
Link. 1

The [documentation suggesting drug link to Mr. Alvaro Uribe's family.](http://74.125.45.132/search?q=cache:YqiiTCDu2xAJ:https://lists.ni.org/pipermail/dd-la/2007-December/006675.html+COLOMBIA+Uribe+anti+corruption+chief+resigns&hl=en&client=firefox-a&gl=us&strip=0)

<http://74.125.45.132/search?q=cache:YqiiTCDu2xAJ:https://lists.ni.org/pipermail/dd-la/2007-December/006675.html+COLOMBIA+Uribe+anti+corruption+chief+resigns&hl=en&client=firefox-a&gl=us&strip=0>

The Miami Herald
Monday, December 10, 2007

1984 documents suggest drug link to Uribe family

A justice minister -- later assassinated -- complained in the 1980s that drug dealing had infiltrated politics, possibly even the Uribe family, documents showed.

BY GERARDO REYES
El Nuevo Herald

Rodrigo Lara Bonilla, Colombia's former justice minister who led a campaign against drug trafficking in the 1980s, once said President Alvaro Uribe and his father were models of how Colombian society had been infiltrated by drug dealers, according to legal documents obtained by El Nuevo Herald.

In a sworn declaration made in 1984, Lara Bonilla's sister declared that he had cited the case of a helicopter that had been captured in a huge cocaine laboratory in the south of Colombia that, according to government information, was owned by the president's father, Alberto Uribe Sierra. He had made the statement just weeks before his assassination by ''sicarios'' from the Medellín Cartel.

President Uribe has denied any wrongdoing by either himself or his father and family, saying that the helicopter had been sold a month before the seizure. But there is no document showing the transfer of the chopper in the aeronautics registry.

Lara Bonilla's son and Colombia's current anticorruption czar, Rodrigo Lara Restrepo, told El Nuevo Herald that neither he nor his brothers had read the files of his father, who was killed in April 1984.

''Now that I know [of] these documents, I believe it is a delicate topic, and I will give a declaration the next few days,'' he said.

ALL SECTORS

Weeks before he was assassinated, Lara Bonilla complained about drug traffickers infiltrating all sectors of society.

His remarks weren't generic. They came with names, dates and places.

The sister's sworn statement, made in July 1984 as a result of Lara Bonilla's death, suggests he considered that President Uribe's father

could be linked with drug dealing because the helicopter he owned had been discovered in a raid made in a cocaine-processing laboratory in a place known as Tranquilandia.

'He said that the Tranquilandia affair was serious, and it implicated very important people of the country's political sphere, that the captured helicopter was owned by Alvaro Uribe Velez's father,' said his sister Cecilia Lara Bonilla. 'Then, he told me: `The mafia has infiltrated all the country's sectors, not only the political, but also the economy.' '

FEAR OF ATTACK

In another sworn declaration made in the file, police Col. Jaime Ramírez Gómez, who coordinated the operation against Tranquilandia, said that he had a conversation with Lara Bonilla about his fear of an attack.

'He told me that if he were targeted, the protagonists would be the owners of all the seized properties in that cocaine laboratory. I asked him to give me more details and he said, 'The owners of the helicopter and the airplanes you captured,' ' Ramírez said.

Lara Bonilla did not mention any names then.

The Miami Herald
Thursday, December 13, 2007

Uribe's anticorruption chief resigns

BY GONZALO GUILLEN
El Nuevo Herald

BOGOTA -- Colombia's top corruption fighter resigned Wednesday, just days after El Nuevo Herald reported on documents showing his father, then the minister of justice, had commented before his assassination in 1985 that relatives of current President Alvaro Uribe might try to kill him.

Rodrigo Lara Restrepo, chief of the Colombian presidency's anticorruption program, said he was resigning for 'personal and family' reasons and didn't mention the newspaper's Sunday story. The story revolved around a Hughes-500 helicopter captured in a 1984 raid on a huge cocaine-refining complex dubbed as Tranquilandia. The aircraft was registered to a company partly owned by Alberto Uribe Sierra, the late father of the president.

Over the past two decades, the Uribe family has steadfastly denied any

links to the helicopter's drug work. It has said the aircraft was sold two months before the raid to a man later identified as an aide to drug traffickers. The sale was not registered because the elder Uribe had died and his properties had gone into his estate.

El Nuevo reported that documents gathered during the investigation of Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla's assassination showed he had commented to his sister Cecilia and Police Col. Jaime Ramírez Gómez that he feared he would be killed in retaliation for the raid.

Lara Bonilla ''said that the Tranquilandia thing was very grave and that it involved very important people in the politics of the country, that the helicopter that was seized . . . was owned by the father of Alvaro Uribe,'' Cecilia said in a sworn deposition shortly after her brother's death.

Ramírez García testified the justice minister expressed the same concerns to him about the owners of the helicopter.

Uribe did not react to Sunday story but on Wednesday the presidency made public a letter to El Nuevo Herald in which it described the report as the product of ``individuals determined to discredit [Colombia] and besmirch its legitimate authorities.''

''President Alvaro Uribe has refuted this infamy tens of times,'' it added.

COUNTRY: (U) COLOMBIA (CO); MEXICO (MX); ECUADOR (EC); CANADA (CA); PERU (PE).

X-
COMBINE: COMPLETE

SUBJ: (U) IIR [REDACTED] /NARCOTICS - COLOMBIAN NARCO-TRAFFICKER PROFILES (U).

X-
WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFO REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTEL. REPORT CLASSIFIED ~~CONFIDENTIAL NOFORN UNINTEL~~.
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 910318.

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REQS: (U) [REDACTED]

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SOURCE: ~~(S/NF)~~ [REDACTED]

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UNCLASSIFIED

SUMMARY: (U) THIS REPORT PROVIDES INFORMATION ON THE MORE IMPORTANT COLOMBIAN NARCO-TRAFFICKERS CONTRACTED BY THE CARTELS FOR SECURITY, TRANSPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION, COLLECTION AND ENFORCEMENT OF NARCOTICS OPERATIONS IN BOTH THE US AND COLOMBIA. THESE INDIVIDUALS ARE ALSO CONTRACTED AS "HIT MEN" FOR ASSASSINATIONS BY THE CARTEL LEADERS.

X-

TEXT: (U)

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT FORWARDS PROFILES ON THE MORE IMPORTANT COLOMBIAN NARCO-TERRORISTS CONTRACTED BY THE COLOMBIAN NARCOTIC CARTELS FOR SECURITY, TRANSPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION, COLLECTION AND ENFORCEMENT OF NARCOTICS OPERATIONS IN BOTH THE US AND COLOMBIA. THESE INDIVIDUALS ARE ALSO CONTRACTED AS "HIT MEN" TO ASSASSINATE INDIVIDUALS TARGETED BY THE "EXTRADITABLES", OR INDIVIDUAL NARCOTIC LEADERS' AND TO PERFORM TERRORIST ACTS AGAINST COLOMBIAN OFFICIALS, OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, AND GROUPS OF OTHER POLITICAL PERSUASION. ((SOURCE COMMENT) - THESE INDIVIDUALS FREQUENTLY TRAVEL TO COUNTRIES UNDER ASSUMED IDENTITIES, UTILIZING FALSE DOCUMENTS, OR ENTER COUNTRIES ILLEGALLY. BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF DATES OF BIRTH, THE MAJORITY OF THESE PEOPLE ARE NOT POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED IN DATA BASES. IN SOME CASES IDENTIFICATION HAS BEEN MADE VIA INTERFACES WITH OTHER AGENCIES). THE FOLLOWING CORRESPOND TO THE PHOTOS PROVIDED IN THE ENCLOSURE.

1. JHON JAIRO ((VELASQUEZ)) VASQUEZ - ALIAS "POPEYE", COLOMBIAN ID NO. 71 697 722 ISSUED IN MEDELLIN. INDIVIDUAL IS A MAJOR TERRORIST CHIEF IN THE SERVICE OF THE MEDELLIN CARTEL AND IS A

79. PABLO ((ESCOBAR GAVIRIA)) - THE MAXIMUM CHIEF OF THE MEDELLIN CARTEL WHO BEGAN AS AN ASSASSIN AND NOW IS IN CHARGE OF THE BIGGEST MULT-NATIONAL CRIMINAL ORGANIZATION IN THE WORLD. ESCOBAR IS WANTED BY VARIOUS COUNTRIES AND THE US HAS REQUESTED HIS EXTRADITION FOR MULTIPLE CRIMES. ESCOBAR HAS REPORTEDLY PARTICIPATED IN VARIOUS MURDERS OF HIGH RANKING COLOMBIAN PERSONALITIES SUCH AS THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CARLOS MAURO HOYOS, THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE RODRIGO ((LARA BONILLA)), DIRECTOR/EDITOR OF THE "EL EXPECTADOR" NEWSPAPER, GUILLERMO ((CANO))' AND PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE LUIS CARLOS ((GALAN)). DOB 491201.

80. YAIR ((KLEIN)) - RETIRED ISRAELI ARMY COLONEL, MERCENARY AND EXPERT IN MILITARY TACTICS. KLEIN SENT ADVISORS TO THE MEDELLIN CARTEL TO TRAIN THE CARTEL PARAMILITARY FORCES AND SELECTED ASSASSIN TEAM LEADERS ON HOW TO UNLEASH WAVES OF TERRORISM IN COLOMBIA TO DESTROY LAW, ORDER, AND UNDERMINE DEMOCRACY WITH THE MULTIPLE MURDERS THAT HAVE OCCURRED IN COLOMBIA. KLEIN ALSO FACILITATED THE TRANSPORT OF WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION, TO THE CARIBBEAN AND SOUTH AMERICAN AREAS, WHICH EVENTUALLY SURFACED IN THE POSSESSION OF THE COLOMBIAN CARTELS AND COLOMBIAN GUERRILLA FORCES.

81. BERTA INEZ ((MEJIA DE SERNA)) COLOMBIAN POLITICIAN AND ASSEMBLYWOMAN FROM ENVIGADO, COLOMBIA WHO WAS ARRESTED IN 1990 FOR LENDING ASSISTANCE TO THE MEDELLIN CARTEL. THIS POLITICIAN IS A DIRECT COLLABORATOR WITH PABLO ESCOBAR.

82. ALVARO URIBE VELEZ - A COLOMBIAN POLITICIAN AND SENATOR DEDICATED TO COLLABORATION WITH THE MEDELLIN CARTEL AT HIGH GOVERNMENT LEVELS. URIBE WAS LINKED TO A BUSINESS INVOLVED IN NARCOTICS ACTIVITIES IN THE US. HIS FATHER WAS MURDERED IN COLOMBIA FOR HIS CONNECTION WITH THE NARCOTIC TRAFFICKERS. URIBE

HAS WORKED FOR THE MEDELLIN CARTEL AND IS A CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND OF PABLO ESCOBAR GAVIRIA. HE HAS PARTICIPATED IN ESCOBAR'S POLITICAL CAMPAIGN TO WIN THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT PARLIAMENTARIAN TO JORGE ((ORTEGA)). URIBE HAS BEEN ONE OF THE POLITICIANS, FROM THE SENATE, WHO HAS ATTACKED ALL FORMS OF THE EXTRADITION TREATY.

83. ALVARO DIEGO ((MONTAYA)) - A POLITICIAN AND INDUSTRIALIST FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIOQUIA HAS BEEN LINKED TO PABLO ESCOBAR GAVIRIA. HE HAS BEEN INVESTIGATED FOR SUCH LINKS AND HAS ACTED AS AN INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT AND PABLO ESCOBAR GAVIRIA.

Link. 3

The suspicion of [Mr. Álvaro Uribe Involvement in paramilitary actions](http://www.justiceforcolombia.org/?link=newsPage&story=296)
<http://www.justiceforcolombia.org/?link=newsPage&story=296>

Posted by Justice for Colombia | Date 27 April 2008

Mounting Evidence of President's Involvement in Massacre



Former paramilitary Francisco Enrique Villalba has been the victim of three assassination attempts since he started talking

Sworn testimony from one of the participants, a beeper message sent from one paramilitary death squad member to another, and the participation of his official helicopter, all indicate that the former Governor of the Colombian department of Antioquia was involved in the notorious 1997 'El Aro' massacre of 15 civilians by a paramilitary death squad. But of more interest today is that the then Governor of Antioquia, is now the President of Colombia – Alvaro Uribe.

Evidence of Uribe's involvement in the massacre is mounting rapidly with the latest development being the sworn testimony of former paramilitary fighter Francisco Enrique Villalba. He has testified under oath to the Prosecutor General's office that he saw then Governor Uribe at a meeting with paramilitary commanders and Army officers where the massacre was planned and then at a subsequent meeting days after the killing spree where Uribe thanked those who had taken part for a successful mission.

Opposition Senator Gustavo Petro has also asked why then Governor Uribe's personal helicopter was allegedly used to transport the paramilitaries to the site of the massacre. Other evidence has come to light showing that during the massacre one paramilitary sent a beeper message to another asking him to "call the Governor".

The Inter-American Human Rights Court has already condemned the Colombian Government for their involvement in the massacre, citing proof that the Army collaborated with the paramilitaries. But their sentence also mentions the fact that when Governor Uribe was told that a paramilitary massacre in the village of 'El Aro' was imminent, he refused to act to protect residents.

Here, using Villalba's testimony and other sources, JFC has attempted to put together the whole story of what happened before, during and after the massacre at 'El Aro' – a story that may have enormous consequences for Colombian President Alvaro Uribe.

'El Aro', Alvaro Uribe's Massacre?

