] (Group);  
[redacted] (Group); [redacted] (Group); [redacted] (Group);  
[redacted] (Group); [redacted] (Group); Carlos Octavio Piedrahita-Tabares (Group)  
(Deceased, current leader unknown); Jose Gonzalo Rodriguez-Gacha (Group) (Deceased,  
new leader believed to be [redacted] (Group).

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**Drugs involved.** The principal drug imported into the U.S. by the Medellin Cartel is cocaine.

**Geographic scope.** The Medellin Cartel is based in a small town just outside of Medellin, Colombia, named Envigado. It maintains representatives and operations in the U.S. cities of Miami, Los Angeles, New York, Chicago and Houston.

## DETAILS

The so-called "Medellin Cartel" was reportedly born out of an alliance called *Muerte a Secuestradores* (Death to Kidnapers), formed in the early 1980's by [redacted] Pablo Emilio Escobar-Gaviria, Jose Gonzalo Rodriguez-Gacha (deceased) and [redacted] (incarcerated). The purpose of the organization was to unite against a number of Colombian kidnaping gangs which were targeting the families of wealthy drug traffickers and businessmen.

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During this period, [redacted] was kidnaped and held for ransom. In order to prevent other incidents from occurring, the traffickers decided to retaliate with as much force as possible. Each of the principals in the drug organizations was required to contribute a certain amount of money and manpower for joint operations against the kidnapers.

With time, the Medellin traffickers began to unite in other forms, sometimes by "pooling" their shipments, each one putting only a set quantity of kilograms in the load to insure that none of the shippers sustained a single, large loss in case of seizure. At other times they shared successful transportation lines. This eliminated any real sense of competition as the traffickers discovered there were a great many markets in a number of cities in the U.S., and no real need to fight among themselves.

Over the next few years, the leadership of the cartel began setting prices for cocaine for resale and transportation. Contributions were requested, and continue to this day, for such matters as funds to bribe Colombian government officials and legislators, criminal defense funds for incarcerated or extradited traffickers, and the like.

The identified directors of the Medellin Cartel are Pablo Emilio Escobar-Gaviria, [redacted]

[redacted] Another top trafficker, Jose Gonzalo Rodriguez-Gacha, recently killed in a shootout with Colombian police, was also one of this cartel's leaders. Other highly significant directors of this cartel have been identified as [redacted]

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This cartel has been perceived in the past to be the most important and significant of the Colombian drug organizations. By far the most widely known and documented, it is now viewed as having set the pace for the other organizations, but no longer as powerful as it once was.

Pablo Escobar-Gaviria and other top leaders must continue to maintain a very low profile due to the pressure of American and Colombian law enforcement authorities. They have, in so doing, turned over the reins to other individuals who are managing their affairs. Now there are indications that they are not satisfied with what has taken place over the past couple of years.

Other traffickers from the Medellin area appear also to have become dissatisfied with the cartel's current leadership, saying that they have been forced into contributing to the cartel's "assessments," rather than voluntarily providing monies as in the past. A number of groups have reportedly started supporting the "Cali Cartel" in its turf war with the Medellin groups; they believe the Medellin traffickers have "robbed" many of their customer groups by falsely claiming that shipments were intercepted and then selling their client's cocaine in the U.S. and Europe.

This cartel operates principally out of Medellin, Colombia. The organizations which make it up maintain central "offices," which they utilize to make and receive long distance telephone calls (and occasionally, facsimile transmissions) from their representatives in cities in the United States, Western Europe and Asia.

The Medellin Cartel had established strong ties to former Panamanian strongman, Manuel Antonio Noriega, who used his power and influence to corrupt Panama into a haven for Colombian drug traffickers. Noriega assisted the likes of Pablo Escobar and others in the Medellin Cartel to evade Colombian and U.S. authorities by providing sanctuary in Panama. More importantly, Noriega's regime corrupted the Panamanian financial system into a huge money laundering operation at the service of drug traffickers.

The new government and social order in Panama will surely throw the Medellin Cartel's money laundering and banking operations for a tail spin—until the Cartel is able to replace lost Panamanian resources elsewhere.

In Miami, [redacted] prominent among Colombians in the South Florida area, have been identified as the principal representatives of [redacted] and his associates [redacted] Pablo Escobar-Gaviria and [redacted] reside in the Miami area.

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The two direct the receipt and distribution of multi-hundred kilogram quantities of cocaine sent to the U.S. by the member groups of the "Medellin Cartel." They have individuals working for them in the cities of Miami, New York City and Los Angeles. Among their associates in the Miami area are top Miami transporters [redacted] his partner [redacted] LNU (last name unknown), with whom they have done business without problems for over ten years. [redacted] Miami operation employs between eight to ten persons who actually receive and distribute. In New York they are represented by a Colombian national named [redacted] who in turn supervises about ten others engaged in the distribution in the New York area. Three other [redacted] known only as [redacted] represent [redacted] U.S. operation in the Los Angeles area.

