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C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 02909

DEPARTMENT FOR ARA/AND - BISHARAT

DOJ FOR AAG/ICITAP-KRISKOVICH

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
TAGS: PGOV, SNAR, KJUS, CO
SUBJECT: JUDICIAL PROTECTION CONFERENCE FOR COLOMBIA:
- ITALIAN PARTICIPANTS

REF: (A) STATE 32444 (B) 88 ROME 25251

1. (CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. REF B GAVE EMBASSY ROME'S LIST OF SUGGESTED
CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS. IN VIEW OF THE EMPHASIS PLACED
ON PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE WITH FORMULATING AND IMPLEMENTING
JUDICIAL PROTECTION PLANS, WE WOULD NARROW THIS EARLIER
LIST DOWN TO THE FOLLOWING FIVE INDIVIDUALS:

-- GIANNI DE GENNARO, ANTI-DRUG SERVICE OF THE ITALIAN
- CRIMINAL POLICE. HE SPEAKS GOOD ENGLISH. DE GENNARO
- HAS DEVISED PLANS FOR PROTECTING JUDGES AND WITNESSES.
- HE HAS HIMSELF BEEN THE OBJECT OF DEATH THREATS BY
- MAFIA HIT MEN.

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-- GEN. PIETRU SOGGIU, DIRECTOR, CENTRAL ANTI-DRUG
- SERVICE. HE SPEAKS FAIR ENGLISH. HE KNOWS MORE
- ABOUT COMBATTING THE DRUG TRADE IN ITALY THAN

- ANYONE ELSE. HE WOULD HAVE A STRONG INTEREST IN
- HELPING THE COLOMBIANS COMBAT NARCOTRAFFICKERS
- BECAUSE IT COULD REDUCE THE FLOW OF COCAINE TO THE
- ITALIAN MARKET. SOGGIUS' APPROVAL WOULD BE NEEDED
- BEFORE ANY ITALIAN EXPERTS IN THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT
- FIELD COULD BE SENT TO COLOMBIA.

-- JUDGE ROSARIO PRIORE, INVESTIGATING MAGISTRATE. HE
- SPEAKS FAIR ENGLISH. HIS SPECIALTY IS INVESTIGATING
- TERRORIST-RELATED CRIMES IN ITALY. HE HAS BEEN
- INVOLVED IN MANY INVESTIGATIONS OF BOTH INTERNATIONAL
- AND DOMESTIC TERRORISTS.

-- JUDGE GIOVANNI FALCONE, INVESTIGATING MAGISTRATE,
- PALERMO. HE SPEAKS FAIR ENGLISH. FALCONE HAS BEEN
- THE POINT OF CONTACT BETWEEN THE U.S. AND ITALY IN
- OUR JOINT INVESTIGATIONS AND PROSECUTIONS OF MAFIA
- FIGURES INVOLVED IN THE DRUG TRADE. HE HAS BEEN
- TARGETED BY THE MAFIA FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND COULD
- SPEAK WITH AUTHORITY TO COLOMBIAN MAGISTRATES WHO
- MUST WORK UNDER THE THREAT OF VIOLENT DEATH.

-- GIUSTO SCIACCHITANO, STATE PROSECUTOR, PALERMO. HE
- SPEAKS GOOD ENGLISH. LIKE FALCONE, SCIACCHITANO
- SPECIALIZES IN MAFIA PROSECUTIONS WHILE LIVING IN
- PALERMO. HE KNOWS ABOUT JUDICIAL PROTECTION BECAUSE
- HE HAS BEEN SUBJECT TO IT FOR SEVERAL YEARS. LIKE
- FALCONE, SCIACCHITANO COULD BE A MORALE BUILDER FOR
- COLOMBIAN JUDGES WHO LIVE AND WORK UNDER THE GUN.

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3. WE SHOULD NOTE THAT IT IS LIKELY THAT THE ANNUAL
MEETING OF THE ITALIAN-AMERICAN WORKING GROUP ON
TERRORISM, ORGANIZED CRIME AND DRUGS WILL TAKE PLACE IN
WASHINGTON IN EARLY APRIL THIS YEAR. MOST -- IF NOT
ALL -- OF THE FIVE PARTICIPANTS SUGGESTED ABOVE FOR
THE JUDICIAL PROTECTION CONFERENCE WILL BE ATTENDING THE
WORKING GROUP MEETING. DEPARTMENT AND DOJ SHOULD SEEK
TO HAVE THE JUDICIAL PROTECTION CONFERENCE TAKE PLACE
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ITALIAN-AMERICAN WORKING
GROUP MEETING IN ORDER TO INSURE THE MAXIMUM ITALIAN
PARTICIPATION. ARRANGING THE TWO MEETINGS BACK-TO-BACK
WOULD ALSO SAVE MONEY ON AIRFARES AND MINIMIZE THE TIME
THAT THESE KEY ITALIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS WOULD
BE AWAY FROM THEIR JOBS IN ITALY.

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