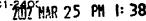
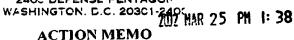


# ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEELING DE THE







## FOR: SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

FROM: Assistant Secretary of Defense. International Security Affairs (Peter W. Rodman, (b)(6)

SUBJECT: Reply to letter from Colombian Minister of Defense Bell

- The letter from Colombian MOD Bell expresses support for the U.S.-Colombian Bilateral Working Group and requests a fourth meeting soonest. (Tab B)
- Given the gravity of the security situation and evolving USG policy toward Colombia. I propose holding the fourth meeting in Washington in May 2002.
- Head of USG/DoD delegation should remain at the ASD-level.

RECOMMENDATION: Sign the attached letter and release the transmittal cable at Tab A.

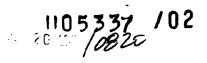
**COORDINATION: TAB C** 

Attachments: As Stated

DASD/WHA \_\_\_\_\_ PDASD/ISA

Prepared by LTC







### SECRETARY OF DEFENSE 1000 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

(b)(5)	
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# SARAH DISKETTE TABLE OF CONTENTS RELEASING DOCUMENT

CREATION DATE: 080302 CREATION TIME: 11270000 SARAH VERSION NUMBER: 3.03

MAXIMUM CLASSIFICATION OF THIS DISKETTE: UUUU HIGHEST CLASSIFICATION ON THIS DISKETTE: UUUU

DISKETTE RELEASING OFFICIAL'S NAME: DONALD H. RUMSFELD

ORG: DOD

OFFICE: SEC

PHONE:

TOC FILE CRC: 8385

MSG PREC ACTION DATE/TIME FILETIME TOT/ SPECAT
FILENAME TYPE | CLASS | GROUP SSN | TOR CIC | CRC

BWGCOL DD173 RR UU REDY 190341ZMAR02 ZYUW N 27339

DOD SEC
ORGANIZATION/OFFICE SYMBOL/PHONE NUMBER

DONALD H. RUMSFELD

#### UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 of 01

DTG: 190341Z MAR 02

Drafter's Name : (b)(6) USA, LTC, COUNTRY DIR

Office/Phone : OUSD (ISA) WHA

Releaser's Info : DONALD H. RUMSFELD, SECDEF

Action Prec : ROUTINE Info Prec : ROUTINE

Specat:

From: SECDEF WASHINGTON DC

To: AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

USDAO BOGOTA

Info: SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC

DIA WASHINGTON DC

JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J5//

USCINCSOUTH MIAMI FL

SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP-CHAIRS//

TEXT FOLLOWS

#### UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM SECDEF RUMSFELD TO COLOMBIA MINISTER OF DEFENSE (MOD) GUSTAVO BELL LEMUS

1. REQUEST YOU DELIVER TO MINISTER OF DEFENSE GUSTAVO BELL LEMUS

#### OJOTE

THE HONORABLE GUSTAVO BELL LEMUS
MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA
SANTA FE DE BOGOTA, COLOMBIA

DEAR MR. MINISTER:

(PARA) THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER SUPPORTING CONTINUED U.S.-COLOMBIAN BILATERAL WORKING GROUP MEETINGS.

(PARA) I PROPOSE THAT THE NEXT BILATERAL WORKING GROUP TAKE PLACE IN WASHINGTON IN MAY 2002. SHOULD THIS DATE BE ACCEPTABLE TO YOU, OUR STAFFS COULD BEGIN PLANNING IMMEDIATELY. I HAVE DESIGNATED THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS, PETER W. RODMAN, TO LEAD THE U.S. DELEGATION.

(PARA) GIVEN YOUR GOVERNMENT'S RECENT BOLD STEPS AGAINST THE FARC AND THE SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGES THAT CONFRONT YOUR ARMED FORCES, THIS MEETING COMES AT A CRITICAL TIME FOR OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

//SINCERELY,//
DONALD H. RUMSFELD
END QUOTE
2. HARD COPY TO FOLLOW.

UNCLASSIFIED

# COORDINATION

Under Secretary of Defense for Policy

Mr. Douglas J. Feith

845 [] 7

# C & D INSTRUCTIONS Date Signed/Approved\_\_\_\_ SOM Distribution: Original To: Olese Off Copies: CC | Multi-Memo | Signers MAS MAD MAD Administrative Notes: