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SECRET
THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
2000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-2000

SECDEF HAT

MAR 25 2002

(17)

I-02/004081-WH

OFFICE OF THE
UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

ACTION MEMO

Larry Di Rita
3/18

FOR: SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

FROM: Under Secretary of Defense for Policy
(Mr. Douglas J. Feith, (b)(6))

APD 3/14/02

SUBJECT: COLOMBIA: THE WAY AHEAD

Not sent
I spoke with
The President directly
about Colombia
DR

At TAB A is a memorandum on Colombia that you may wish to send to the President.

The VCJCS concurs in this memorandum.

RECOMMENDATION: That you review and send the attached memorandum to the President.

COORDINATION: Tab B

Prepared by: LTC (b)(6) ISA/WHA, (b)(6)

3/14/02
→ SD
We held up this
memo for a few
days in order
to clear it with
Gen. Pace and Gen. Myers.
Doug Feith

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Classified by: ASD/ISA Peter W. Rodman
Reasons: 1.5(b) and (d)
Declassify on: 11 March 2012

SPL ASSISTANT DI RITA	3/18
SR MA GIAMBASTIANI	23/18
MA BUCCI	
EXECSEC WHITMORE	3/16



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TAB A



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

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Colombia: The Way Ahead (U)

(U) On February 20, 2002, President Pastrana set aside his "peace process" and ordered elimination of the FARC narcoterrorists' safehaven.

(b)(1)

(U) Congressional opinion, on both sides of the aisle, appears to be (b)(1)

(b)(1)

(b)(1)

(b)(1)

(b)(1)

(b)(1)

- Pastrana, because of his large investment in the (now failed) peace process, legitimates support for strong military action in the eyes of people from across the political spectrum – in this country, in Colombia, and internationally.
- Colombia has asked for our help.

(S) There are several near-term steps we should take:

- Continue to provide strong declaratory support.
- Emphasize that the FARC, AUC and ELN are "narcoterrorist organizations"

(b)(1)

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Classified by: R. Pardo-Maurer, DASD/WHA

Reason: 1.5(b) and (d)

Declassify on: 03/12/2012



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- (b)(1)
- (b)(1)

- Help Colombia build its military capabilities, institutions and infrastructure.
- Designate a high level "Special Ambassador" as called for in House Resolution 358 to coordinate U.S. assistance to Colombia.
- Issue a new National Security Presidential Directive:
 - Clinton Administration's PDD-73 - based solely on counternarcotics - is too restrictive.
- Work with Congress to craft a new bipartisan consensus.

(C) Also, the February 26 Principals' Committee decision should be amended to:

- support the steps listed above;
- work with Congress to obtain greater flexibility to (b)(1)
- work with Congress to obtain funding necessary to effect the above steps.

cc: The Vice President
Colin Powell
Condoleezza Rice

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Classified by: R. Pardo-Maurer, DASD/WHA
Reason: 1.5(b) and (d)
Declassify on: 03/12/2012