



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

MAY 20 2003

(210)

293

Her Excellency  
Marta Lucia Ramírez de Rincón  
Minister of National Defense of the Republic of Colombia  
Bogotá, Colombia

Dear Madam Minister:

Please accept my condolences for the murders of former Defense Minister Echeverri, Governor Gaviria and the eight Colombian soldiers.

Such brutal acts should only strengthen our resolve to work together to defeat terrorism.

Sincerely,

20 May 03



U07256 /03

S A R A H D I S K E T T E T A B L E O F C O N T E N T S  
R E L E A S I N G D O C U M E N T

CREATION DATE: 130503  
 CREATION TIME: 16360000  
 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: OSD OFFICE: SECDEF PHONE: 3-7100  
 TOC FILE CRC: 682

FILENAME	MSG TYPE	PREC   CLASS	ACTION GROUP	DATE/TIME	FILETIME SSN	TOT/ TOR	SPECAT CIC	CRC
RAMCABLE	DD173	RRZUU	REDY	150722ZMAY03			ZYUW N	26784

OSD SECDEF 3-7100  
 ORGANIZATION/OFFICE SYMBOL/PHONE NUMBER

  
 DONALD H. RUMSFELD

MAY 20 2003

U07256 /03

UNCLASSIFIED  
UNCLAS

DTG: 150722Z MAY 03

PAGE 01 of 01

Drafter's Name : LTC (b)(6) COUNTRY DIRE  
Office/Phone : ISA/WHA, (b)(6)

Releaser's Info : DONALD H. RUMS, SECDE, OSD, -7100

Action Prec : ROUTINE  
Info Prec : ROUTINE  
Specat :

From: SECDEF WASHINGTON DC  
To: USDAO BOGOTA CO  
Info: AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
USCINCSO MIAMI FL//SCJ32/5//  
USMILGP BOGOTA CO  
DIA WASHINGTON DC  
JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J5//  
SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP/DSCA//  
SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP/CHAIRS//

TEXT FOLLOWS  
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UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM SECDEF RUMSFELD TO COLOMBIAN MINISTER OF  
DEFENSE (MOD) MARTA LUCIA RAMIREZ DE RINCON

1. REQUEST YOU DELIVER THE FOLLOWING LETTER TO MINISTER OF DEFENSE  
RAMIREZ.

QUOTE

HER EXCELLENCY

MARTA LUCIA RAMIREZ DE RINCON

MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA

BOGOTA, COLOMBIA

QUOTE

DEAR MADAM MINISTER:

(PARA) PLEASE ACCEPT MY CONDOLENCES FOR THE MURDERS OF FORMER  
DEFENSE MINISTER ECHEVERRI, GOVERNOR GAVIRIA AND THE EIGHT COLOMBIAN  
SOLDIERS.

(PARA) SUCH BRUTAL ACTS SHOULD ONLY STRENGTHEN OUR RESOLVE TO WORK  
TOGETHER TO DEFEAT TERRORISM.

//SINCERELY//

DONALD H. RUMSFELD

END QUOTE

2. HARD COPY TO FOLLOW

UNCLASSIFIED

U07256 /03

415  
1730



INTERNATIONAL  
SECURITY  
AFFAIRS

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
2400 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-2400

EF-5172

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

ACTION MEMO

2003 MAY 14 PM 2:16

I-03/006332-WHR

USDP *copy provided*

*5/14/03*

FOR: SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

*Jaymie Duman*

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

07 MAY 2003

SUBJECT: Condolence Letter to Colombian Defense Minister Ramirez

- On 5 May, the FARC executed Former Defense Minister Gilberto Echeverri in a remote area of Antioquia Department.
- Antioquia Department Governor Guillermo Gaviria and eight captive soldiers were murdered as well.
- The FARC allegedly executed the prisoners with shots to the head during an ill-fated rescue attempt by a Colombian Special Forces Unit.
- A condolence letter has been prepared for your signature.

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

COORDINATION: TAB B

Attachments: As Stated

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

PDASD/ISA

*cl*

MAY -7 2003

SPL ASS	Duman	5/14
SR M		2311
MA		5/15/03
CON		5/15

U07256 / 03



**COORDINATION**

**SOI.IC/CN**

**DASD/CN Andre Hollis, 6 May 03**

**DoD General**

**copy provided May 6**

## C & D INSTRUCTIONS

CCD Control # U07256-03

Date Signed/Approved 5/20/03

SOM ☒ Donald Rumsfeld  
to SSM release document

Distribution: for message

Original To: addeu

Copies: CC ☐ Multi-Memo ☐

Signers ☐ MAS ☐ MAD ☐

~~USP~~ \_\_\_\_\_  
USP \_\_\_\_\_  
GC \_\_\_\_\_  
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Administrative Notes:

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J 5/20/03  
Duty Officer Initials/Date