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The Medellin Cartel has suffered serious setbacks in recent months, what with the death of Jose Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha and Colombian President Barco's vigorous campaign to locate and apprehend the remaining Medellin kingpins. Unverified information from one reliable source indicates that Pablo Escobar and [redacted] are shipping no more than 200-500 kilos of cocaine per month—less than ten percent of the amounts of cocaine they routinely shipped to the U.S. before their operations were disrupted by their "wars" with Cali and the Colombian Government.

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Another individual identified as a U.S. representative of the Medellin Cartel is [redacted] identified by several sources as Pablo Emilio Escobar-Gaviria's man in Miami. The following description of the Escobar-Gaviria organization is presented as a generic example of the organizational structure of a typical Medellin Cartel Group:

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## ORGANIZATION

Pablo Emilio Escobar-Gaviria, together with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] are known throughout the Colombian underworld as "Los Pablós." Their organization is regarded by most observers to be among the most powerful, wielding political as well as economic power within the Republic of Colombia. Its representatives and distributors work primarily in Miami, New York, Chicago, Boston and Los Angeles. This organization controls production, transportation, and, with the [REDACTED] and Rodriguez-Gacha groups, generally sets the prices for cocaine for the rest of the Cartels. Escobar-Gaviria has become a household name in Colombia due to his past service as an alternate in that country's senate and his past frequent public appearances.

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b7C*Key/Dominant Figures of the Organization:*

[REDACTED] also known as (aka) [REDACTED]  
Lives in Miami, Florida. Involved in air smuggling. No other identifying information available.

[REDACTED] aka [REDACTED]  
DOB [REDACTED] with alternate DOBs [REDACTED] Addresses in Cartagena and Medellin, Colombia and Miami, Florida. Reportedly also a key/dominant figure in the Rodriguez-Gacha organization.

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[REDACTED]  
Lives in Florida (exact location unknown). Dealer/distributor. No other identifying information available. May be identical to [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] also known as [REDACTED] has addresses in Houston and Sugarland, Texas, and Miami, Florida.

*Key/Dominant Figures Not Further Identified:*

[REDACTED]  
Possibly identical to [REDACTED] DOB [REDACTED] also known as [REDACTED]

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b7C*Members:*

[REDACTED] AKA [REDACTED]  
DOB [REDACTED] Addresses in Sydney, Australia and Medellin and Envigado, Colombia.

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[REDACTED]  
DOB [REDACTED] Addresses in Miami and Hialeah, Florida and Medellin, Colombia.

*Members Not Further Identified:*

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
DOB [REDACTED] Lives in Medellin, Colombia.

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[REDACTED]  
Addresses in Hialeah and Miami, Florida and Barranquilla, Colombia.

[REDACTED]  
Lives in Medellin, Colombia.

[REDACTED]  
Lives in Envigado, Colombia.

[REDACTED]  
DOB [REDACTED] Lives in Miami, Florida.

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[REDACTED]  
*Members With Last Name Unknown*

[REDACTED]  
Lives in Medellin, Colombia.

[REDACTED]  
**OPERATION**

Escobar-Gaviria's group was among the first to organize itself like a corporation, dispatching representatives or "managers" to the United States in order to serve in various cities for a one or two year period. These representatives are given sums of two and three hundred thousand dollars to purchase or rent "stash" houses in quiet suburban neighborhoods (preferably homes with an enclosed/attached garage), purchase a number of vehicles to move the group's cocaine, and recruit a number of individuals to serve as guards for the "stash," along with couriers who travel between the various U.S. cities in which the group operates.

**FINANCES**

Escobar-Gaviria's group was also among the first to institute a system of internal audits, dispatching on an irregular basis trusted representatives (sometimes attorneys or professional accountants) who unexpectedly appear in the U.S. to check on each manager's performance and inventory.

**POLICE/PUBLIC CORRUPTION**

Escobar-Gaviria's group, as well as other Medellin cartel members, have established a network of contacts within the Colombian government enabling them to effectively avoid capture.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Members and representatives of this organization have been utilizing public telephones, pagers and high frequency radio equipment to communicate among themselves and with principals in Colombia.

### CHARACTERISTICS

The Escobar-Gaviria group has a policy of transferring its U.S. based representatives from city to city as they either get arrested or attract the attention of law enforcement. A manager who gets in trouble in Miami, for example, can expect to return to Medellin for a short time to "cool off," and will subsequently be sent to another U.S. city to work for the organization.

### ASSESSMENT

The Escobar-Gaviria organization had been extending its activities and scope on a broader international scale, seeking expansion into markets in Europe and Asia. Recent Colombian government operations directed against the Medellin Cartel membership has disrupted cocaine production, curtailing these expansion efforts and resulting in dissatisfaction and restlessness among its membership. It is not known at this time what effect these operations will have on the long term makeup of the cartel membership.

### BASIS OF INFORMATION

Information for this REI will be collected from debriefing of new/established sources who have access to the leadership, members and methods of operation of the Escobar-Gaviria organization and other Medellin Cartel members.



