

PEACE MAIL

October 24-30

WEEKLY UPDATE: Implementing the Peace Accords

This callout box includes a weekly update on releases and work specifically related implementing the Final Peace Accord between the Government and the FARC in Colombia.

The GoC has announced that it will **continue the search for the weapons caches of the FARC for six months** – through April of 2018. Thus far, 759 of the 972 caches reported by the FARC have been located. The armed forces continue the search under the same protocols that the United Nations used while it was charged with the task.¹

ELN assassinates indigenous leader; ceasefire continues

On October 25th, the Western Front of the ELN guerrillas assassinated indigenous leader Aulio Isarama in the department of Chocó. They have since asked for forgiveness for the act and stated that they will conduct an internal review of the organization so that such an incident is not repeated in the time frame of the bilateral ceasefire, which continues despite the incident. The reason given for the assassination by the guerrillas is that they had information that Isarama was a military informant and, when they captured him for interrogation, he refused to follow the guerrillas and attacked one of them. Both the UN and the GoC have denounced the incident, and the UN verification mission will begin its investigation.²

FARC leader escapes ETCR before returning

The ex-leader of the Teófilo Forero column of the FARC, Hernán Darío Velásquez (alias “el Paisa”) left the Miravalle Territorial Space for Training and Reincorporation (ETCR) on Friday, October 27th, citing security concerns. He has since returned in the face of claims that he was attempting to escape the peace process. Veásquez is of particular import to the peace process because authorities believe that he was the intellectual author of the infamous attack on Club El Nogal in the north of Bogotá in 2003, which left 36 individuals dead and 170 injured, along with material damage, among other major incidents in the war.³