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**Letter to Congressional Leaders
Transmitting a Report on United
States Individuals Involved in the
Antinarcotics Campaign in Colombia**

February 20, 2003

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

Pursuant to section 3204(f), title III, chapter 2 of the Emergency Supplemental Act, 2000 (the “Act”), as enacted in the Military Construction Appropriations Act, 2001, Public Law 106–246, I am providing a report prepared by my Administration that provides “the aggregate number, locations, activities, and lengths of assignment for all temporary and permanent U.S. military personnel and U.S. individual civilians retained as contractors involved in the antinarcotics campaign in Colombia.”

In so doing, I note and appreciate the continued strong bipartisan support given to U.S. programs assisting Colombia in the Act and elsewhere.

This report is classified because of force protection considerations and the high level of terrorist threat in Colombia. However, the aggregate numbers given below are unclassified.

The report indicates that as of January 13, 2003, the end of this reporting period, there were 208 temporary and permanent U.S. military personnel and 279 U.S. civilians retained as individual contractors in Colombia involved in supporting Plan Colombia. This report further indicates that during November and December 2002, and January 2003, these figures never exceeded the ceilings established in section 3204(b) of the Act, as amended.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate.

**Digest of Other
White House Announcements**

The following list includes the President’s public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

February 15

In the morning, at Camp David, MD, the President had an intelligence briefing.

February 16

In the morning, the President returned to Washington, DC.

February 17

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia concerning the President’s wishes for a successful conclusion to the Hajj pilgrimage, peace efforts in the Middle East, the war on terror, and the situation in Iraq.

The President then had intelligence and FBI briefings. Later in the morning, he met with President Vaira Vike-Freiberga of Latvia in the Oval Office.

February 18

In the morning, the President had intelligence and FBI briefings.

February 19

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with Amir Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani of Qatar concerning the war on terror, the situation in Iraq, and the President’s support for political and economic reforms in Qatar. He also had a telephone conversation with President Megawati Sukarnoputri of Indonesia concerning the war on terror, efforts to ensure the safety of Americans in Indonesia, and the situation in Iraq.

Later in the morning, the President had intelligence and FBI briefings and met with the National Security Council.

In the afternoon, the President participated in an interview with journalists from the Telemundo television network.