- On 22nd October 1997, according to testimony from Mr Villalba, Governor Alvaro Uribe, accompanied by his brother Santiago, attended a meeting at a ranch in the La Caucana area of Antioquia department. Also present at the meeting were several senior military officers from the 4th Brigade of the Colombian Army (including General Carlos Ospina, the commander of the Brigade) and a group of paramilitary death squad commanders. These commanders included Carlos Castano, the then national leader of the paramilitaries, and his deputy Salvatore Mancuso. Also present was a man named Jose Ardila, a senior leader of the private vigilante groups known as CONVIVIR that legally operated in Antioquia at that time after Governor Uribe had promoted their formation.

At the meeting the men planned an operation to attack the village of El Aro in the north of Antioquia department. Residents of the village were allegedly sympathetic to a local leftwing guerrilla unit and, most importantly for those present, and especially for the Uribe brothers, the guerrillas were thought to be holding eight wealthy ranchers nearby that they had kidnapped for ransom. Agreements were also reached that the Army would remove their checkpoints and roadblocks from the region on the day of the attack.

At the meeting Santiago Uribe, who was at the time (according to Villalba and several other sources) managing his own paramilitary death squad, committed 20 of his own men to participate in the El Aro operation. Governor Alvaro Uribe told those assembled to "do whatever you have to do".

- Human Rights Watch has documented what happened three days later:

"While soldiers maintained a perimeter around El Aro, an estimated 25 paramilitaries entered the village, rounded up the residents and executed four people in the village plaza...Storeowner Aurelio Areiza and his family were told to slaughter a steer and prepare food from their shelves to feed the paramilitaries on October 25.... The next day, Areiza was taken to a nearby house, tied to a tree, tortured and killed. Witnesses say the paramilitaries gouged out his eyes and cut off his tongue and testicles...Over the five days they remained in El Aro, the paramilitaries executed at least eleven people, including three children, burned forty-seven of the sixty-eight houses, including a pharmacy, a church, and the telephone exchange, looted stores, destroyed the pipes that fed the homes potable water, and forced most of the residents to flee. When they left on October 30, the paramilitaries took with them over 1,000 head of cattle along with goods looted from homes and stores. Afterwards, thirty other people were reported to be forcibly disappeared."

Subsequent investigations have found that in fact well over 100 paramilitaries were involved in the operation, that in total 15 people were murdered, and that female residents were raped.

Colombian Senator Gustavo Petro has also alleged that the paramilitaries were actually transported to El Aro by Governor Uribe's own helicopter. Separately Mr Villalba has

alleged that at least 800 of the stolen cattle ended up at a ranch owned by Mr Mancuso, the paramilitary commander mentioned above.

- A few days after the massacre, according to Villalba, Uribe and his brother returned to the La Caucana ranch to congratulate the paramilitaries for carrying out the operation successfully as well as for their successful rescue, conducted alongside of the massacre, of the eight wealthy ranchers. Uribe was accompanied by a bodyguard with the surname Serna.

Note: When asked by the prosecutors whether he had ever seen either of the Uribe brothers on previous occasions Mr Villalba replied that he had never met Alvaro before the first meeting, but that Santiago was well known to the paramilitaries as he commanded his own death squad at the time. Villalba added that he only realized that Alvaro was the Governor at the second meeting.

- In the months and years that followed, government agencies as well as human rights organizations opened investigations into the massacre at El Aro. However, in 1999 the government investigators that were involved in this work were themselves all murdered. The highest profile human rights defender in Antioquia at that time, Jesus Maria Valle Jaramillo, publicly stated that the Army and paramilitaries had collaborated on the massacre and questioned why Governor Uribe had ignored the plea for help from residents in the period immediately preceding the attack. Uribe responded by accusing Mr Valle Jaramillo of being an "enemy of the armed forces". Then in February 1999, he too was assassinated.

- Some time afterwards Jose Ardila, the CONVIVIR representative who had attended the first meeting at the ranch with the Uribe brothers, had a falling out with Uribe. He was subsequently sentenced to a 60-year prison term but shortly afterwards was taken out of jail. He has never been seen since.

- Since going public with his testimony, Mr Villalba, who himself is in jail, has been the victim of three assassination attempts.

Endnote: As mentioned above, in July 2006, the Inter American Court Human Rights Court found the Colombian Government guilty of involvement in the massacre, citing proof of army involvement in the operation. The court ordered that the Colombian State pay \$30,000 US dollars to each victims family – this, they instructed, should be split with 50% going to the partner of the victim with the other half being shared in equal quantities between parents, siblings and children of the victims. According to Victoria Fallon, the lawyer representing the families of the dead, not a penny has yet reached any of the families involved.



Álvaro
Uribe

Omar Pacheco
"Sergio"

Libardo
García



Manuel
Badillo

Ernesto
García

Cisneris
Sánchez

Alvaro
Uribe



Cisneris
Sánchez



Alvaro
Uribe

Comandante
Esteban



Fremio Sánchez
"Comandante Esteban"



Alvaro
Uribe