

 **PEACE MAIL**

October 11-17, 2016

### **GOC-FARC bilateral ceasefire extended through the end of the year**

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos announced this past week that the bilateral ceasefire between the GOC and the FARC would remain in effect until the December 31<sup>st</sup> of this year. He noted that the date was “neither an ultimatum nor a deadline” but instead expressed his hope that a revised set of accords would be completed long before this date.<sup>1</sup> Meanwhile, the GOC, the FARC, UN representatives, and the ICRC have developed a set of protocols for maintaining the ceasefire in the interim. A separation of forces will occur, and the FARC will move to Transitional Pre-Grouping Points (PTT), which have been agreed upon between the FARC, the GOC, and the Monitoring and Verification Mission. The FARC may not organize events, and may only exit their zones unarmed and dressed in civilian clothes. The GOC will support the FARC movement to these zones and agrees to not plan offensive actions against the guerrillas. The FARC will additionally have to continue with its commitment to not conduct any illegal activities to finance the organization, increase its military capacity, or commit destructive or damaging acts.<sup>2</sup>

### **While one ELN front demobilizes, another clashes with Colombian Army**

On Monday, 24 members of the Cimarron Resistance Front of the guerrilla group the ELN handed over their firearms and munitions in north-western Choco province.<sup>3</sup> Also over the weekend, a confrontation between the Colombian Army and the ELN in Casanare resulted in one guerrilla killed, two ELN leaders captured, and two minors within the group handed over to the Colombian Family Welfare Institute.<sup>4</sup> The GOC and the ELN had previously announced that peace talks would begin on October 27<sup>th</sup> in Quito, Ecuador. The ELN is the second oldest guerrilla group in Colombia and is currently thought to have roughly 1,500 members, 1,400 supporters, and five fronts across eight departments in Colombia.<sup>5</sup> There is no indication that either of these incidents has affected these plans to commence peace talks in the coming weeks.

<http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/paz/santos-prorroga-cese-bilateral-al-fuego-farc-hasta-el-3-articulo-660330>

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