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TO DIRECTOR FBI/IMMEDIATE/

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UNCLAS E F T O

CITE: //5700:BCG043.050//

PASS: FBIHQ, CID, OC/DIS, C/SACU, ATTN: UC [REDACTED]

OLIA, FLU #2, ATTN: SSA [REDACTED] MIAMI FOR ASAC ROGER WHEELER

AND SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: PABLO EMILIO ESCOBAR GAVIRIA; THE MEDELLIN CARTEL;  
COLOMBIAN/SOUTH AMERICAN DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION; REI -  
DRUGS; OO: MIAMI.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF RECIPIENTS, ON THE AFTERNOON OF  
FEBRUARY 19, 1993, LEGAT, BOGOTA LEARNED THAT PABLO ESCOBAR'S

[REDACTED]

O - CID, OLIA

CC - OLIA

CC - DIVERS 7325

92-19853-511

Email done on 2/22/93  
"Pablo Escobar" [REDACTED]

PAGE TWO DE BOG 0005 UNCLAS E F T O

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] WERE DETAINED AND PREVENTED FROM BOARDING A U.S. BOUND AIRPLANE AT THE MEDELLIN AIRPORT. PRELIMINARY INFORMATION SUGGESTS THAT THE DETENTION WAS BASED ON THE FACT THAT [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] DID NOT HAVE THE REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION FROM [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY. THIS DETENTION CAUSED THE TRAVELLERS TO MISS THEIR SCHEDULED AVIANCA FLIGHT.

LEGAT DETERMINED THAT AVIANCA AIRLINES HAS DIRECT FLIGHT SERVICE FROM MEDELLIN, COLOMBIA TO MIAMI, FLORIDA. THE SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS: AVIANCA FLIGHT NUMBER 060 DEPARTS MEDELLIN TUESDAY AND FRIDAY AT 0930 HOURS AND ARRIVES AT MIAMI AT 1230 HOURS; ON WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, AVIANCA FLIGHT NUMBER 060 DEPARTS MEDELLIN AT 0815 HOURS AND ARRIVES AT MIAMI AT 1120 HOURS. AVIANCA OFFERS NO FLIGHT SERVICE BETWEEN MEDELLIN AND MIAMI ON MONDAY.

LEGAT IS OF THE OPINION THAT THE ABOVE-MENTIONED PERSONS ARE UNDERTAKING A TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES BECAUSE PABLO ESCOBAR MADE A DECISION [REDACTED] TO LEAVE THEIR MEDELLIN RESIDENCE FOR THEIR OWN PERSONAL SAFETY. THIS PAST WEEK, "LOS PEPES" (PERSECUTED BY PABLO ESCOBAR), A SELF-

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PAGE THREE DE BOG 0005 UNCLAS E F T O

PROCLAIMED ANTI-ESCOBAR GROUP, TOOK CREDIT FOR THE FIRE-BOMBING OF ESCOBAR'S [REDACTED] COUNTRY HOME AND AN ESCOBAR WAREHOUSE, WHICH HOUSED ESCOBAR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION OF VINTAGE AUTOMOBILES AND ANTIQUE PAINTINGS. BOTH STRUCTURES WERE REDUCED TO A FEW STANDING BLOCKS AND ASHES. THE ENTIRE ANTIQUE AUTO COLLECTION WAS DESTROYED.

LEGAT, BOGOTA IS FURNISHING THE ABOVE INFORMATION TO MIAMI WITH THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES IN MIND:

LEGAT IS OF THE OPINION THAT ESCOBAR WILL ENTRUST THE SAFETY OF [REDACTED] ONLY TO THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE STILL CLOSE TO HIM AND TOTALLY TRUSTED BY HIM. THUS, MIAMI MAY IDENTIFY ESCOBAR ASSOCIATES PRESENTLY IN MIAMI.

ONCE IDENTIFIED, MIAMI MAY WISH TO CONSIDER PLACING A PEN REGISTER AND/OR REVERSE TELEPHONE TRAP AT THE RESIDENCE/BUSINESS PLACE OF SUCH A TRUSTED PERSON, IN AN EFFORT TO OBTAIN COLOMBIAN TELEPHONE NUMBERS WHICH MAY DISCLOSE THE CURRENT WHEREABOUTS OF PABLO ESCOBAR.

FOR INFORMATION OF MIAMI, [REDACTED] WERE ESCORTED TO THE MEDELLIN AIRPORT BY APPROXIMATELY TWENTY (20) ARMED PERSONAL BODYGUARDS. LEGAT OPINES THAT PERSONS

PAGE FOUR DE BOG 0005 UNCLAS E F T O

MEETING [REDACTED] AT MIAMI WILL ALSO BE

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ARMED. DO THEY HAVE PERMITS FOR THEIR WEAPONS?

THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS SUBMITTED FOR MIAMI'S  
CONSIDERATION. LEGAT WILL KEEP RECIPIENTS ADVISED OF  
ADDITIONAL DETAILS AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE.

BT

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